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AWANA Club Handbook

2016-2017

Immanuel Baptist Church

90 East 14th St San Angelo, TX 76903

Phone: 325-653-3361 Email: [jd@ibcfam.org](mailto:jd@ibcfam.org)

Commander: Jedediah Denman, Minister to Children and Young Adults

Dear AWANA Parent,

We are excited to have your child in our AWANA Clubs. Thank you for entrusting your child to us on Wednesday nights!

The Bible instructs parents to, “Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it” (Proverbs 22:6). Our AWANA Clubs are meant to be a tool to help parents “train up” their children. The activities of Wednesday nights (handbook time, games, and lesson time) are organized to enhance your child’s learning the other days of the week.

We want you and your child to achieve the most they possibly can through the opportunities offered by AWANA a Clubs. The most important ingredient to the success of your child is YOU!

We are asking you to review your clubber’s work periodically throughout the week. You may need to repeat verses, help them complete sections, or explain the meanings of words. Allow your child to explain to you where they are in their books and what they are attempting to accomplish.

Our AWANA team volunteers are ready to assist you. Please know we want to help you and your child grow in knowledge and wisdom, just as Jesus did in his childhood.

Looking forward to a great year!

Tommy Richardson

Pastor

Dear AWANA Volunteers,

Thank you for offering your time and talents to serve the children during this school year through our AWANA Clubs. Our AWANA Clubs provide an exciting opportunity for children three years old through fifth grade to learn the Word of God. This opportunity is ONLY made possible by your willingness to serve in AWANA.

Please allow me to stress the importance of what you do every week by serving in AWANA. On a personal scale, I have seen the joy on the faces of children as they are able to recite their verses. I have also enjoyed working with my own children as they learn their verses.

Also, remember that your efforts in making our AWANA Clubs a success is greatly appreciated by the church staff, families within our church, and many homes within our community. This ministry has the potential to affect many areas of our Children’s Ministry such as Sunday School and Children’s Church. As these children are learning the Word of God and sharing those verses with their family, the Gospel of Christ is being proclaimed in homes! This is only done by your willingness to help children in learning God’s Word. True, you and I may never see the total effects our AWANA clubs have on families this side of heaven, but know that God’s Word never returns void.

I am praying for you! I am praying for your family! I am praying for the children you serve! I am praying for the families of those children! And I am praying for IBC’s AWANA Clubs!

Waiting upon the LORD

Jedediah Denman (JD)

Minister to Children and Young Adults

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The Influence of Awana

* There are 1.8 billion children in the world under the age of 15. People are most open to the gospel between the ages of 4-14 with 83% of adults stating that they accepted Christ as a child. AWANA ministers to children 2-18 years old.
* A recent [national survey](http://store.awana.org/alumni-study/alumni-study,default,pg.html) found AWANA alumni who participated in AWANA clubs for at least six years:
  + 92.7% still attend church at least weekly as adults
  + 3.6 times more likely to read their Bible several times a week
  + 70% share their faith with others at least once a month
* Currently, over 1,150 churches use the AWANA ministry to reach kids in Texas and Oklahoma.  Over 76,000 kids are being reached every week through AWANA.  By God's grace, and with His help, AWANA hopes to reach 100,000 more kids by the year 2020.
* In 2013, AWANA’s President/CEO (Jack Eggar) challenged the staff of AWANA to reach 10 million children by the end of 2020.
* In 2013, AWANA held two Seed Planter’s Conferences in Pakistan– a seedbed of radical Islam – and trained pastors and children leaders from 114 churches.
* In 2013, AWANA went to Solomon Islands and Vietnam, where churches with AWANA ministries grew nearly tenfold to 200 churches.
* In 2013, AWANA launched Hannah’s Gift (ministry to women in prison) to be paired with Malachi Dads (ministry to men in prison).
* In 2013, AWANA began a new realm of ministry which is presently called AWANA Global Church Planting. AWANA will serve denominations and mission agencies in starting churches by providing resources and training solutions to reach children, youth and families.
* In 2013, AWANA officially reached 2 million children through more than 28,000 churches worldwide in 100+ countries.
* In Haiti, the AWANA ministry re-launched in Haiti with 92 leaders from 64 churches. Despite the 2010 earthquake that devastated the area, the number of children reached has grown from 542 in 2009 to 4,707 in 2013.
* In 2013, the AWANA ministry in the Philippines went from 102 clubs to 314 clubs ministering to over 20,000 kids and youth.
* In 2009, AWANA launched the Leader-Based Strategy in Tanzania and four years later, 855 clubs are offering evangelical and discipleship ministries to 84,957 boys and girls weekly.

