

Turners Chapel



AWANA Parent
Handbook
2022-2023

From the Commander:

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2022-23 AWANA Year, our twenty-sixth year, to be exact. We begin our journey on August 21 at 5:00 pm. As we finished our first quarter of a century, we know that our God will continue to use this ministry in reaching and discipling children through building relationships and partnering with all of you.

Your trust is so very appreciated, and your involvement is needed. Parental involvement makes all the difference and your invited to come to any club night you want and be involved.

We have many special things planned through activities, theme nights, friendly competition and great fellowship. Above all, our focus remains the same, to reach kids for Christ and keep Him as our focus!

We have some of the best leaders ever, who are willing to be used by the Lord to reach out to these children. They freely give of their time, energy, and talent with a desire to connect with the children in their care. We are blessed having them and I would encourage you to talk with your child's leaders.

On our second night, August 28, you are formally invited to the Ice Cream Social at 4 pm at our picnic shelter. This is open to all parents, kids, leaders, and family members and is free of cost. Just come early and join us and maybe using that night to stay with your child.

Beginning in September, there will be monthly newsletters sent to all parents. We strive to keep you informed of everything that is happening so you will get occasional emails in addition to the newsletters. If you ever have any questions or concerns, you are always welcome to call, text, email or speak to me at club.

Thank you for entrusting your children with us and thank you for joining us on the journey ahead.

Sincerely,

Commander Loren

Cell – 919-897-0046; email – loregatten@gmail.com

Our Clubs:

Puggles: 2-year-olds

Cubbies: 3–4-year-olds

Sparks: K-2nd grades

T&T: 3rd-5th grades

Trek: 6th-8th grades

The AWANA Night:

Our night is divided into five parts running from 5:00PM – 7:00PM. The layout is below. It may change from time to time on special nights but will always start promptly at 5:00 and will end promptly at 7:00!

Each “segment” is either game time, small group and large group.

5:00 – 5:05 – opening ceremonies

5:10 – 5:40 – first segment

5:45 – 6:15 – second segment

6:20 – 6:50 – third segment

6:55 – 7:00 – closing ceremonies

2022 – 2023 Workers List

Loren Gatten – Commander

Heather Neal – Club Secretary

Jeff Smith - Game Director

Connie Flood - Game Director

David Carroll – Game Leader

Tom Bottoms - Trek Director

Tiffany Carroll – Trek Leader

Jessica Leisy – Trek Leader

Wendy Bottoms - T&T Director

Patrick Neal - T&T Leader

Shelia Fraley – T&T Leader

Herb Armstrong – T&T Leader

Bridgett Armstrong – T&T Leader

Robin Neal - Sparks Director

Kathie Harris - Sparks Leader

Rebekah Keifer – Sparks Leader

Kyle Edwards -Sparks Leader

Misty Edwards – Sparks Leader

Jackie Moore - Cubbies Director

Donna Beal - Cubbies Leader

Mary Buchanan - Cubbies Leader

Barbara Flagg- Puggles Director

Elizabeth McElreath - Puggles Leader

Susanna Binkley – Puggles Leader

Kellie Smith – Leader (working where needed)

Kay Patterson – Leader (working where needed)

Sandra Carter – Leader (working where needed)

Calendar

August – December:

August 21 – Opening Night

August 28 – Ice Cream Social Night (starts at 4pm - parents please join us)

September 4 - No AWANA - Labor Day

September 11 – Game Leader Missing Night

September 18 – Leader and Parent Baby Picture Night

September 25 – Milkshake Night

October 2 – Outside Nature Scavenger Hunt Night

October 9 – Nerf War Night

October 16 – Marshmallow Night

October 23 – Leader and Parent Guess Night

October 30 – Trunk or Treat Night (runs from 4:15 - 5)

November 6 – Dear Soldier Night

November 13 – Missions Night

November 20 – Double Dollars Night

November 27 – Total Blackout Night

December 4 - Christmas Caroling Night (Christmas Card writing to residents if caroling is not permitted)

December 11 - Christmas Party Night, AWANA Store #1

December 18, 25, January 1 - No AWANA - Christmas\New Year's break

January - April:

January 8 – Welcome Back Night

January 15 – BOLM Food Drive Kick Off Night

January 22 – Ruler Night

January 29 – Giant Night

February 5 –AWANA Bowl VI

February 12 – Super Duper Giant Enormous Colossal Massive

Mammoth Immense Humongous Tremendous Sizeable Cookie Night

February 19 – Fruit of the Spirit Night

February 26 – Leader and Parents vs Clubbers Night

March 5 – Outrageous, Extreme, Intense Dodgeball Night

March 12 – Attempt to Fly a Kite Night (with or without wind)

March 19 – BOLM Food Drive Wrap Up Night

March 26 – Cut Out Cars Night (begins at 3 pm)

April 2 – Spring Festival (3:00 – 5:00 pm)

April 9 – No AWANA - Easter

April 16– Eighth Grade Party Night

April 23 – Grand Prix Night

April 30 – Final Night, AWANA Store #2, Awards Ceremony

2022 – 2023 Price List

Club	Book	Uniform	Bag/Backpack
Puggles	\$15	\$13	\$12
Cubbies	\$12	\$14	\$8
Sparks	\$12	\$14	\$8
T&T	\$12	\$19	\$15
Trek	\$12	\$16	\$15

In addition to the above items, there are many accessories you can purchase for your child. For items and prices, please see your child's leader. While these items could be purchased yourself, the church receives a 30% discount as a charter member, so we are more than happy to place these orders for you.

