

Parent Handbook



2016-2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome to AWANA!! Thank you for allowing us to serve your children in Awana. We trust that your clubber will have a great time and will want to keep coming regularly all year!

Awana Starts at Home! Awana is a tool that can be used to assist in raising your child in the training and instruction of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4).

The Bible says:

Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it (Proverbs 22:6).

Realizing that today's children are confronted with more difficult decisions than ever before, Awana's Bible based program seeks to establish a firm Biblical worldview, which will provide direction in their daily lives. Each clubber is very special to us and to God.

Awana presents an opportunity for your child to establish and grow in their relationship with God and to build self-esteem and good relationships with others. You can really help your child in these areas by encouraging completion of the sections in their handbook and by showing interest in their achievements.

If it is the goal of your family for your clubber(s) to finish the Awana handbook in one club year, they will need your consistent help to work and learn through the book.

Our desire is for Awana at Bachelor Creek to be as effective and successful as possible in reaching boys & girls with the gospel of Christ and training them to serve Him. We're so excited to see what God will do this year through Awana at Bachelor Creek! We welcome your questions, comments, suggestions, thoughts and concerns.

To God Be All The Glory!

Arrival time: Awana starts promptly at 6:30 each night. Please plan for your child to be checked in and in the gym before 6:30 if at all possible. We understand that occasionally things come up and you will be late – no worries, come on in!

Going home time: We make every effort to be done by 8 pm but we will usually go over slightly, we will try to keep this to a minimum, we recognize that this is a school night.

Information and Communication: Check the club calendar for general information about what's happening and special event dates. Flyers and letters will be sent home with your clubbers as reminders of up-coming events. Check out our Facebook www.facebook.com/BachelorCreekAwana page for information about what's going on at club. If

you have questions about Awana, contact your clubber's leader(s), the club director, and/or the commanders. Our contact information is shown below.

During Club: You are always welcome to stay during the club night. We'd especially enjoy having you volunteer to help out! If your clubber feels sick or is injured during the evening, we will contact you and let you know whether your clubber will need to be picked up early.

Photos and videos online: We hope to take photos and video at Awana on a fairly regular basis and post them on our Facebook page for everyone to share and enjoy. Please be advised that your clubber(s) may appear in these posted photos and videos. If you have any concerns about this, please notify the commanders.

Child Protection: All adult volunteers are required to complete a background check through Bachelor Creek Church of Christ prior to serving in Awana.

Clubber Rules:

- Leave all food and drinks at home – INCLUDING GUM
- Walk carefully - running is only for game time
- Be sure you are quiet quickly whenever a leader begins the five-count
- Bathroom visits should take place during appropriate parts of the evening and will be made with a partner of the same gender
- Phones in the church are only to be used by Awana adult volunteers
- Leave cell phones, music players and money at home
- All clubbers are expected to participate in all activities during the club evening
- Awana is meant to be fun – always wear a smile!

What happens at Awana:

Cubbies (See attached letter) participate in the following activities during the evening:

- Opening Ceremony
- Story & Puppets
- Handbook & Craft (Small Groups)
- Games & Snacks

For **Sparks** (see attached letter), **T&T** (see attached letter), & **Trek**, after opening ceremony, the evening is split into three main parts:

- Game Time
- Handbook Time (Small Groups)
- Bible Truth Time (Large Groups)

At game time clubbers play running games around the Awana circle and have fun! Clubbers will be split into four color teams and play around the Awana game circle.

Handbook time is your child's opportunity to recite memorized scripture from their specific Awana handbook in a small group setting with the same adult each week.

Bible Truth time includes a Bible lesson in a large group setting.

The timing and organization of each club activity are subject to change as needed during the club year for our individual clubs to be effective.

Costs: Your child's uniform will cost \$12 if they don't already have one. Other special events (like the Grand Prix) will cost extra but the church covers the cost of the handbook. We do ask that you pay for any lost handbooks at \$10 each. We are continuing to ask kids to bring a quarter each Wednesday night as part of their dues. These dues help cover the donation that we will send to the Awana missionary that helps our club and others throughout the state during the year.

We desire that all children be able to participate in Awana and special activities. If expenses are or become a burden for your family, please talk to the commanders or secretary.

Cancellation Policy:

We all know that living in Indiana you never know what the winter can "pile" on us. Here is how we will handle bad weather situations.

