

AWANA Charter #12761

First Baptist Church

875 E. Third St.

Akron, CO 80720

(970) 345-2385

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Sunday School Hour - 9:45 AM

Morning Worship Service - 11:00 AM

Wednesday Adult Bible Study - 6:30 PM



Call For a Ride

(970) 554-1792

Tom & Karen Hendrich

We have a bus route near you and would love for you to ride the bus to church!



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

AWANA HANDBOOK

2019 - 2020

Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

2 Timothy 2:15

ABOUT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

First Baptist Church of Akron is a warm and friendly New Testament Baptist church. Our mission is to glorify God and to “*Preach Christ on The Plains!*” We want to be a help to you.

Every Sunday, we study the Holy Scriptures together in Bible classes for all ages. Then, we worship the Lord Jesus together in prayer, singing, giving, and the preaching of His Word. Our worship service is traditional with an emphasis on the glory of God and equipping Christians for the work of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ on The Plains!

First Baptist Church proclaims and defends the foundational truths of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and practices the historic Biblical truths that have made Baptists distinctive. Under Jesus Christ, our church congregation is self-governing. Yet, it does cooperate in fellowship with other local churches of like faith and practice. **So, come and see what we are all about!**

Our Sunday School hour begins at 9:45 AM, and our morning worship service begins at 11:00 AM. On Wednesday evenings, we would like to invite you to join other adults for a Bible study of “The Apostles” in Classroom #1 from 6:30-7:00 P.M. Afterwards, you can run errands or help a Bible club by listening to memory verses or helping with games.

If you would like more information about First Baptist, you can reach us with the following contact information:

Church Office: (970) 345-2385 (9-5; Tues.-Fri.)
Pastor Jon Acker: (970) 466-0936
Need A Ride to Church: (970) 554-1792 (Tom & Karen)



AWANA Important Contact Numbers

2019-2020 Club Leadership:

Commander:	Jon Acker	C: (970) 466-0936
Cubbies Directors:	Holly Thompson Angela Wylie	C: (970) 554-2426 C: (970) 554-0527
Sparks Director:	Peggy Roark	H: (970) 842-2566
T&T Directors:	Jon/Crystal Acker	C: (970) 466-0936 C: (970) 466-0934
Trek Directors:	Doug/Jen Couch	C: (970) 554-0501
Journey Directors:	Keith Wright	C: (970) 554-0004
AWANA Secretary:	Mary Ann Shook	H: (970) 345-9889 C: (970) 554-6452



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WELCOME TO AWANA!

Whether you know it or not, as an AWANA parent and clubber you have embarked on one of the most exciting and fulfilling Christian ministries ever conceived. AWANA began as a children's program at the North Side Gospel Center in Chicago in 1941. Lance Latham, North Side's senior pastor, collaborated with the church's youth director, Art Rorheim, to develop weekly clubs that would appeal to churched and unchurched children, lead them to trust Christ for salvation, and encourage them toward enduring faith and service to God. The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with an overview of the AWANA ministry at First Baptist Church of Akron and answer any questions you might have.

What is AWANA?

AWANA is an international, nondenominational, Bible-centered youth organization providing weekday clubs and programs for ages three years old through high school. The acrostic AWANA comes from the following motto: “**A**pproved **W**orkmen **A**re **N**ot **A**shamed” (see **2 Timothy 2:15**). Its purpose is to reach boys and girls for Jesus Christ and train them to serve Him. As clubbers learn from the Word of God, our prayer is they will see their need for salvation and trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior. In our Bible clubs, your child will hide God's Word in their heart, learn what it means, and be encouraged to apply God's instruction to their life. As an added bonus, they will receive fun awards for their hard work at the end of the school year.

HOW CAN PARENTS HELP?

We are so glad to have your child in AWANA this year. We sincerely desire that his or her club experience will be full of fun and learning about their Creator. As a parent, you can fulfill an important role in this by doing the following:

1. Help your child prepare for club each week by spending time at home reading and reviewing handbook material. You might even consider learning handbook sections yourself. This will demonstrate to your child the importance you place on memorizing God's Word.
2. Praise your child as handbook sections are passed! Achievement is hard work. When you sense your child is giving up, remind him that God only expects our best.
3. Help your child participate in our special theme nights. Theme nights help boys and girls look forward to coming to AWANA. On those nights that require special preparations, please encourage your child to participate.
4. Volunteer as a parent and help with a club. Consistently throughout the years we have asked parents to lend a hand when we have been short-handed. Please be willing, if asked by a director. We welcome and encourage your involvement!
5. Please be faithful to pay club dues by the end of the AWANA year. They go toward the achievement awards.
6. Please make sure that your child wears their club uniform or a t-shirt of the same color, pants, and tennis shoes to club each week (e.g. please no boots or flip-flops). Young ladies are also welcome to wear modest skirts or dresses.

Parents, thank you in advance for your help this year!

