

Parent's Letter

Dear Parents and Clubbers,

Welcome to the Awana Club at Elim Evangelical Free Church! We are excited about this upcoming year and look forward to ministering to your child(ren). Awana Clubs are Christian based clubs that teach Biblical truths with an emphasis on scripture memorization. The goal of Awana Clubs is to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and train them to serve Him while having fun. Awana reaches this goal through a structured and creative program that makes it fun and exciting for all those involved.

We meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:15pm during the school year. Check-in time is 6:15pm. All parents must sign their clubber in and out weekly.

We invite you as parents to take an active role in our Awana program by working with your child as he/she studies their handbook. **Help your child(ren) come prepared to Awana by encouraging your clubber to complete the tasks in their handbook and work on scripture memorization daily. To assist in this, you can add Awana to their daily homework assignments and this will become a natural daily habit of being in God's Word.** Please feel free to stop in and see what your child is doing at any time.

If you have any questions about Awana Clubs at Elim Evangelical Free Church, please contact our church office at (253) 848-7900.

We look forward to seeing your child(ren) grow with us in Awana Clubs!

Sincerely,

Geneva Mooney
Children Ministry Director

Some tips for parents....

Communication. Should you have a problem or a question concerning something your child has told you about AWANA, contact your child's leader. Should you still have a question or concern, talk with the Club Director or feel free to contact the AWANA Commander.

"I can't find my AWANA handbook." This cry is heard all too often about the time parents are ready to drive their child to church for AWANA Clubs. A good way to avoid that cry is to keep their AWANA bag containing the child's uniform, Bible, AWANA handbook and a writing utensil in a designated place in your home. As long as their Bible and handbook are put back in their designated place after studying or attending club, the child should find them easily when needed.

Only 10 minutes a day. The average child will be properly prepared for the weekly AWANA meeting if they spend 10 minutes a day in the club handbook. Help your child develop the 10-minute-a-day habit early in the club year.

Make AWANA a priority. You are busy, but if you want to help your child be successful in AWANA, you need to make AWANA one of your priorities. You're going to ask your child to spend 10 minutes a day in the handbook. Please set aside enough of *your* time to help him/her learn sections and provide on-time transportation to club related activities.

AWANA Store/Bucks. During the year your child(ren) will have two opportunities to purchase items from our AWANA store with the AWANA bucks they earn throughout the year. They will have an opportunity to earn AWANA bucks while they are here. The most common way to earn AWANA bucks is by wearing their uniform, completing the weekly section(s) prior to club, having their memory verse memorized and showing up on time.

Some often asked questions about AWANA Clubs include.....

What do kids do at AWANA? The club meeting is divided into three segments: Opening/Worship Time, Game Time and Bible lesson/Handbook Time. Opening/Worship Time is opening in prayer and afterwards dancing and singing along with Christian videos/songs. Game Time the kids have fun, get exercise and learn good sportsmanship. During Bible lesson/Handbook Time, clubbers progress through age-appropriate Bible lessons and handbooks by memorizing and demonstrating an understanding of Bible passages.

What does the word “AWANA” mean? “AWANA is an acronym for “Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed.” It is taken from 2 Timothy 2:15, which states, “Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”

What is a section? A section is a segment of material to be answered with a memory verse. Some sections include bible knowledge and understanding.

What is the five-count? When an AWANA leader begins to count aloud from “one” to “five,” that’s the signal for quiet and attention among clubbers and leaders.



