



We are so glad that you are bringing your child(ren) to AWANA! Memorizing God's Word and learning to apply it to their life has eternal value. When you make scripture memorization and application a priority for your child, you reinforce to them what YOU value. Children need their parents to be their primary teachers in spiritual matters, which is why we like the AWANA program so much. AWANA understands that need! It is critical that parents work with their children at home during the week. Not only will they be able to memorize their verses, but they also learn to value God's Word and have a better understanding of how it applies to their lives.

We are looking forward to an even greater year than last year! This will be our 17th year of having Awana at First Baptist Church. We were so excited to have a great core group of dedicated students last year that we want to continue that into this year. We have clubs for children who have turned 3 years old by September 1st up until 8th grade.

In this newsletter, you will find some important information. If you have any questions or concerns about anything, please feel free to contact us. We want your child to get the most out of AWANA!

We look forward to working with you as your child discovers eternal treasures in God's Word!

**The first night of club is Wednesday, September 15, 2021.
6-7:30pm**

Important Info FOR 2021

- 1. Club times are 6:00-7:30 pm.**
- 2. Pick-up is outside at 7:30pm in upper parking lot.**
- 3. NO opening and closing ceremony. Each group will do their own in class.**
- 4. Drop-off will be at FRONT MAIN DOORS.**
- 5. There will be a table outside (weather permitting) or in the front lobby for parents to stop and pay for any supplies or ask questions.**
- 6. Books will now cost \$5 for everyone and registration is \$15**
- 7. The last official night of club will be April 6, 2022.**
- 8. Awards ceremony will be April 13, 2022**

Registration

We are please asking that you pre-register your child before September 15, 2021. We are trying to get a close to accurate amount of children participating. We are not limiting the amount of students in grades K-8th. We will be having a cut-off of 20 children for the preschool age class. Your child must be 3 years old as of September 1st and be potty trained!!! They may not start in the middle of the year if they turn 3 later in the year.

You will find the registration form online at www.fbcgettysburg.net Across the top of the home page there will be an option for “**Awana Registration**”, click that and it will take you to [KidEventPro](https://www.kideventpro.com/). This is the online registration form for club. If you have registered through this program in years past it will have your information saved. Please just update your child’s grade level and anything else needed. Include an active email address or two that you would like to receive updates/club reminders. Emailing is our main way of communication for reminders/updates. When you receive an email regarding Awana, the recipient it will be coming from will be titled “First Baptist Church” and the subject line will say something about “Awana 2021-2022”

Cost of supplies/Books/Awards

- All clubbers will be required to purchase a book for \$5.00
- If you lose your book and want to purchase another, you will be charged full price of \$10.

Registration online is required and a fee of \$15.00 will be charged and can be paid at club. (If cost is an issue or you need to discuss scholarships, options are available. Please see Ann Stockman at the front check-in table before club. She will not be available for payments at the end of a club night.)

Clubbers will receive individual patches/jewels periodically throughout their handbooks for completing designated sections. Each book is a little different in how many sections need to be completed for an individual award.

- Uniforms:
 - Cubbies vest - \$10.00
 - Sparks vest - \$10.00
 - T&T Shirt - \$15.00

Drop-off and Pick-up

- **Drop-off** will be at the front main doors of the church for all grade levels. You must check-in each week at the table because this is our attendance for the night. Children must be parent supervised till the doors open at 5:50pm.
- **Pick-up** will be at 7:30pm in the designated area of the upper parking lot. The upper parking lot will not be for parking and will be blocked off with safety cones as a drop-off/pick-up area ONLY!!!
- At 7:25pm your child's group will conclude their last session and leaders will get children ready to leave with all of their belongings. They will be lined-up outside at the front door and parents will then have to come up to the upper parking lot to pick-up their child at 7:30pm. The Trek group will be released from the Youth Room area with a leader and meet in the upper parking lot to wait for parents to pick-up. In the case of inclement weather we will have the children lined-up right inside the doors and parents will still need to come pick them up. If someone new or other than the person dropping student off is going to pick your student up, please notify the leader/helper at the front table.