SICKNESS POLICY

Because of the epidemics of sickness which can hit our area hard, we encourage you not to send your child to AWANA clubs if your child is experiencing any symptoms of illness. These symptoms include anything from a runny nose, fever, stomachache, cough, sore throat, red eyes, or just not feeling well. Hopefully, this will help with not spreading sickness any further. In some extremes, we may call you to come and get your child if he/she appears to need to go home and is experiencing some of these symptoms. Just a reminder: sickness is an excused absence from AWANA, and the child will not be penalized in any way for not attending. He/she can always catch up on verses on Sunday (if attending First Baptist Church) or the following Wednesday and are still eligible to earn their awards. Please let your Director/Leaders know about the situation. They will be more than willing to cooperate. Thank you for your help with this issue.

CANCELLATION OF AWANA CLUBS

Our club follows the Akron School District calendar. Whenever Akron Schools cancel classes because of inclement weather or other events, we also will **not** have club. The directors will contact all the families informing them that club has been cancelled.

CLUB DESCRIPTIONS

The four primary colors of AWANA are Red, Blue, Green, and Yellow. You will notice these same colors being used throughout the AWANA clubs. They are most visible in the shirts worn by children and adults which distinguish each club from another. If possible, we encourage you to buy an AWANA shirt or vest for your clubber. However, it is not required for participation in AWANA.

Cubbies

This club is for boys and girls 3-4 years of age. Both children and leaders are dressed in blue.

Sparks

This club is for boys and girls in K5 through 2nd grade. Both children and leaders are dressed in red.

T&T

This club is for boys and girls in 3rd through 6th grades. Both children and leaders are dressed in blue or green.

Trek

This club is for teen boys and girls in 7th through 9th grades. Teens are dressed in red or teal blue and leaders in black.

Journey

This club is for teen boys and girls in 10th through 12th grades. Teens and leaders are dressed in dark grey.

TYPICAL CLUB NIGHT SCHEDULE

ARRIVAL OF CLUBBERS: Clubbers in preschool through sixth grade are asked to arrive each week of club between 6:15 and 6:30 PM and no earlier. When they arrive, they should check-in with adult leaders at their club's meeting location. Clubbers should sit quietly with a leader and memorize verses until dismissed for the AWANA Flag Ceremony.

- Cubbies meet in the church basement.
- Sparks meet in Family Center Fellowship Hall.
- Truth and Training meets in the church sanctuary.
- Trek & Journey meet in the Family Center Gym at 6:00.

Flag Ceremony

Each club night begins with The Flag Ceremony held in the gymnasium at 6:30 PM. Clubbers should line up around the AWANA circle on their club color.

- Cubbies line up on the green line.
- Sparks line up on the red line.
- Truth and Training line up on the blue line.
- Trek and Journey line up on the yellow line.

The flag ceremony is as follows:

Presenting of the Colors
Pledge to the United States Flag
Pledge to the AWANA Flag
Singing the AWANA Theme Song
Posting of the Colors
Prayer
Announcements
Dismissal



2. **Come prepared.** Always bring your Bible, handbook or entrance booklet, and wear your uniform.
3. **Be a good listener.** We want every child to have a safe, enjoyable time at club. Remember to quiet down and come to attention whenever the leader begins to count to five.
4. **Show respect to others at all times.** Treat everyone like you want to be treated.
5. **Please leave all food, candy, drinks, toys, and schoolwork at home.** When you are at AWANA, be at AWANA! AWANA is neither a study hall for your child to do homework nor a nursery school for him/her to play with his/her toys. We want your child to receive as much from this ministry as possible.
6. **Hitting, swearing, being disrespectful, using "put-downs", and unkind words are always unacceptable behavior.**

Three Warning Policy:

- 1st - **A Warning:** Clubber is put on notice about his behavior.
- 2nd - **Visit Commander:** The clubber must meet with the commander who then explains what happens if he receives a third warning. The clubber remains with the commander the rest of the evening.
- 3rd - **Call Parents:** The clubber's parents are called and asked to come and pick up their child. Behavior is explained to the parent who is then encouraged to deal with the unruly behavior. If parents cannot be contacted, the child will be separated from the rest of the clubbers for the remaining club time, under a leader's supervision.

FINANCES

AWANA Dues:

Our ministry is financed mainly upon the donations of generous people and the dues we collect during our club year. As you can imagine, the expenses to run our clubs through the year are considerable. So, we ask that parents be faithful in paying their clubber's dues. Dues are \$16.00 per child per year. As an incentive for families to pay up front for the year or as soon as possible, we are offering discounts for those who pay their yearly dues before **November 6th**.

\$16.00 for the first child

\$12.00 for the second child

\$8.00 for the third child

A maximum of \$36.00 per family for the school year

Scholarship Program:

For those families who cannot afford **the cost of dues and books**, the church has provided scholarships to help your clubber participate in AWANA (uniforms and bags are excluded). Those inquiring about receiving a scholarship should contact Jon Acker or Mary Ann Shook.

