

August 2012

A Day In The Life - Ghana Weather

Dear Friends,

Our mission village, Akrampa, is located in the southern part of Ghana, in what is generally referred to as the Coastal Belt. In this part of the country most people are either farmers OR fishermen. Although some double as fishermen if the land does not yield sufficient crops.

In Ghana, May through July is now known as the major raining season. When my generation was younger, the rainy season started on Good Friday, in April. The first heavy rainfall of the season is believed to be a reassurance of God's love for human-kind, that the earth will reproduce to feed us. A traditional festival is held each year to celebrate the harvest of both fish and crops.

Ghana averages 31-87 inches of rain annually depending on where you are in the country [*Here in Lorain Ohio the average is 37 inches of rain annually.*] Our temperatures range between 70-90 degrees, with relative humidity between 50%-90%. Rarely to never does the temperature ever go below 50 degrees. And we are blessed with an average of 2,400 hours of sunlight annually.

The roads suffer greatly from the heavy rains cascading down the low valleys. Mud slides are common. Often, if the roads have not been repaired the previous year, they are made much worse by a second year of heavy rain. The school children are often challenged by all of the rainfall, which is why the new roof on the Akrampa school was such a wonderful blessing! But since the rains also bring cooler temperatures, it is a time that schools in the district come together to hold sports events. (See hall poster of photos.) All in all, it is a season that is good for the land, sea, and human comfort.

Blessings, Pastor Ben