



2019-2020 Parent Handbook

Plymouth Wesleyan Church
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www.pwcalive.com/awana.html

WELCOME!

Welcome to Plymouth Wesleyan Church AWANA!

At PWC Awana, we seek to reach kids with the Gospel of Christ and hope that they will come to **know, love, and serve** our Lord Jesus Christ. Every exciting and fun Club meeting includes several aspects appropriate for each group such as story time, music time, game time, handbook time, and large-group time.

AWANA is a discipleship program that emphasizes scripture memorization. This program is most effective when you spend 10 minutes a day with your kids working with them in their handbooks.

If you are not regularly attending a church, I welcome you to make Plymouth Wesleyan your home!

My husband Chris and myself (Courtney) are your Awana Ministry Directors. Please feel free to reach out to us or your child's Small Group leaders if you need anything. I work in the church office and can be reached at 574-936-3637 or cclay@pwcalive.com. Please check our PWC website for resources, calendars, etc. at www.pwcalive.com/awana, and follow our PWC Facebook page. Check back often as things change!

AWANA PLEDGE:

I **pledge** allegiance to the **Awana** flag, which stands for the **Awana** clubs, whose goal is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him. ... I **pledge** allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make (or keep) it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

AWANA PRAYER:

Our prayer is that all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

AWANA SONG:

Firmly AWANA stands, led by the Lord's command, "Approved workmen are not ashamed,"
Boys and girls for His service claimed! Hail! AWANA! On the march for youth;
Hail! AWANA! Holding forth the truth Building lives on the Word of God AWANA stands!
Our Savior following with steps unfaltering, And love unaltering, His praise we sing,
His banner over us, in service glorious, We'll fight victorious for Christ our King!
Youth on the March!

Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed

AWANA is based on this verse: Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed. 2 Timothy 2:15

AWANA CLUBS AT PWC:

Puggles, 0-2 years, allows for infant play while recognizing the learning abilities of toddlers and presents basic Biblical concepts through teaching cards, activities, finger puppet plays, music, snacks, and games. The four emphasized concepts are: God made everything, God saw that it was good, God is love, and give thanks.

Toddlers love having their very own club to go to while older siblings participate with their age groups.

An optional At-home Parent Kit can be purchased for \$15 to extend your child's learning at home.

Cubbies, ages 3-Pre-K, celebrates the spiritual potential of preschoolers by helping them develop respect for God, His Son, and His Word. Cubbies has games, puppets, crafts, awards, and snacks that encourage a lively experience where fun and learning a Biblical foundation of faith go hand-in-hand.

Preschoolers can hardly wait for their next Cubbies Club meeting. At story time each week, told through the use of puppets, preschoolers learn about God, the greatness of His love and His Word, and about His Son Jesus Christ, the promised Savior. Cubbies helps you lead your child to God early so he or she will respect and trust Him for life.

Your child's handbook features parent-child activities for home. Working through the handbook with your child develops your spiritual leadership and helps you to instill a life-long Biblical worldview.

Sparks, K-2nd grade, ignites the curiosity of early-elementary-age kids to learn about the people and the events of the Bible and builds a foundation of wisdom through memory verse drills, crafts, activities, and review of key doctrine and Bible facts. Sparks presents regular opportunities to hear the Gospel and utilizes handbook time, game time, story time, and music time.

Parents can invest in their children's growing faith by discussing the Bible and the handbook sections with their kids and helping them memorize their verses. There are parent ideas sections in each handbook to aid with this. Optional Parent Handbooks (\$12) correspond to your children's handbooks and make it easy to learn about the Bible and to answer your children's questions.

Truth & Training (T&T), 3rd-4th grade and 5th-6th grade, engages third through sixth graders by answering their questions about God and the Bible guiding them through this pivotal life stage to grow in Christ's grace. It teaches the truth of God's Word and trains them to follow Christ in their daily lives.

T&T utilizes handbook time, game time, and large-group time. Each T&T handbook section begins with a parent page reinforcing the truths taught in that section and helps your child to succeed.