AWANA BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

In order for our AWANA club to be a safe and fun-learning environment for all the clubbers, we have established the following guidelines. Parents should read these together with their children.

1. **Arrive on time.** AWANA begins at 6:30 PM (excluding Trek and Journey). Please arrive a few minutes early so that you will be ready to begin on time. Clubbers may arrive as early as 6:15 PM (again excluding Trek and Journey). Club ends at 8:00 PM. Please be prompt in picking up your child.

Each AWANA club meets for an hour and a half. This time is comprised of three segments:

Handbook Time - This segment of time involves clubbers memorizing, reviewing, and reciting Bible verses to a small group leader. Sometimes, clubbers may have activities in their handbooks to complete during this time.

Council Time - This segment of time includes club announcements, songs, testimonies, a Bible message, and awards presentation.

Game Time - This segment of time features unique games around the AWANA Game Circle in the Family Center gym.

CLUBS	GAME	HANDBOOK	COUNCIL
Cubbies	7:00-7:20 GYM	7:30-7:50 CB	6:35-6:55 CB
Sparks	7:30-8:00 GYM	7:00-7:30 FCFH	6:35-7:00 FCFH
T&T	6:35-7:00 GYM	7:30-8:00 CA	7:00-7:30 CA
Trek/Journey	6:00-6:30 GYM	FCU	FCU

GYM=Gymnasium

CB=Church Basement

FCFH=Family Center Fellowship Hall

CA=Church Auditorium

FCU=Family Center Upstairs

♣ **DISMISSAL OF CLUBBERS:** All clubbers will be dismissed from their club meeting location at 8:00 PM. For the clubber's safety, a parent or an authorized adult must come inside to retrieve their clubber(s).

AWANA 2019-20 CLUB CALENDAR

Sept. 4 - <u>Club Registration</u>	Jan. 8 - <u>Club Resumes</u> ; CN #15
Sept. 11 - Club Night #1	Jan. 15 - CN #16
Sept. 18 - CN #2	Jan. 22 - CN #17
Sept. 25 - CN #3	Jan. 29 - CN #18
Oct. 2 - CN #4	Feb. 5 - CN #19
Oct. 9 - CN #5	Feb. 12 - CN #20
Oct. 16 - CN #6	Feb. 19 - CN #21
<u>Missions Night</u>	Feb. 22 - <u>AWANA GRAND PRIX</u>
Oct. 23 - CN #7	<i>Sat. 10AM - 12PM in gym</i>
Oct. 30 - CN #8	Feb. 26 - CN #22
<u>Hay Ride Night</u>	
Nov. 6 - CN #9	Mar. 4 - CN #23
Nov. 13 - CN #10	<u>Crazy Hair Night</u>
Nov. 20 - CN #11	Mar. 11 - CN #24
<u>Canned Food Night</u>	Mar. 18 - <u>NO CLUB</u>
Nov. 27 - <u>NO CLUB</u>	<u>Spring Break</u>
<u>Thanksgiving Break</u>	Mar. 25 - CN #25
Dec. 4 - CN #12	Apr. 1 - Evangelist Jim VanGeldren
Dec. 11 - CN #13	Apr. 8 - CN #26
Dec. 18 - CN #14	Apr. 15 - CN #27
<u>Christmas Hat Night</u>	<i>Last night to give to Missions</i>
<i>"Magic of Christmas"</i>	Apr. 22 - CN #28
Dec. 25 - <u>NO CLUBS</u>	<i>Deadline to complete sections</i>
<u>Christmas Day</u>	Apr. 29 - <u>AWANA AWARDS</u>
	<i>6:30pm in church sanctuary</i>

All dates/times are subject to change.

Notification of these changes will be announced prior to the event.

MISSIONS PROJECT

We are praying for your children to first of all trust in Jesus for salvation. Then, as they grow in faith with a desire to serve Him and share His plan of salvation personally with others, we want to encourage them to give to other children's ministries that share the same message of salvation that they have received from the Bible.

We will encourage your clubber to bring contributions for the missions project that we are supporting this year. We plan to raise funds for children of Ivory Coast, West Africa. The funds will be sent through Baptist International Missions Inc. to Missionary Kristine McLaughlin who is a registered nurse and ministers to children of Ivory Coast in local churches, Bible clubs, and medical missions. We will give special emphasis and collect funds for this missions project every Wednesday until April 15th. Prayerfully consider how you can give this school year.

WHAT TO BRING

Clubbers should bring their Bible and AWANA handbook every week. If you have purchased a vest or club shirt, please come dressed in your uniform every week. We also encourage you to regularly give to missions when applicable. Of course, ALWAYS bring your friends and newcomers!

WHAT NOT TO BRING

Clubbers should not bring video games, cell phones, toys, or other electronics or items not directly related to AWANA. All such items will be taken from the clubbers by their club director and not returned until the end of club that night.