

Welcome to



Because Kids Matter to God

2016-2017

Anderson Mill Baptist Church

10633 Lake Creek Parkway

Austin, TX 78750

512-258-5843

www.ambcaustin.org

Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed...

II Timothy 2:15

Awana Staff

Pastor: Rod Minor

Children & Family Pastor: Dr. Jim Dempsey

Awana Commander
Assistant Commander

Charles Chickering
Suzanne Chickering

Puggles Club Director
For Worker's children only (2 years old)



Dot Rochelle

Cubbies Club Director



Suzanne Chickering

Sparks Club Director



Bizzy Hudec

Truth & Training Director



Crystal Wilson

Games Director



Rebecka Chickering

Awana Missionaries
(This info will be needed for some handbook sections)



Kevin & Jennifer Ivie
KevinI@Awana.org
2004 Star Pass
Leander, TX 78641

Dear Parents,

We are thrilled to have your children in our Awana club this year. Awana is an international, nondenominational, Bible-centered, youth organization. The acrostic Awana stands for “Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed” from the Scripture verse found in II Timothy 2:15. We are excited about offering the following clubs for three year olds thru fifth grade:

- 3 and 4 year oldsCubbies
- Kindergarten thru 2nd GradesSparks
- 3rd thru 5th Grades.....Truth & Training

The weekly Awana Club consists of three main parts:

1. **Handbook Time** — This is a time of interaction between clubbers and their adult leaders. They recite Bible verses they memorized earlier with you and discuss reading assignments to check for comprehension. Leaders sign the clubbers handbook sections when they satisfactorily complete the work and awards are then earned. This is time for adult leaders to encourage clubbers in their spiritual life and answer questions they may have. **It is essential that parents help their child learn verses at home regardless of club and/or age. Success starts at home!**
2. **Council Time** — A group session for testimonies, singing and Bible stories to encourage clubbers in their walk with God. Announcements and recognition of awards earned are also during this time.
3. **Game Time** — Clubbers participate as team members in physical activities which develop team cooperation, good sportsmanship, coordination skills, and self-confidence. Although games are competitive in nature, leaders are encouraged to give top priority to building and preserving each clubber’s self esteem. We strongly recommend Clubbers wear comfortable clothing and to prevent injuries, **athletic shoes are required**. (Clubbers should wear closed toe shoes that tie or strap tightly on with a non-slip sole.)

Our prayer is to make Awana a positive experience for your child. Please feel free to stop in and observe and/or participate with us anytime. If you have a question, please contact us. We look forward to seeing your Awana Clubber(s) each week.



Awana Leadership Team:

Awana Commander: Charles Chickering

Children & Family Pastor: Dr. Jim Dempsey



5:55 pm Clubbers check in with their Club Director in the Sanctuary.
Clubbers & Parents are asked to go into the Sanctuary for Opening Ceremony

Awana Nightly Schedule

	6:00-6:15	6:15-6:25	6:25-6:45	6:45-7:05	7:05-7:25
Cubbies	Opening (Sanctuary)	Story Time (DOCK)	Song/Recite Verse (DOCK)	Craft Time/ Snack (DOCK)	Play Time (Gym)

	6:00-6:15	6:15-6:40	6:40-7:00	7:00-7:20	7:20—7:30
Sparks	Opening (Sanctuary)	Game Time (Gym)	Handbook Time (Backlot)	Council Time (Backlot)	Awards (Backlot)

	6:00-6:15	6:15-6:40	6:40-7:05	7:05-7:30
T&T	Opening (Sanctuary)	Handbook Time (Girls) Council Time (Boys) (Assigned Rooms)	Game Time (Gym)	Council Time (Girls) Handbook Time (Boys) (Assigned Rooms)

7:30 pm Dismissal

*Club leadership will dismiss children directly to their parents. If someone other than a parent is to pick up the club member, prior arrangements must be made directly with the Club Director. **Children will not be allowed to leave the premises until a parent or authorized adult has come to pick them up.*** Please have your child picked up at time of dismissal. Consistent late pickups (2 consecutive) will result in a parent conference. All guests will be required to fill out appropriate paperwork with the Club Director. After a friend has visited twice, he or she is considered a member and should be registered.

HANDBOOK GUIDELINES

After your child has completed their entrance booklet, they will receive their uniform and handbook. Handbooks must be completed in order! **Please do not skip around.** Handbooks contain Bible verses to memorize and stories and activities which correspond to God's Word.

Upon completion of the Handbook, your child will either review their current Handbook or move to a different Handbook depending on their Club and age.

