



APPROVED WORKMEN ARE NOT ASHAMED

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AWANA MANUAL

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF ARTHUR

CHARTER #US003838

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"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God,
a worker who does not need to be ashamed;
rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Timothy 2:15

FROM THE COMMANDER'S HEART

Welcome to the AWANA Club. It is great to have your child/children and you as a parent or guardian as part of our AWANA program.

The goal of AWANA is to "reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him." It is important that we understand the gospel (The Good News of Jesus Christ), for Paul tells us in I Corinthians 15:1-4 that it is the gospel "by which we are saved." Then he tells us what the Gospel is. "That Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures; and that He rose again on the third day, according to the Scriptures." The Bible tells us that Jesus paid the price for our sins and because we are sinners (Romans 3:23) we cannot save ourselves. Paul says in Ephesians 2:8-9 that it is not by works but by grace through faith that we are saved. Salvation is a free gift that must be received.

We also believe that knowledge of the Bible will help us grow and be strong; therefore the AWANA program puts a lot of emphasis on the Bible and memorizing Bible truths.

As parents, AWANA can help you share the love of Jesus and His promise of salvation with your child as well as help you build the foundation of strength in Jesus through the knowledge of the Bible by memorizing verses.

It is my hope that we can work together this year to build up our children through the tools that AWANA provides. If the Bible memorization or anything about AWANA or your child's spiritual growth in general raises a question or problem, please do not hesitate to call me so we can work it out. Together, we can help the child understand the gospel, grow in a commitment to Jesus, and become strong to serve God.

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

Dennis Johnson

**Evangelical Free Church of Arthur AWANA Manual
2016-2017**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHAT IS AWANA? WHY AWANA	4
CLUB MEETING DAYS AND TIMES	4
CLUB AGENDA	5
ATTENDANCE AWARDS	5
DISCIPLINE	5
UNIFORMS AND HANDBOOKS	5
UNIFORM AND HANDBOOK COSTS	6
DUES	6
DRESS CODE	6
HELPFUL INFORMATION	6
HANDBOOK TIME	7
CUBBIES	8
SPARKS	8
TRUTH AND TRAINING CLUBS (T&T)	8
MAJOR AWARDS	9
GAME TIME, AWANA SHARES, AND AWANA STORE	9
SPARKS-A-RAMA & AWANA GAMES	10
AWANA DOCTRINAL STATEMENT.....	11
TELEPHONE NUMBERS	12



2 TIM. 3:16,17 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work

What is AWANA?

AWANA is an international, nondenominational, Bible-centered youth organization providing weekday clubs and programs for those older 2 year olds through high schoolers. The Acrostic AWANA comes from the first letters of Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed. (2 Tim. 2:15). The Evangelical Free Church of Arthur offers Clubs 2 years prior to kindergarten (*three by Sept. 15, 2014 and toilet trained*) through the sixth grade. The AWANA material is available for grades 7 through 12 for those clubbers who wish to continue.

The AWANA Doctrinal Statement is provided toward the end of this manual. The Doctrinal Statement of the Evangelical Free Church of Arthur is available upon request.

Why AWANA?

The goal of AWANA is “to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him”. Thus, the purpose of AWANA is twofold: (1) Evangelism -- drawing boys and girls from the community into the club ministry where they may hear the gospel and accept Christ as Savior. (2) Training -- preparing clubbers to help fulfill the Great Commission through outreach to the lost, service to the local church and community, and development of leadership qualities.

AWANA strongly emphasizes memorizing and understanding Scripture. Psalm 119:11 says, “Your [God’s] word [the Bible] I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.” Through Bible memorization and other Bible-based achievements, clubbers learn the Word of God, which (if they are saved) helps develop their relationship with Jesus Christ. The example of godly leaders teaches clubbers how Christianity works on a practical level. Direction from leaders along with AWANA materials helps clubbers grow in Christ and develops their gifts for future service to the Lord. Clubbers often discover later in life that verses they learned in AWANA are valuable in helping them live Christ-honoring lives.

CLUB MEETING DAYS AND TIMES

6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays

PLEASE NOTE:

We *start* at the scheduled time. Clubbers can show up ten minutes early in order to be ready-Drop off time 6:20pm

Also, make a habit of checking for uniforms, Bibles, AWANA books, and dues before it is time to leave home.

Thank You

CLUB AGENDA

(Order of club agenda varies with the club)

Opening (Johnson Hall - Southeast Basement Room)
Flag Ceremony & Prayer
Announcements
Game Time
Handbook Time
Council Time
Singing & Message
Award Time

Flag ceremony: Out of respect for the flag ceremony Clubbers and Leaders who arrive during the ceremony will be asked to not enter Johnson Hall until the flags are posted.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Sunday School Attendance Clubbers can earn this award by attending Sunday School each week. Two unexcused absences are allowed each six (6) months (Jan-June, July-Dec.). Sunday School attendance means the clubber goes to worship services or Sunday School, morning or evening, in any church. A missed Sunday School may be made up by attending an extra service (Sunday School & Church).