2019-2020 Club Schedule Weds. 6:30 - 8:00 pm

				
Club:	Puggles	Cubbies	Sparks	T&T 3/4 & 5/6
Age:	0-2 years	3-Pre-K	K-2nd	3rd - 6th
Classroom:	The Reef	Explorers	Outer Edge	Safari Run
6:10 - 6:30 pm	Check-in and report to The Reef	Check-in at either upstairs or downstairs check-in station Report to gym		
	6:30 - 8:00 pm Small Group Time and play in The Reef	6:30 - 6:45 pm Large Group Time Gym (dismissed before lesson)	6:30 - 7:00 pm Opening Ceremonies and Large Group Time Gym	
		6:45 - 7:35 pm Small Group Time Explorers Room	7:00 - 7:35 pm Small Group Time Outer Edge Room	7:00 - 7:35 pm Small Group Time Safari Run Room
		7:35 - 8:00 pm Game Time Explorers Room	7:35 - 8:00 pm Game Time Gym	
8:00 PM	Pick up in The Reef	Pick up in Explorers	Pick up in Gym	



Awana Theme Nights 2019-2020

September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
4 Awana "Kick Off" Night/ Parent Night- dress like a football player or fan	2 Career Day- Dress like what you want to be when you grow up	6 Veteran Heroes- wear camo or military items as we honor the fallen	4 Silly Socks- show us your mismatched & crazy socks Awana Store Open	1 No Awana Christmas Break	5 Eat more Chicken Dress like a Chick-Fil-A Cow & get free Chick-Fil-A	4 Alphabet Soup Wear as many items with the same letter, "s" shirt, sunglasses, scarf, sandals, striped pants...	1 Beaches & Waves- wear or bring a beach-y item or Hawaiian flowers	6 sdrawkcaB- Wear your clothes backwards or inside out
11 Back to School/ Parent Night- Parents are encouraged to stay, meet teachers, go over handbook	9 Superheroes Unite- dress like or bring your favorite superhero Awana Store Open	13 Make a Joyful Noise- bring a homemade musical instrument	11 Operation Christmas- bring donation items for stockings & Ugly Christmas Sweater contest	8 Welcome Back Bash- bonus Awana buck for attending Popcorn bar at check in Club Food Wars	12 Love Your Leader- bring something to show your appreciation	11 Team Color Night- wear your favorite team gear Awana Store Open	8 Double Shares- Earn one Awana buck, get two all night	13 Neon Lights/ Glow in the dark- wear your brightest of the bright colors
18 Balloon Night- Join us for some balloon fun at game time tonight	16 No Awana Fall Break	20 Count Your Blessings- Where something with number(s)	18 Night Before Christmas- wear your PJ's and hear the real story of Christmas	15 Twins & Triplets- find 1 or 2 people and dress alike Club Food Wars	19 Mr./Mrs. Potato Head- Bring a decorated potato, the best one wins!	18 Pirates of the Caribbean- dress like a Princess or a Pirate	15 Crazy Hair- No need to brush that hair, the wackier the better	20 Closing & Awards Night- bonus Awana Buck for attending Parents invited! Awana Store Auction
25 B.A.R.F. Night- Bring a real friend to join in the fun!	23 Mummy Night- bring a roll of toilet paper for game time	27 No Awana Thanksgiving Break	25 No Awana Christmas	22 Sports Night- wear your sports uniform or dress like an athlete Club Food Wars	26 Paper Airplane- Bring your best paper airplane, see who's will go the farthest at game time	25 No Awana Spring Break	22 Club T-shirt Night- wear an Awana or your club t-shirt/vest (bought or made)	
	30 Fall Harvest- wear your flannel, boots, etc. and come have some fall themed fun			29 SOUP-er Bowl- Bring a can of soup for the food pantry Club Food Wars Awana Store Open			29 Hat Night- wear your favorite hat Awana Store Open	

HANDBOOKS

Each clubber will be issued a small group handbook by week 3. This handbook will be used every week and last for 30 lessons, September - May. Please encourage your child to take care of this book, as well as remember to bring it back each week. I also encourage you to spend some time in the handbook each week helping your child to extend their learning at home.

COSTS AND DONATIONS

Donations keep our program affordable for all. There is an offering plate available at check-in each week. There is a RECOMMENDED (not required) \$25 donation per child per year for participation. Please do not let the cost hinder you from allowing your child to participate if it is not something you are able to do! If you are able to give above and beyond, we appreciate that for those that can not.

Club Vests/Uniforms are encouraged to be worn each week and are \$15 each. Optional club t-shirts can also be purchased for \$15 each. Please let a leader know if you would like to order a uniform or shirt.

AWANA BUCKS

Awana Bucks are earned as a way to reinforce your child's excitement for learning God's word, encourage them to be present each week with their handbooks, be engaged in the program, and be a disciple by inviting new people. Clubbers may earn Awana Bucks each week, and then redeem them for prizes of varying value at the Awana Store.