Our typical policy is if MSD of Wabash County closes school, we will cancel AWANA. We will try to get our announcement of cancellation on the Wabash Radio Stations, but sometimes they have been unable to do this in a timely manner.

In the event that school is not canceled and we need to cancel Awana due to weather we will make every effort to call, email, and text everyone. We will also post it on the Awana at Bachelor Creek Facebook page.

If we are scheduled to have a certain theme night that evening that AWANA is cancelled, then we will skip that theme night.

You will find in this packet a calendar that lists all of our Theme nights. The kids really enjoy our theme nights so we encourage their participation as well as our staff's. We will remind them the week before what the theme night is for the next week, but keep this sheet handy in case your child would miss a week. If you do not receive a copy of the calendar for this club year, please let your child's leader know.

The Grand Prix this year will once again be held in the Fall. It will be held on Sat. Nov. 12, beginning at 10:00 am. We will have registration and weigh in Friday, Nov. 11, from 5-8pm. We have enclosed a form with this packet showing the various cars you may choose from this year. We would appreciate it if you would fill out these forms and hand them in by Wed. September 21, so we can order the specific cars. Cars will be sold every Wednesday in October.

The AWANA Games for the TNT kids and the Sparks-a-rama for the Sparkies is unscheduled as of right now. Throughout the club year on Wednesday nights during game time, we will be practicing the specific games for this exciting day. More information will be sent to you in January 2017.

Also, if you are interested, Awana offers a book for Parents that aligns with your child's Awana book so that you can learn along with your child. If you would like one of these books, please let us know and we will order one for you. It is written on an adult level; the cost is \$10.00 each.

Awards night is at the end of the year when we recognize the accomplishments of all clubbers. This is an event for the whole family to celebrate with your clubber!

Last, if you have any questions at any time, please feel free to call or text us at 260-402-6231, (Brad) or 260-449-1985 (Carmen). You may also use email, awana@bachelorcreek.com

In His Service,

Brad and Carmen Fleck
Directors

AWANA Grand Prix Order Form

{ The AWANA Grand Prix race will be **Saturday November 12, 2016 at 10 am at Bachelor Creek.** Check-in **must** be done on **Friday, November 11th from 5-8 pm.** There will be no check-in on **Saturday morning.**



Pre-cut Indy Car Kit \$5.00



Pre-cut Stock Car Kit \$5.00



Block of Wood (You cut the shape) \$5.00



Pre-cut Truck Kit \$5.00

Name: _____

Type of Car Kit	Quantity	Cost \$5.00 each
Pre-cut Indy Car Kit		
Pre-cut Stock Car Kit		
Pre-cut Truck Kit		
Block of Wood		

Cash or check accepted. Please make checks payable to Bachelor Creek Church

Do you plan to race on November 12th? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, what Division: Cubbies _____ Sparks _____ T-n-T _____ Trek _____ Adult _____

FOR STAFF USE ONLY

Paid _____

Car # _____



August 31st, 2016

Welcome to Cubbies! I am Amber Bretzman, Directors of Cubbies. I am very excited to be a part of learning and growing with your child this year!

We are beginning a new curriculum in Cubbies this year. It's very exciting and parent and child friendly. We will start the year with the Cubbie Apple Acres Entrance Booklet. After completing this, your child will receive the Honeycomb Handbook. You will be given a Cubbie Calendar to let you know what Bear Hug your child should be on. All Cubbies work in the same book at the same pace. The goal in Cubbies is for all the children to say one verse each week by memory. However, most Bible verses will have a short and long version. This allows Cubbies to learn the verse at a level that matches their ability. The lessons are set up so that the stories and games emphasize the theme of the verse for that week, so we try to keep all the children working on the same 'Bear Hug' lesson each week. Each lesson in the book starts out with a story for you to read with your child, and then a short introduction to the lesson for that week. The verse page is set up for the parents to sign at home after you feel your child has mastered the new verse, and for the leaders to sign in class after your child has said the verse in class. Each lesson also has an optional 'apple tree' project for you to do with your child. Each child can earn extra stickers in their book for saying the review verses.

Each Cubby will get a vest and a handbook to participate in class. Also, we ask that each child have a tote bag of some kind (with their name on the outside) to transport craft pages and the handbook each week. Awana has a nice Cubbies bag you can purchase, or any bag that the handbook will fit in is acceptable.