AWANA Attendance Each clubber is allowed one unexcused absence per quarter to earn this award. Sport events, concerts, and the like are considered unexcused. An excused absence is "*any situation beyond the clubber's control*," such as sickness, vacation, etc., which will keep the clubber from attending AWANA.

DISCIPLINE

5 COUNT When an AWANA leader begins to count to five, all clubbers, parents, & leaders are to be quiet immediately. The 5 Count is for the whole group.

3 COUNT If a child is not quiet by the time the leader reaches 5, or the child is being disruptive at any time, the child may be put on a 3 Count by a leader. It works as follows:

1 COUNT Warning;; Should only be given by a leader in charge

2 COUNT The child is talked to by the leader and the Director or Commander about his or her behavior and will lose privileges for the evening; Should only be given by a leader in charge

3 COUNT ONLY THE PASTOR OR COMMANDER will give 3 counts after objectively reviewing the situation. The child may be taken home by two leaders. The child, leaders, and parents will discuss the problem. The child may not be allowed to attend AWANA the following week.

NOTE: At no time will a leader abuse, hit, or verbally abuse a child. Spanking is the responsibility of the parents. The Arthur Evangelical Free Church takes very seriously its responsibility to provide a safe environment for children. If your child claims to have been hit by a leader, contact the Commander immediately!

UNIFORMS AND HANDBOOKS

All children and leaders are expected to wear their uniform or vest each week. The uniform is to be clean and all awards properly affixed. The handbook for each Club shows how the awards are to be located on the uniform. If you have questions, please contact the commander, Dennis Johnson.

When a child passes the entrance exam for their Club, the child may purchase the Club uniform or vest and the Club handbook. Previously worn uniforms may be available at a lower cost.

UNIFORM AND HANDBOOK COSTS

Cubbies	vest	\$ 11.00	book	\$10.00	Total	\$21.00
Sparks	vest	\$ 11.00	book	\$10.00	Total	\$21.00
T&T	uniform	\$ 16.00	book	\$10.00	Total.	\$26.00

DUES

Dues are 25¢ per week per child.

NOTE: If finances are a problem, contact Commander Dennis Johnson. Finances will never stand in the way of a child coming to AWANA.

DRESS CODE

Leaders: Jeans/slacks/shorts, AWANA leader uniform. Men's shirts must be tucked in.

Cubbies/Sparks: Pants or shorts, shirt, sneakers, and vests.

T&T: Pants or shorts with AWANA uniform.

All girls: No dresses or skirts PLEASE (because of game time).



Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

HELPFUL INFORMATION

ACCIDENTS/SICKNESS: If a child gets sick at AWANA, we will try to contact the parent and have the parent pick up the child. Please do not bring sick children.

MEDICAL RELEASE: All children will need a Medical Release form on file. This form gives AWANA leaders permission to get emergency care, if deemed necessary. Without the Medical Release we will have to wait until the parent is contacted *before* we can get emergency help. Minor injuries will be treated by the leaders unless we have been *requested in writing* not to do so.

ALLERGIES OR CHRONIC ILLNESSES: If your child has a medical condition (e.g., asthma, epilepsy, diabetes) or allergies, please provide that information on their Medical Release so we are appropriately informed in case of an emergency.

INCLEMENT WEATHER: In case of bad weather, the church chairman will decide if AWANA is canceled. The Commander will call the directors of the clubs, who will then call their club leaders. The club leaders will call the clubbers to inform them of the cancellation. Other forms of media may be used when possible i.e. in school announcements, radio, internet, txt messaging, email etc. If schools are closed for the day or children are going home early due to inclement weather- AWANA is cancelled also. You can also check the website (www.arthurefc.org) for notices and weather announcements. (TXT messaging and emails may apply if permission is granted)

NURSERY: AWANA provides nursery care *ONLY* for the children of AWANA workers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Flyers/Notes are sent home occasionally with the clubbers announcing upcoming AWANA events.

Handbook Time

Passing Sections

During the Handbook time of the AWANA club night, clubbers will recite the section(s) they have been memorizing during the week. Parental involvement in helping Clubbers learn their verses at home is essential in passing sections during Handbook time. Clubbers must pass an entire section during one “session”. A “session” is an uninterrupted period of time in which a clubber and leader interact in completing a section. During this time a clubber does not refer back to his or her handbook. In a section where a clubber must memorize several verses, they may not recite one verse, study a while, and then recite other verses. They must recite all verses and references within a section during one session. All handbooks use the New International Version (NIV).