Who is AWANA for?

* Children from the age of three years old through fifth grade. Children not in this range will go to their age appropriate ministry or will stay with their family. If the child’s family is not at church, the child will go to the ministry designated for their age. First time friends accompanying a clubber of a different age, may visit the clubber’s class on a case by case basis.

How Did The Awana Program Begin?

* In 1941, the children's program at the North Side Gospel Center in Chicago laid the foundation for the principles of AWANA. Lance Latham, North Side's senior pastor, collaborated with the church's youth director, Art Rorheim, to develop weekly clubs that would appeal to churched and non-­churched kids. As a pioneer in children’s ministry, Art created new and innovative ways to reach kids with the gospel and lead them to know, love and serve Jesus Christ.
* Other churches learned about the success of the program and inquired about its availability. In 1950, Latham and Rorheim founded AWANA as a parachurch organization.
* By 1960, 900 churches had started AWANA programs. By 1972, AWANA began its first international club in Bolivia. Today, children and youth in 104 countries participate in AWANA programs and millions of adults are alumni. AWANA serves churches from 100 different denominations.

How Awana Got Its Name?

* 2 Timothy 2:15 (NASB) = “Be diligent to present yourself **approved** to God as a **workman** who does **not** need to be **ashamed**, accurately handling the word of truth.”
  + **A**pproved **W**orkman **A**re **N**ot **A**shamed

Four Segments Of Club

* *Opening Ceremony:* All clubbers gathered together to go over expectations, sing, perform the pledges, hear announcements, and pray. Then the clubbers are dismissed to their classes.
* *Handbook Time*: Consists of one-to-one interaction between clubbers and their leaders. Clubbers recite memory work and discuss Bible reading assignments to ensure comprehension. When the leader is satisfied that the clubber has completed the handbook assignment, he/she will sign off in the clubber’s handbook.
* *Game Time*: Offers the clubbers opportunities to participate as team members in physical activities. The activities are designed to help develop team spirit, sportsmanship, self-confidence, and gross motor skills, as well as coordination. Games in general are competitive and winning is always fun. In AWANA, directors and leaders give top priority to building and preserving each clubber’s self-esteem.
* *Lesson Time*: Includes but is not limited to singing, instruction from the Bible, object lessons on the Christian walk, mission studies on the Southern Baptist Cooperative Program, and AWANA mission programs.

AWANA SCHEDULE

6:00-6:15 OPENING IN GYM

6:15-6:45 LEARNING TIME IN PRESCHOOL

6:45-7:05 GAMES (GYM)

7:05-7:30 CUBBIES RETURN TO PRESCHOOL

CUBBIES



6:00-6:15 OPENING IN GYM

6:15-6:45 HANDBOOK TIME

6:45-7:05 LESSON TIME

7:10-7:30 GAMES (GYM)

SPARKS



6:00-6:15 OPENING IN GYM

6:15-6:35 GAMES (GYM)

6:35-7:00 HANDBOOK TIME

7:00-7:30 LESSON TIME

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Club Offering

* Immanuel Baptist Church AWANA Clubs collect a weekly offering (a.k.a. dues) from each clubber on a weekly basis. Offerings are encouraged to be 50 cents to a dollar.

Discipline

Immanuel Baptist Church uses two THREE-COUNT as their method of discipline.

* The 1-1, 2-2, 3-3, Look at me…This is used in a group setting. The leader who is trying to get everyone’s attention will say the number 1 with 1 finger in the air. The clubbers are to say 1 with 1 finger in the air. This is repeated for 2 and 3. Finally the leader says look at me and makes his/her announcement.
* The other THREE-COUNT is used for individual clubbers who may be having difficulty, even after repeated instruction about their behavior. If an individual clubber receives THREE counts in one meeting, he/she will be taken to the commander and the commander will consult the child’s parent. For example, a leader may say, “I have warned you repeatedly and now you have a one count.” If the behavior continues, the leader will issue a second count and remove the clubber from that activity. When a third count is given, the individual club director, will bring the child to the commander. The commander will take child to the parents. If parents are not at church, the child will stay with the commander until he/she is picked up.