Elim Evangelical Free Church AWANA Club Guidelines

- 1) **Be on time.** The doors open to clubbers at 6:15pm. Upon arrival, **all parents must sign their clubber in and out weekly.** All clubs will start promptly at 6:30pm and will end at 8:15pm.
- 2) **Bring** your AWANA bag, Handbook, Bible, a writing utensil and uniform.
- 3) **Uniforms.** Clubbers earn AWANA bucks by wearing their uniforms.
- 4) **Wear the appropriate shoes and clothes.** Please help your child have fun by wearing the appropriate shoes and clothes. We ask all children to come wearing tennis shoes, this is so they are safe and other clubbers are too. If your clubber comes in any other shoes than tennis shoes they will be asked to sit out of game time and that’s no fun. We also ask that they wear shorts or pants, no dresses or skirts.
- 5) **Handbooks** should be brought to all club meetings by every clubber, including clubbers who have not finished their sections. Clubbers can earn extra AWANA bucks for having their sections finished before club meetings.
- 6) **AWANA Clubs meet** during the school year. They are dismissed for the summer.
- 7) **Registration fee** is \$30 per clubber and must be received before items are provided. This fee includes a uniform, a bag and a handbook.



(4-5 year old, 1-2 years before the child begins kindergarten)

- **The Awana club for preschoolers is built on two premises:**
 - Young children can and should receive spiritual training.
 - Home is the primary place for spiritual training.
- **Our preschool program meets these needs through...**
 - **Fun – and lots of it!**

Awana is fun with a purpose – to reach and train kids for Jesus Christ. Games, puppets, crafts, awards and other activities transform our preschool program into a lively weekly experience where fun and learning go hand in hand.
 - **Friendly characters and leaders**

Cubbie Bear, Luv E. Lamb, Em. E Elephant, Zip E. Zebra and Gigi Giraffe take preschoolers on a thrilling journey through God’s Word. Caring, committed volunteer leaders from our church nurture your children spiritually as Christian role models and teachers.
 - **Foundational teaching**

Bible-centered handbooks and club activities help your children begin to build a solid understanding of the basics of Christianity at an early age.
 - **Family involvement**

Cubbies is unique because it supports parents as the primary source of spiritual nurturing. By working directly with their child on the weekly handbook lessons, parents become active participants in their child’s spiritual development.



The AWANA club for children in kindergarten through second grade builds on the material taught in our preschool club. The aim of the curriculum is to take youngsters a step deeper into God’s Word while giving unsaved boys and girls regular opportunities to hear the gospel and come to faith in Jesus Christ. After being immersed in solid foundational teaching at the preschool level, boys and girls frequently come to an understanding of their need to trust in Christ as their personal Savior while in Sparks.

- **Immersing kids in God’s Word**

The Sparks program is firmly grounded in Scripture. The handbook features:

 - Basic truths about God, Jesus Christ, salvation and the Bible.
 - An increased emphasis on Scripture memorization. A child will learn and review over 80 verses in three years.
 - Clear and consistent presentation of the gospel message.
- **Fun + learning = results**

Sparks club meetings combine learning with fun to create an atmosphere of irresistible excitement for church and unchurched kids alike. Club meetings are divided into three segments:

 - Bible teaching, worship and the gospel message.
 - Small group interaction and completion of Bible-based lessons.
 - Age-appropriate games.

Along the way, Leaders, encourage the boys and girls to learn verses and complete assignments throughout the handbook.



The AWANA Clubs third through sixth grade program is Truth & Training (T&T)! This exciting program features increased focus on Scripture application and an improved club structure. Our goal is that many of today's young people will become tomorrow's church leaders.

- **T & T is equipped with a variety of dynamic tools to accomplish this mission:**
 - A handbook of increasing difficulty which teach children that life's ultimate adventure is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - Weekly meetings that expose children to the gospel message, Scripture memory, Bible study, team oriented games and gut busting fun.
 - A Bible-centered curriculum that helps kids build a firm foundation for their faith, place God's Word in their heart and apply the truths of Scripture to their daily lives.
- **Evangelism and discipleship go hand in hand in our third through sixth grade program.** By the time a child has completed T&T, that child will have:
 - Learned and reviewed over 120 verses.
 - Studied dozens of passages from the Old and New Testament.
 - Regularly heard and read the gospel message.
 - Discovered the Bible's response to questions like "How does God want me to live my life?" and memorized verses to back up these answers.
 - Completed their handbook that helps your child see the world through God's eyes.