



Welcome to the New Hope Baptist Fellowship

AWANA Program

We are glad that you have decided that New Hope Baptist Fellowship Church is a place where your child can grow in the Lord.

AWANA offers several opportunities for your child to grow spiritually through Scripture memorization and a basic understanding of biblical principals and doctrines. AWANA also provides an opportunity for children to learn to compete as a team and not just as individuals. They will learn to win and lose with a proper attitude of fair play and sportsmanship.

We ask for your support in encouraging your child to complete their handbook materials prior to each club meeting.

The word AWANA stands for ***"Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed"***, and comes from 2 Timothy 2:15. "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of truth" 2 Timothy 2:15

What We Expect From Our Leaders:

The following may give you some insight into the type of leadership we strive for in our program.

Requirements:

- A leader must have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- A leader must have a desire to work with and a compassion for children.
- A leader must have a background check.

Expectations:

- We expect our leaders to be on time and to follow the rules.
- We expect our leaders to be examples by wearing clean, neat uniforms every night.
- We expect our leaders to display a proper attitude before the clubbers and other leaders.
- We expect our leaders to pray for our Club on a regular basis.
- We expect our leaders to realize AWANA is not just another program, but it is a ministry of the church, and a place of service to God.

What We Expect From Parents

Encourage your child - kids have much more fun when mom and dad show interest in their accomplishments.

Help children to attend AWANA every week and to arrive on time, as consistency builds friendships, achievement and self-discipline.

During the week, help your child prepare at least two sections. This will ensure they will complete their handbook and will receive their special awards, plus they will qualify for other AWANA activities.

Attend all major events. Parents are always welcome and are encouraged to attend special events as a way of showing your support and approval for your child's accomplishments.

Please review the discipline guidelines in this handbook with your child. AWANA has very few rules of behavior, but in order to ensure that all clubbers have an opportunity to learn and have fun, some rules of behavior will be enforced.

Please plan to come in to pick up clubbers promptly at 8pm. Clubbers will not be permitted to leave the building without an adult to pick them up. (Unless notified from the parent NO older siblings will be allowed to pick up clubber)

Please come in to sign in your clubber each week. No Clubbers should sign themselves in.

What we expect from Clubbers:

- Be responsible. Keep up with your books, Bible and backpack.
- All children must attend their age appropriate class (no skipping ahead or staying behind).
- Follow the instructions of your leaders
- Move quietly between rooms. Walk - do not run in the church
- Stay in your room unless a leader has given permission for you to leave
- Treat others with respect - no swearing, fighting, hitting or pushing.
- Keep your hands, feet and objects to yourself at all times.

Use the school rule for illness, don't come to club if you are running a temperature or have been sick in the last 24 hour period

Discipline

In the event discipline is required, we have two procedures that will be used by all clubs, the 5-count and the 3-count. The 5-count is for all clubbers, while the 3-count is for an individual clubber.

5-count When a leader needs the clubbers to be still and quiet, he/she will count from 1 to 5. All clubbers need to stop talking immediately and be still. Clubbers who are not quiet by the count of 5 run the risk of losing points towards AWANA Bucks.

We use a 3-count system If a child is disrespectful or is disruptive to the club, the following procedure will occur:

A "1" count will be given for the first offense.

A "2" count will be given for the second offense, and the child will be counseled by a leader outside the club room and then returned to club. (**Cubbies:** will be taken to the Director and meet with parents.)

A "3" count is given and the child is taken by the leader to their parent or guardian. If this occurs, contact between parents and the Club Director/Commander is necessary before the next club meeting. The parent will need to be with the Clubber for the next two meetings.

Uniform Guidelines

Clubbers and leaders are expected to wear their AWANA uniform to each meeting as soon as they are qualified by their club to wear them. The goal of each AWANA Club is to have 100% of its attendees in uniform. A properly worn uniform helps AWANA clubbers and leaders earn respect and credibility.