*****Please note that children will be under parent supervision after you have picked them up at 7:30pm. Leaders will be released to leave when all children from their group are picked-up by a parent. *****

Weather Cancellations

Our club schedule follows Gettysburg Area School District. If the school is closed or dismisses early for weather related reasons there will be NO club that Wednesday evening. Even if the weather clears up by the evening we will not have club, as it is too much to try and contact everyone. A club email will go out as well stating closures.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

By having a Discipline Policy written down, we can eliminate any questions when discipline needs to be given. We strive to teach good behavior and ask for help from parents and all volunteers involved with AWANA. Each child will start with a clean slate in their respective class/group. If a child needs correction at any point of the evening, they can receive up to three warnings in their class/group before further discipline will be taken.

After a child has received three warnings in class and the behavior has not resolved, or in the event that a single behavior involves bodily harm to another child or an adult, the child will then be removed from class to talk with Ann Stockman. After she talks with the child and the child is warned what will happen next time, he/she MAY be sent back to class. At the end of the evening, Mrs. Ann will talk with the child's parent and inform them of the behavior and that their child now has **"Strike #1."**

"Strike #2" occurs when the child's behavior happens again in the same night or repeats on a different night. The child will be removed from class to sit at the check-in table with Mrs. Ann, for the remainder of the evening. At the same time, the child's parents will be phoned and informed of the repeated behavior and the consequences.

"Strike #3" occurs if the behavior continues after **"Strike #2."** At that point, a parent will be asked to come to club every week and stay with the child until the behavior has resolved.

SAFETY POLICY

We at FBC vow to keep your children safe every night at AWANA. We cannot do this alone. We need your help in doing so on AWANA nights. We also understand the need to pick up multiple children, and we want to be as much help to you as we can. So please let us know if you need help. As stated before **children will be under parent supervision after you have picked them up at 7:30pm. Leaders will be released to leave when all children from their group are picked-up by a parent.** We say this to let you know that if you would like to stay and talk or mingle with another family that your children are your responsibility once you pick them up from club. Please keep safety in mind with navigating the parking lot in the evening with cars coming and going. Children can get away from you quickly. We will do our best to keep the upper parking lot area blocked off for drop-off and pick-up only.

1. All children age 3 - 6th grade need to be picked up by an adult at 7:30pm in the designated upper parking lot area.
2. Trek(7th and 8th) will be released from the Youth Room area with an adult to go to the upper parking lot area to wait for a parent to pick them up.
3. All students will start and stay the evening with their designated age group. They will rotate to areas in the church for game and lessons times
4. The side doors near Lewis Hall/nursery and the front main doors will be locked at all times during AWANA. A church staffed safety leader will be securing these doors and will allow parents to enter if needing to pay/ask questions at the front desk.

Health and COVID-19 Requirements

1. All students, leaders and parents entering the building have an option to wear a mask. If you would like to have your child wear a mask please provide that for them to wear.
2. Appropriate social distancing will be discussed with the students and leaders to ensure safe distances.
3. We are asking that parents/caregivers do a symptom check of their student before coming to club on a Wednesday night. If your child has a fever or not feeling well, please keep them home.

4. If they were home from school for a medically related reason/sickness, please keep them home.
5. If your child becomes ill or not feeling well at club, you will be contacted to come pick your child up from club.
6. If your child's school is impacted and closed due to COVID-19 and they attend school on campus in- person, we are asking that they NOT attend club during the duration of the closure even if they are asymptomatic. This means your child may not participate at club in-person until the school calls all clear and resumes normal operations. This would also apply to leaders that have children attending an affected school, they would be asked to communicate with the Commander and not attend club either.
7. If Gettysburg Area School District closes the whole district and all schools in it we will be following their guidelines and not having club until they reopen. If and when this happens we will be communicating with families.

Adult leaders/helpers

All AWANA leaders and helpers have been cleared to work with your child. For safety reasons, only those with clearances are allowed to be in contact with your child. There will be two or more cleared adults with your child for the duration of the evening.

Questions

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to talk with Ann Stockman, Commander/ Secretary. You can usually find her at the front check-in desk. If you need or would like to speak to Pastor Carl, please make arrangements by calling the church office at 717-334-2564.

We want your child to succeed!!!! It is critical that parents work with their children at home in order to memorize the verses in the handbooks. Some of your children cannot read yet and need adult help to learn the verses in their book. Even if your child can read, please check your child's handbook for the weekly verse – some sections require a parent's signature and at home work.