There is also a cubbie book app available for iOS (Apple) devices. If you search for Awana it will show up as Cubbies Bible verse sing along.

A membership due of \$0.25 per week attended is asked of the children. It is payable when the children check in. This money is used to help support our Awana missionary.

Please do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions, or need clarification on anything.

Thank you, and see you each week!

Amber Bretzman 260-224-9695



August 31, 2016

Dear Parent(s):

Thank you for letting your son/daughter come to **AWANA** and be a part of our **SPARKS** club! We are writing this letter to inform you of what happens in the **SPARKS** program on Wednesday nights. Hopefully this will answer any questions you may have about the **SPARKS** portion of the AWANA program.

When your child comes to **SPARKS**, every Wednesday night he or she will take part in the following: a short opening ceremony (pledges, announcements, prayer), **Game Time**, **Handbook Time** and **Council Time**, closing ceremony (points/prizes awarded, information passed out.)

During **Game Time** the clubbers are divided into four different teams which compete against each other in various games. During this time, they learn to listen, cooperate, share and good sportsmanship. Many of the games they play will be featured in the yearly event called the **Sparks-O-Rama**, held in March in Kokomo. Our church has had a **SPARKS** team participate for the last two years and it is very exciting!

Next is **Handbook Time** where boys and girls are divided into their own groups. This is when they have opportunity to recite verses they have memorized and have their books reviewed and signed by the leaders. If this is your child's first year in **SPARKS** club, your son/daughter will begin with an entrance pamphlet (**Flight Zone**) to complete. When they have completed the **Flight Zone**, they will receive the first of three books called **Hang Glider**. Your child is to only complete 1 book per year. We will encourage your child to memorize verses and complete these sections while at home. Everything must be completed in a section in order for it to be passed and signed by a leader at **SPARKS** club. Clubbers may receive up to two helps per section, if needed. We pray your child will be motivated to hide God's word in his or her heart on a regular basis, and we as leaders are committed to helping he or she to understand what each verse means.

If your child has been in AWANA the previous year and still has a book they have not completed from last year, they may continue to work through this book.

The sections in all books are to be completed in order with the exception of "Bring a Friend" or "writing/interviewing a missionary and needing a response back." Since these sections may need extra time to complete, clubbers are allowed to skip them until they can be completed. We will help guide each child in completing these sections as needed.

During **Council Time**, the **SPARKS** clubbers come together into one group. At this time a leader will teach and interact with the clubbers on a topic of his/her choosing. The topics vary, but are always focused on scripture, the goal being to help clubbers to apply biblical knowledge to their lives. We pray that each week every **SPARKS** member will learn more about the Bible, grow in his or her personal relationship with God, and know how to use scripture in everyday situations.

In AWANA we also have extra opportunities and events to make AWANA exciting! Throughout the year we will hold various theme nights where clubbers are invited to dress certain ways or bring certain items. You will receive a list of dates for these and we invite your child to participate in them. In November we have our AWANA Grand Prix where the children can participate by building their own pinewood car to race against other cars. We will begin selling car kits in October for all who wish to be involved. Adults are also welcome to participate in this fun derby. More information will be given to you the closer we get to this event. Starting in January, you will also receive information regarding our **Sparks-O-Rama** Games coming in March which will be held in Kokomo.

Thank you for taking the time to read through all of this information. If you have any questions, please contact the Sparks Director, Jamie Tipple at 260-223-7072.

Other leaders serving in this area are:

Linda Snapp, Molly Dazey, Amy Stearley, Lori Dubois, Kelly Wyatt, Nancy Krom, Deb Wampler, Madeline Dazey, Nancy Jo Hammel.

Thank you for allowing your child to come to AWANA!



August 31, 2016

Dear Parent(s):

Thank you for letting your son/daughter come to **AWANA** and be a part of our **Truth & Training (T&T)** club! We are writing this letter to inform you of what happens in the TNT program on Wednesday nights. Hopefully this will answer any questions you may have about the TNT portion of the AWANA program.

When your child comes to TNT, every Wednesday night he or she will take part in the following: a short opening ceremony (pledges, announcements, prayer), **Game Time**, **Handbook Time** and **Council Time**, closing ceremony (points/prizes awarded, information passed out.)

