

Awana
Parents' Guide 2026-2027
(new items in red)

What is Awana??

Awana stands for Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed.

Awana is an international organization reaching 5 million children around the world in 133 other countries around the globe. It offers biblical resources to help the local church with community outreach, discipleship and leader development. Awana encourages both non-churched and congregational children and adults to grow in their relationship with Christ through Bible stories and heavy emphasis on Scripture memorization. ***The club appeals to children of all ages because of its exciting games, awards system and special events.***

Awana not only has a “heart” for supporting the local church and ministering to children and adults, but is foundationally interested in promoting the strength of each family unit. Families are encouraged to be involved in Awana programs through participation in the Awana evening and helping children to do their handbooks and memorize each week.

To find out more about Awana, the International Organization, or how FPC operates our Awana here in this local church please visit our website at www.fpcniceville.org and from there you will be directed to more information.

When does Awana Meet?

Check-in at 6:15, pick up is no later than 8:00.

Check-in: Registration and check-in occur in the church's Gathering Grounds for Sparks and T & T children. For Cubbies, parents need to accompany children to the educational wing and check kids in with the secretary in the Cubbie Room.

Opening: Promptly at 6:30 p.m. Awana clubs meet in the Sanctuary.

Closing: Parents are invited to attend Opening Ceremony from 6:30 to 6:40, in which children receive awards merited from accomplishments done the week before and Closing Ceremony in the Sanctuary from 7:55—8:00, in which announcements will be made. Cubbies are to be picked up in their Cubbie room.

What are Awana Clubs by Age Group?

The following clubs are offered at FPC:

Cubbies **3 and 4 Yr. olds**
(Please note that the child's 3rd birthday should be on/before September 1st)

Sparks **K5—2nd Grade**

Truth and Training **3rd—6th Grade**

How do I Register my Child?

All children who participate in Awana at FPC must have completed a **Registration Form** and a medical release to be on file with the Secretary of Awana for FPC. The **Medical Release** is mandatory for any and all trips that may be occasionally planned for off campus. Also, we request that you fill out a **Photo Permission Slip**, allowing us to use photos that are taken of Awana children in publicity type venues. Any concerns or caveats to our doing that should be expressly stated.

Please watch for announcements in the form of flyers and other information coming home with the clubbers throughout the year. Approximately once a **quarter** children will have a chance to dress up for a particular theme and will be rewarded according to their level of participation.

What are the Drop-Off and Pick-Up Procedures?

Drop-Off:

Parents are responsible for their children and any friends that their child/ren bring until these are put into the care of Leaders or a Secretary at the registration stations. The child's name, allergies and an emergency contact number is required to be given to the club secretary to attend Awana.

Pick-up:

Pick-up for Sparks or T&T: **Must** be picked up at Closing Ceremony in the Sanctuary

Pick-up for Cubbies: **Must** be picked up in Cubbie room by a *parent/adult* listed on the registration form or by a friend or relative if prior coordination is made.

PLEASE ENSURE ANY ADULT WHO IS PICKING UP IS NOTED ON YOUR CHILD'S RECORD WITH THE SECRETARY. Please be prompt at 8:00 as many of our Leaders have children of their own who need to get home on this school night.

Parents will be notified when a child is sick, inconsolable, has a discipline issue, or not adjusting to the Awana evening and, in occasional instances, for disciplinary reasons.

What does Awana cost?

Awana, as a club, does cost the church a significant sum to offer which the church takes on as a ministry. There are a few costs which FPC passes on to clubbers, but these have been kept to a minimum. *(See common total costs on last page)*

1) Initial Dues collected at Registration: \$24.00

(We do not pro-rate dues on a weekly basis, but on a quarterly basis. If joining before the 1st quarter ends, marked by Store Night, the entire amount is due. If joining after the end of the 1st quarter and before the end of the 2nd quarter than 3/4ths—\$18.00 is the amount, etc...)

2) Handbook:

For T & T—*Agents of Grace* Book T & T (3rd through 6th grade book):
Essentials (abridged version is used in class)—**\$10.00**

For Cubbies and Sparks \$15.00

3) Uniform:

For T & T— \$20.00
For Cubbies and Sparks— \$15.00

Uniform and Handbook Dues collected when individual child has completed the Entrance Booklet for their club (at least 2 weeks after starting).

New policy: Payments will be due no later than Sept. 16 2026 and March 13 2027.