Uniform standards are as follows:

- Cubbies and Sparks vests must be clean and buttoned.
- T & T t-shirts must be clean and neat

Always wear tennis shoes instead of open toe shoes or flip flops. Because of game time it's better if girls wear slacks or jeans. If they wear a dress/skirt they need shorts underneath

New Hope Baptist Wednesday Nightly schedule:

5:30-6:00 dinner for children who wish to sing in choir (K-5th)
6:00-6:30 Choirs K-2 and 3rd-5th grade
6:15-6:30 sign in for Awana's if not in choir (no dinner provided)
6:30-6:40 Awana opening ceremony
- Cubbies have their own schedule starting at 6:40
6:40-7:05 Game time T&T's and Handbook time for Spark's.
7:10-7:35 Game time Spark's and Handbook time for T&T's
7:40-8:00 Counsel time for Spark's and T&T's
8:00pm closing prayer & parent pick up at Clubber's room.
**This schedule may be amended based on the size of the groups

Handbook Guidelines:

Sections must be passed in order.

Discoveries & Challenges must be done in order.

Silver & Gold level sections (T&T) may be done at any time.

If you do not bring your handbook to the weekly club meetings, sections may not be passed or checked off by your club leader.

To complete a handbook in one year, a child should have two to three sections ready to be completed when they arrive each week.

Have your parent's **initial** work done or said at home.

AWANA Awards: Each AWANA Clubber has the opportunity to earn exciting awards. These awards can be worn on the uniform. NOTE: Awards may only be given when a child is in uniform. These awards should be displayed and worn proudly. They represent good achievement and spiritual growth in the knowledge of God and His Word. We will encourage all young people to strive for their highest potential. Each child works at his/her own pace and will be guided and helped by a caring leader.

For Club Attendance Awards, there may be only 1 unexcused absence per three month quarter. For Church Attendance Award, there may be only 1 unexcused absence per three month quarter. . (Sickness, family vacations, and other circumstances outside a clubbers control are considered excused absences)

AWANA Bucks:

This training involves a tremendous amount of scripture memorization. Having God's word hidden in the clubber's heart is a priceless reward in itself. But sometimes children don't always realize how important hiding God's word in their heart is! (And children are not alone, even adults lose track of the importance of Scripture memorization from time to time). So, we provide an incentive for the clubbers to work extra-hard and memorize as many verses as possible. Even though they receive the regular uniform awards and other items, we provide the AWANA Store as an added incentive. We have stocked our store with toys, candy, games, jewelry, and various other items that clubbers will enjoy. Clubbers accumulate their Bucks, and then can spend them on a store night. All Bucks must be spent by the end of the club year and cannot be carried over to the next club year. So, help and encourage your clubber to memorize their verses!

Here is how you can earn AWANA Bucks:

- Wear complete uniform (including tennis shoes) bringing handbook & bible -5 Awana Bucks
- Having sections prepared prior to handbook time -5 Awana Bucks
- Sections completed in Handbook time -3 Awana Bucks
- Bring your 0.25 cent offering for Awana's -1 Awana Bucks
- Bring a friend -20 Awana Bucks
- Good behavior - 2/5 Awana Bucks
- Clubber participation in extra activities such as Trunk or Treat, Awana Grand Prix etc.... -10 Awana Bucks

You will note on the calendar at various times we will have **double award nights**.

Other Information:

Sunday school or Church Attendance: Clubbers can only have one unexcused absence in any period (3mo) in order to receive this award. Attendance at another church is accepted. If you attend a different church tell your teacher each week if you attended Sunday school or worship.

Clubbers must pass sections in their books with no more than 2 helps. A help equals a hint of three words or less. Clubbers are encouraged to pass sections with complete/correct verses. Clubbers must pass an entire section during one session. They cannot quote one verse; then look at their book before saying another verse, in the same section.

Youth/Children's Pastor: Kevin Gladfelter 239-573-1370 Email: kagladfelter@liberty.edu

Your Awana Commanders are: Greg & Cindy Osterling, feel free to contact us at any time!

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