Parents are expected to be involved with their children when memorizing verses. Please initial each section when your child has correctly completed and recited the section in your presence.

While reciting scripture from memory, a clubber may have no more than two helps from a leader per section. On the third help, the leader will review the verse with the child and ask them to try again after some more study. Leaders will never shame a child for failing. We are here to encourage. **Remember it is two helps per section, not per verse! Full and accurate memorization is our goal.**

Most children will be adequately prepared for the weekly Awana club meeting if they spend approximately ten minutes a day, five times per week working in the handbook. Verses have been set to music and a CD is included with books for all Cubbies and Sparks. If you feel the work is creating more resentment than love for God's Word, slow down and focus on quality rather than quantity of memorization. It is perfectly acceptable to not finish the book.

Both the Sparks and T&T books have a section that encourages the clubber to bring a friend. They are asked to bring a friend twice in the year (someone who has not attended our club before). This section has been a problem for some families. In order to help with this, we have an alternative option. If your child is unable to bring friends to Awana, they can memorize a passage for each friend they were unable to bring. You may get these passages from your Club Director. Remember, Awana is all about sharing your faith with others. Please try your best to bring friends.

Parents often ask, "How much must my child complete each week to complete their handbook by the end of the Awana year?" The Awana year lasts 31 weeks ending on May 10, 2017. Please take time to read the first few pages of your child's handbook. There you will find helpful information to help you gauge the pace needed. Some sections may be harder than others and consequently some may take more effort and time. Again, the important fact to remember is that we want them to hide God's Word in their heart, and to love it.... not just to complete a handbook.



CLUB STANDARDS

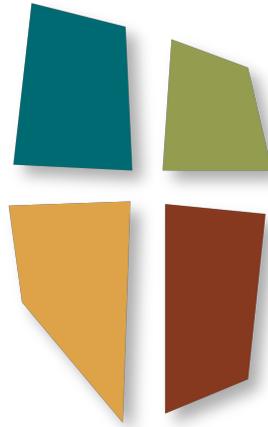
1. We strive to emphasize positive behavior in a safe, loving and positive environment. We encourage and recognize good behavior that reflects a heart following Christ.
2. We expect children to work hard, to do their best to pass Handbook sections, and most of all, treat leaders and peers with respect.
3. Clubbers must remain in their assigned rooms during dismissal and will not be allowed to leave the church premises unless an authorized parent or adult has picked them up.
4. Respectful language is always expected.
5. Care and respect will be shown to other attendees, leaders and church property.
6. Pushing, shoving and roughhousing are not permitted, while politeness and good manners are always welcome.
7. "Give Me 5" - A classroom management system where the person in charge says "Give me 5". All kids are to raise one hand, become silent and have their attention on the leader.
8. Uniforms and handbooks will be earned when the clubbers have completed their entrance booklet. Upon receiving the uniform, the clubber should wear it to every meeting.
9. Awana clubbers are encouraged to regularly attend a Sunday School and Church.



Discipline

Biblical discipline seeks to bring repentance and then return us to fellowship, and is always motivated by love. In our classrooms, a teacher will first try to re-direct. When a child knowingly violates a rule, the child will be placed in a 'Break' and told to sit aside from the rest of the class until they are ready to return in repentance to discuss what they did. The child has some control over the length of time they stay in this 'break', and can return as soon as they are ready to discuss with a repentant heart the misbehavior. If after a period of time not to exceed 10 minutes, the child has not sought to return, the teacher will initiate a discussion as follows. When the child comes back to the teacher, the teacher should ask "What did you do wrong?" When the child answers appropriately, the teacher asks, "Why was that wrong?" When the child can express this, the teacher asks, "What can you do differently next time?" Now, teacher and child can discuss options for better behavior. Then the teacher may give the child affirmation and encourage them to go and put that plan into action. If the child still misbehaves, or will not engage in the above conversation, the teacher should come and find the Children's Minister, Awana Commander, or Director. The goal of this meeting will be to secure the child's commitment to behave appropriately. With that commitment, the child may return to the Club. Certainly, if a misbehavior occurs after the leader conference, a parent will be called to conference and pick up. If this occurs, the child may only return when he/she fulfills a behavior agreement and the parent agrees to attend the next club meeting.





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BAPTIST CHURCH



AWANA Resources

The Awana website www.awana.org is a treasure trove full of information about the Awana program. There is a section specifically for parents with a newsletter, information to help your clubber, downloadable clip art and sound bites and other great information. We encourage you to use this site as a resource on your journey to raise children who love Christ and His Word.