When writing a check please indicate in the memo space: Awana

Note: FPC will not allow money to be the reason any child cannot attend its Awana program. If assistance is needed, please see the Secretary of Awana Club at FPC to see what arrangement may be made.

What are clubbers responsible to bring/wear?

- *Awana Handbook & Bag
- *Awana Uniform
- *Bible (NIV Version is the one in which their verses will be written)
- *Shoes for running (Closed toe gym shoes)
- *Jacket for cooler weather

Your child should not bring other items with them that haven't been pre-approved by their Leader (for example: on Silly Socks and Slippers Night, kids can bring funny socks and slippers that would be appropriate for that.)

However, if your child does bring something, your child will be asked to put it away and keep it out of sight. If a Leader sees the item again, the Leader will confiscate the item and turn it in to the Awana Secretary or Commander and the child will have to see one of them at the end of the evening in order to retrieve it.

What is the Dress Code?

In addition to the Awana uniform and running (gym) shoes that clubbers should wear, children should come dressed in comfortable and tasteful clothing ready to participate in running games. Awana uniforms should be kept neat and clean and all awards worn and displayed correctly.

What is the Health Policy?

As we all know, sicknesses affect not only the individual child, but also the other children who are exposed to an ill child and subsequently, the family and friends of those children. Children should not attend Awana if they have any of the following symptoms—

- *Fever (100 degrees or higher) within the last 24 hours
- *Vomiting within the last 24 hours
- *Diarrhea within the last 24 hours
- *Runny nose if accompanied by other symptoms and/or colored discharge
- *Bad cough (since coughing increases the chance of infection being spread to others)
- *Rash that is suspected to be contagious
- *Taking an antibiotic prescribed within 48 hours of starting that antibiotic

What is the Awana Store?

Children can earn shares (Awana money) for

- *Attending,
- *Bringing friends
- *Completing handbook sections,
- *Winning games,
- *Winning team competitions points, and for
- *Bringing and wearing the four things for which they are responsible—
(Bible, Handbook, Uniform, and Gym Shoes)

*And at times for being extra quiet, obedient and for extra special acts of kindness or service.

Children will have the opportunity to spend their earned Awana shares one night each quarter (every 7 to 9 weeks) on items provided at “Store Night.”

How does Awana Handle Discipline?

Generally speaking, Awana clubs stress a certain level of discipline for all members, whether children or adult, but this does not pertain only to negative forms of advocating self-control. The positive side of learning discipline (to behave and conduct one’s self in a responsible and kind manner) is something Awana encourages through its system of awards and shares and team ideals and of which all its Leaders and adult volunteers have received ample training. Our Awana ministry is very exciting and we expect that seldom will we have serious discipline problems. However, we realize that there are many family situations that may affect a child’s behavior. We encourage you to let your child’s Awana Leader know if there is any situation that may help us in ministering to your child.

There are two practiced forms of discipline of which children at Awana receive instruction and of which you, as parents and guardians need to be aware. One is meant to enforce group control and the other is directed toward individuals.

Group Control:

The 5-Count is used to bring the group to order. As the leader counts slowly and clearly down from “5” (5, 4,..1), the children are expected to become quiet and still, facing toward the person who is counting. Normally, this occurs by “3” or “4”.

Individual Control:

The 3-Count is used to help with the discipline of an individual.

Count 1: The child is given a “1” count the first time he/she misbehaves and the action in question is discussed so the child understands the inappropriate behavior.

Count 2: If the child continues to misbehave, he/she is given a “2” by the leader or director and then is escorted outside to talk with the Leader or to the Awana Commander or Secretary to discuss his/her behavior.

Count 3: Upon receiving a “3”, the child is taken to the parents by the Commander or parents may be called so that the child misses the club evening. The parents need to talk with the Leader before the child can be admitted back to the club the following week.

Expectations: There are a few guidelines pertaining to personal behavior:

- *Honor Christ in your work and play
- *Keep your hands to your self
- *Obey the Awana leaders and other adults
- *Speak to others with respect

Why does First Presbyterian Church do Awana?

Details about First Presbyterian Church and our Awana program are available at our website: FPCniceville.org

Common fee totals

New clubber (Cubbie, Spark or T&T): \$54 (dues, book, uniform)

Returning Cubbie: \$38.00 (dues & this year's book)

Returning Spark: \$24.00 (dues only, book fee will be due once/if previous book complete)

Returning T&T: \$35.00 (dues & this year's essentials book)