Policies and general information

The AWANA Mission Statement

"To reach kids, equip leaders and change the world for God.". AWANA Website - <http://www.awana.org>

Cost:

There is no cost to attend AWANA other than the books and uniforms. We also collect 25 cents each week as a club due. It is not about the money, but by collecting the quarter each week, we are reinforcing the idea of a tithe, which would be done on a regular basis. All activities are free and open to all families.

Registration:

We offer two forms of registration. The most popular method is online registration. Simply use the link here and it will begin the registration page. It is very simple and quick, and you can use one form for any number of children.

<https://turnerschapel.com/awana-registration>

The other method is paper and those will be included in this handbook or upon request

Arrival and departing:

For safety reasons, we ask that all parents stay with their child until AWANA begins or until they are with a leader. Please arrive a few minutes before closing to pick them up.

Outings:

Any time clubbers are taken off of the church property or meet outside of the regular club time, parental signatures will be required. We offer a few outings for the older groups, and these are at no or minimal cost. Parents are more than welcome to come on all outings.

Dress code:

We believe in maintaining a high standard with what the clubbers wear but being practical as well. Clubbers are encouraged and expected to

wear their uniforms each night unless it is a special theme. Jeans and sweatpants are fine. In warm weather, shorts are fine, but we only ask that they are not too short, using your discretion. No shirts can be tied up to expose the midriff. Clubbers should wear sneakers or tennis shoes (no flip flops for safety reasons).

Picture taking:

Throughout the year we take pictures, and several pictures of your child may be taken. The sole purpose of these pictures is for an end of the year slideshow that will be presented during the awards presentation. No pictures are shared outside of that.

Discipline:

The single most important theme in AWANA is the Gospel. It cannot be about anything else. The second is discipline. Without it, there is chaos, and the Gospel message gets lost in the chaos. Here, discipline means “to disciple”, and that is our approach.

The three-count is an individual discipline. Clubbers are given a warning (1), sent to the Commander (2), and then depending on how that goes, a call is made to the home (3).

The five count is group discipline and is simply a call to order. Every night begins with the five-count.

There are incentives for good sportsmanship, bringing handbooks and bibles, wearing uniforms, passing sections etc. These include weekly awards, AWANA dollars to be used in the store, recognition, and outings (previously mentioned).

Store:

The AWANA store is held 2 times a year, right before the Christmas and New Year’s break and on the final night of the year, and it allows clubbers to purchase items with their AWANA dollars that they have earned for passing sections. These items include toys, books, games, and other items. Items are new and priced for clubbers to buy. The more they earn, the more they can buy. They can use all of the dollars each time or save them for a future store. Trek is the only group that does not go to the store. They have outings in place of the store.

Awards:

Awards are extremely important, and all clubbers have the chance to earn awards throughout the year. We have weekly awards and then during the final night AWANA, we have our AWANA Awards Ceremony where clubbers will be given their yearly awards. This will be after the AWANA Store.

Home involvement:

Training begins at home with the parents. While we have them for a short period of time, we are simply an extension of that, training them for service for the Lord once they have a personal relationship with Him.

We strongly encourage parental involvement and participation. This includes spending a night or two with your child at AWANA, working with them in their handbooks during the week and joining us on outings. We would also love to have you volunteer helping a child with a verse or wrapping gifts for the Christmas AWANA Store.

Child Protection:

We take the responsibility of providing a safe environment very seriously. We have the very best leaders that anyone could ever ask for. They are driven by a love for all of the clubbers that enter the church. They freely offer their time, talent and energy in the building of relationships. All leaders:

- Have demonstrated a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Have a background check on a regular basis
- Have a filed application
- Are current members of Turner's Chapel, Connect Church or Cornerstone
- Are regular attendees in the church
- Have had a six-month waiting period before serving
- Are at least 18 years of age or older
- Have provided references if asked

It is an awesome responsibility, and we strive to earn the trust you place with us. The complete copy of the child protection policy is available upon request to all parents.

The Ten Standards of Excellence:

1. We reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him.
2. We recruit, train, and motivate leaders to serve in the local church.
3. We use positive discipline and maintain order throughout the entire club meeting.
4. We attract children with games and activities.
5. We encourage memorization, understanding, and application of Scripture.
6. We use elements of Large Group Time effectively.
7. We motivate children with incentives.
8. We manage God's resources with faithfulness and integrity.
9. We minister to parents and family members.
10. We magnify the impact of our church's ministry through cooperation with the national AWANA ministry.

The Five Principles of AWANA

1. AWANA is centered on the Gospel.
2. Scripture memory is key.
3. AWANA is exciting and fun.
4. Children and youth are trained to serve.
5. AWANA is built on volunteer leadership.

Pledge to the AWANA Flag

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.

AWANA Prayer

That all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.