During **Game Time** the clubbers are divided into four different teams which compete against each other in various games. During this time, they learn to listen, cooperate, share and good sportsmanship. Many of the games they play will be featured in the yearly event called the Awana Games, held in March in Kokomo. Our church has a T&T team participate every year and it is very exciting!

Next is **Handbook Time** where boys and girls are divided into their own groups. This is when they have opportunity to recite verses they have memorized during the week and have their books reviewed and signed by the leaders. Please try and work with your children prior to Wednesday so that they know their verses well and not just try to memorize the night of AWANA and forget them as soon as they learn them.

If this is your child's first year in T&T club, your son/daughter will begin with an entrance pamphlet (Start Zone) to complete. When they have completed the Start Zone, they will receive the first of four books called Ultimate Adventure. As you look through the Ultimate Adventure Book, you will notice a Q: Question and A: Answer section, Word Wise, Brain Check and a story. We will encourage your child to memorize verses and complete these sections while at home. Everything must be completed in a section in order for it to be passed and signed by a leader at T&T club. Clubbers may receive up to two helps per section, if needed. We pray your child will be motivated to hide God's word in his or her heart on a regular basis, and we as leaders are committed to helping he or she understand what each verse means.

If your child has been in AWANA the previous year and still has a book they have not completed from last year, they may continue to work through this book.

The sections in all books are to be completed in order with the exception of "Bring a Friend" or "writing/interviewing a missionary and needing a response back." Since these sections may need extra time to complete, clubbers are allowed to skip them until they can be completed. We will help guide each child in completing these sections as needed. There are also sections in the books called "Gold & Silver." These do not need to be completed to pass a book and are extra sections that may be completed during or after your child finishes the book.

During **Council Time**, the T&T clubbers come together into one group. At this time a leader will teach and interact with the clubbers on a topic of his/her choosing. The topics vary, but are always focused on Scripture, the goal being to help clubbers to apply biblical knowledge to their lives. We pray that each week every T&T member will learn more about the Bible, grow in his or her personal relationship with God, and know how to use Scripture in everyday situations.

In AWANA we also have extra opportunities and events to make AWANA exciting! Throughout the year we will hold various theme nights where clubbers are invited to dress certain ways or bring certain items. You will receive a list of dates for these and we invite your child to participate in them. In November we have our AWANA Grand Prix where the children can participate by building their own pinewood car to race against other cars. We will begin selling car kits in October for all who wish to be involved. Adults are also welcome to participate in this fun derby. More information will be given to you the closer we get to this event. Starting in January, you will also receive information regarding our AWANA Games coming in March which will be held in Kokomo.

Thank you for taking the time to read through all of this information. If you have any questions, please contact the T & T director, Diana Jacobs 260-563-5621.

Thank you for allowing your child to come to AWANA!

Awana 2016-2017 Calendar

August 31: **First Night of Awana: Parent night – Parents stay for information**

September 7: **CRAZY HAIR/HAT Night**

September 14: Awana

September 21: **ANIMAL KINGDOM NIGHT**

September 28: **DOUBLE POINT NIGHT**

October 5: Awana

October 12: **WILD-WILD WEST NIGHT**

October 19: Awana

October 26: NO AWANA – Fall Break

November 2: **FASHION DISASTER NIGHT**

November 9: **GOD AND COUNTRY NIGHT**

November 11: **Grand Prix Check in**

November 12: **Grand Prix Race 10:00 a.m.**

November 16: Awana

November 23: **NO AWANA -Thanksgiving break**

November 30: **LUAU Night**

December 7: Awana

December 14: **TREASURE CHEST NIGHT**

December 21: **CHRISTMAS PARTY**

December 28: No AWANA – Christmas break

January 4: NO AWANA – Christmas break

January 11: Awana

January 18: **PJ Night**

January 25: Awana

February 1: **SOUPer Bowl Night**

February 8: Awana

February 15: **Human Valentine Night**

February 22: Awana

March 1: **MARCH MADNESS NIGHT**

March 8: Missions Month

March 15: Missions Month

March 22: Missions Month

March 29: Missions Month

April 5: NO AWANA – Spring Break

April 12: **GLOW NIGHT**

April 19: **AWARDS NIGHT**

Awana Games are usually at the beginning of March, the date has yet to be determined for this year.