How to earn Awana Bucks

- Attendance each week (1)
- Bring Small Group Book each week (1)
- Wearing uniform/vest (1)
- Bring a new friend (5)
- Bring food pantry donation (1)
- Participating in the theme night (1)
 - *These first 6 are awarded at the check-in station
- Recite memory verse for week (5)
 - *This is awarded by leaders in the classroom
- Parent signature in book and/or parent pages for current week (1)
- Winning games during play time (varies)
 - *Awarded in the gym by any leader

Awana Store Open Dates *Subject to Change

- Oct. 9
- Dec. 4
- Jan. 29
- March 11
- April 29
- May 20- Auction

Clubbers are responsible for keeping their Awana Bucks in a safe location, and for bringing them back on a store night. Bucks will not be re-issued. Cubbies will have a pocket organizer on the wall in their classroom to keep their Awana Bucks. Sparks and T&T Clubs will be given a self-adhesive pocket to place on the inside of their handbooks for safe keeping.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

1. **Volunteer** with Awana. To have an effective Awana program it takes many volunteers. We always welcome family that have a willingness to help out. Needs range from working in the nursery, to leading a small group class, to helping with our games time, to listening to kids recite memory verses. You can volunteer on a weekly basis, or rotating 1-2 times a month. Please contact Courtney Clay for current volunteer opportunities.
2. **Donations** can be monetary offering or items for our Awana Store. Again, it is recommended for families to contribute \$25 per child per year, but Please prayerfully consider what you and your family can afford. You may place your one-time lump sum or weekly offering in the plate at the check-in desk. As described above, we will have an Awana Store open 1 time a month for kids to trade their earned Awana Bucks in for prizes. We will accept donations of NEW toys, trinkets, stickers, games, clothing, coloring books, balls, books, etc. Prizes may range from .10 items, to \$30 each.
3. **Spend time** each week with your child in their handbooks. Ask them questions to stimulate further discussion, encourage them to recite the memory verses they have learned, pray with them to help them grow their personal relationship with Jesus. They have a spot in their books/parent pages for a parent signature each week, and can earn extra Awana bucks for having them signed for the current week.
4. **Pray** for your child and all the children in the Awana program. Pray they learn to know, love, and serve Jesus. Also, pray for the leaders in the Awana program, and the impacts they have on the children in Awana.

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Clubbers will not be allowed to leave the church or be outside of the Awana areas for any reason during Club time without a parent/guardian
- All Clubbers must have an updated registration form and picture on file
- Clubbers are encouraged to bring friends to Club!
- Clubbers should bring a Bible and handbook each week
- Clubbers should wear clothes to play and closed-toed shoes each week

- Please leave hats, toys, food, gum, candy, etc. at home
- Please encourage Clubbers to use the restroom, get drinks, etc. prior to Club
- All electronics, including cell phones must be kept out of sight or given to a leader to hold
- Clubbers are expected to work in their handbooks each week. Sections are to be recited in their entirety, including the reference. When saying sections, no more than two helps are allowed per section. Once handbooks are completed, Clubbers have the opportunity to work on AWANA-approved extra credit.
- Clubbers must be respectful—to God, to others, to our facility. This includes appropriate behavior—no bad or hurtful language, no hitting, etc. Disrespectful or inappropriate behavior will be addressed using “the three count” according to AWANA guidelines.

DISCIPLINE - THE THREE COUNT

What is the three count?

1. The three count is a series of discipline steps. 2. It is for the individual discipline of a child, not a group. 3. It is positive discipline, not negative punishment. 4. It seeks to guide and direct children for their benefit.

How is the three count performed?

One count: Give the child a specific warning that his or her behavior is not appropriate, and he or she has been warned enough times. Tell the child, “That is a one-count.” It is important for Leaders to discern between the common redirection and guidance given to many children, and the need for assertive discipline steps for a specific child.

Two count: After another misbehavior, tell the child, “That is a two-count.” Ask your Director or Commander to meet with the child and you to discuss the problem behavior and the consequences. Remember, this is a conference with the child and two adults should meet with the child. In your conference with the child, affirm his or her positive behavior, yet communicate that everyone must always show respectful behavior.

Three count: After another misbehavior, tell the child, “That is a three count.” Your Director will remove the child from the activity and take him or her aside. The Director should speak to the child’s parents, with the child present, to explore together how the child can avoid being disruptive. Emphasize that the child is welcome in club as long as he or she is respectful of the rules. The Director may consider asking the child to stay home for a week, or until the child is ready to be a part of the group.