Child Pickup

* Cubbies will be picked up from the preschool area.
* To ensure the safety of our children, we are asking that all children in the SPARKS and T&T clubs be picked up in the church gym. We will not be releasing anyone without an adult in sight of our leaders. Thank you so much for your help in keeping our children safe.

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Awana Bucks

* Completing a Section $1
* Sunday School Attendance $1
* Discipleship Class Attendance $1
* Sunday Evening Attendance $1
* AWANA Attendance $1
* Bringing their 50 cents dues $1
* Bringing their Bible $1
* Bringing their Handbook $1
* Bringing their uniform (vest) $1
* Participation in Theme Nights $3
* Bring a friend to AWANA $5
* Bring a friend to Sunday School $5

**Completing a Section**= A clubber will earn $1 for each completed section (section must be signed by parent and leader)

**Sunday School Attendance**= A clubber will earn $1 for every time he/she attends Sunday School at Immanuel Baptist Church

**Discipleship Class Attendance**= A clubber will earn $1 for every time he/she attends a Children’s Discipleship Class at Immanuel Baptist Church

**Sunday Evening Attendance**= A clubber will earn $1 for every time he/she attends Sunday Evening Service

**Participation in Theme Nights**= All clubbers who participate in the scheduled Theme Nights will earn $3

**Bring a friend to AWANA**= Clubbers will earn $5 for each friend they bring to AWANA

**Bring a friend to Sunday School**= Clubbers will earn $5 for each friend they bring to Sunday School

* AWANA bucks will NOT carryover to the next school year! At the final store, clubbers must spend it or lose it.
* AWANA Bucks will NOT be given out every week!!!
* Clubbers will earn dollars every week and those dollars will be recorded in an Excel Sheet
* Clubbers will get their earned money on the night of the store (see Schedule for those dates)

**2016 – 2017 AWANA Special Date Schedule**

**2016**

August 24th= Going door to door to give out AWANA door hanger and flyers

Saturday, August 27th= All day AWANA Training for Volunteers

August 31st= AWANA Kickoff party

September 7th= First Day of AWANA; Sports Theme Night

October 5th= Outdoor Theme Night

October 26th= First AWANA Store

November 2nd= Military Theme Night

November 16th= No AWANA due to Church wide Thanksgiving meal

November 23rd= No AWANA due to Thanksgiving Holiday

November 30th= 5th Wednesday Activity; Bring a Friend; Games and Snack

December 7th= Christmas Theme Night; Parent Open House

Sunday, December 11th= Christmas Party for volunteers and their families

December 14th= Second AWANA Store; Christmas Party

December 21st and 28th= No AWANA due to Christmas Break

January 4th= AWANA Returns; 80s Theme Night

February 1st= Western Theme Night

March 1st= Hero Theme Night

March 8th= Third AWANA Store

March 15th= No AWANA due to Spring break

March 29th= 5th Wednesday Activity; Bring a Friend; Games and Snack

April 5th= Disney Theme Night

April 12th= Easter Party

May 3rd= Patriot Theme Night

May 10th= Last night for sections; Verse a Thon

May 17th= Award Presentation in Sanctuary and Refreshments in Gym

Saturday, May 20th= Appreciation Dinner for all AWANA Volunteers and their families

May 24th= Fourth AWANA Store; End of the Year Party

Explanation of Key dates

Kickoff Party

* On this night parents can register their kids, while their families enjoy some games and food.

Theme Night

* Theme night will be the first Wednesday of every month. Any clubber who participates in theme night will get extra AWANA Bucks!
  + Sports Team Night= Wear your favorite team colors
  + Outdoor Theme Night= Wear your hunting, fishing, and camping gear
  + Military Theme Night= Wear something to honor our Military
  + Christmas Theme Night= Wear those “beautiful” Christmas Sweaters
  + 80s Theme Night= Dress like you are living in the 80s
  + Western Theme Night= Let’s see those cowboys and cowgirls
  + Hero Theme Night= Wear your superhero, cops, firefighter, or other hero gear
  + Disney Theme Night= Come as your favorite Disney Character
  + Patriot Theme Night= Show off those Red, White, and Blue colors
  + 5th Wednesday Activity= Bring a friend for games and snacks

AWANA Store

* Immanuel Baptist Church will have four stores a year (once a quarter). The AWANA Bucks will be given out to each clubber that night. Clubbers will have the opportunity to spend their bucks on whatever they want. A clubber can decide to save all their bucks or some. Their bucks will be kept electronically.