Clubbers must recite section word for word. Leaders may give up to two “helps”. A “help” is a verbal or nonverbal prompt for memorized material. If the prompt is verbal, it should equal no more than three or four words (at leader discretion). Clubbers often need no more than two words. Those with learning disabilities may be allowed more than two helps (at the discretion of the Director). (Sparks are allowed no helps when they are reviewing handbook sections.)

All sections in the handbook must be passed in order.

The optional TNT Silver and Gold sections can be recited in chronological order or after the Discoveries are finished. Parental counsel is advised in deciding how to complete the Silver and Gold sections.

Memorizing Tips

Children learn through hearing, understanding, and applying. Here are some suggestions or ideas to enhance the learning experience of the clubber. The average child will be adequately prepared for the weekly AWANA Club meeting if he or she spends 10 minutes a day in the club handbook. Help your child develop the 10 minute-a-day habit early in the club year.

1. Make sure the clubber understands or knows how to pronounce all words. Use the explanation provided in the handbook for certain words.
2. Repeat the material with the clubber over and over again.
3. Break up the material into increments of a few words or phrases. Say words and phrases and ask the clubber to repeat after you. Through repetition, the clubber should memorize material.
4. Write the material on a chalkboard or paper. Ask the clubber to read it aloud. Erase or cover up a few words and ask the clubber to try reading the material again. Keep erasing or covering up words until the entire verse is erased or covered and clubber has memorized it.
5. Write words or phrases of verses on 3x5 cards. Shuffle the cards and ask the clubber to arrange them in order.
6. Say the verse into a recording device. Listen to the verse over and over / or say the verse into the recording device and play it back to check accuracy.

THE AWANA CLUBS



Cubbies is the AWANA Club designed for children who are in the two years prior to beginning regular kindergarten. **All Cubbies must be three by Sept. 15, 2014 and toilet trained.** The Cubbies program features Scripture memorization and basic Bible truths preschoolers can understand. The program materials help parents to actively participate in their child's spiritual development. Because the preschool years are a time of vital development for children, Cubbies encourages parents and club leaders to work as a team in spiritually nurturing children.



Sparks is for Kindergarten through 2nd grade boys and girls. Sparks moves the children through a disciplined walk with the Lord by providing Bible verses which reinforce basic doctrine, provides activities, adds on the chance to participate in the AWANA store, and helps the kids understand basic issues of honesty, manners, etc. *Sparks-A-Rama* allows all Sparks from the area clubs to get together and play games using the AWANA game circle.

Sparks receive a reward emblem when they earn their first award for each book. The awards are colored jewels that fit in the emblem. You will be amazed to see how fast your children work to fill their emblems! If a clubber finishes their book and has done the review, there is a workbook they may also work through.



*Truth and Training Clubs—
The Ultimate Adventure*



T&T is for children in grades 3 through 6. There are four handbooks for the T&T group, Book One, Book Two, Book Three, and Book Four. Everyone starts with Book One, then Book Two, Book Three, and finishes with Book Four.

Our goals are three-fold. First is to help the children come to a better understanding of who Jesus is and how He can be a vital part of their life. Second is to understand the Bible and memorize the Word of God with the aid of their AWANA Handbooks. The third goal is to have fun and fellowship together.

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

General Note to T&T Clubs

The boys and girls in grades 3-6 may also have the opportunity to participate in the AWANA **GAMES and Bible Quizzing** if they complete the requisite ten sections and we have enough boys/girls to field a team.

Parent involvement is essential for the success of the club as well as for the clubbers to receive the discipleship at home to memorize verses and complete sections in their Handbooks.

Pace yourselves to complete the handbook by the end of April. To complete the handbook by April, clubbers should complete about two sections each week. Sections should be studied at home. If a child works on their handbooks ten minutes each day, they can complete the book in 1 year. Clubbers should become familiar with their book early in the year so that the charts, projects, and crafts have enough time to be completed.

MAJOR AWARDS

SPARKY PLAQUE is awarded for completing (review not required) all three Sparky Handbooks (Skipper, Hiker, and Climber).

EXCELLENCE AWARD is awarded for completing any two 3rd through 12th grade AWANA handbooks.

Handbook may be retroactively completed after the clubber has moved on to a higher club.

TIMOTHY AWARD is an impressive trophy and lapel pin awarded for completing any four 3rd through 12th grade handbooks.

The two completed for the Excellence Award count towards the four.

MERITORIOUS AWARD is an even more impressive trophy and lapel pin for completing all six 3rd through 12th grade handbooks.

CITATION AWARD is given for truly outstanding dedication! Given for completing *all* ten 3rd- through 12th grade AWANA handbooks, this plaque is the highest award that can be earned in AWANA.

Game Time, AWANA Shares & AWANA Store

Most club nights have a Game Time. AWANA uses a Game Director whose job is to lead Game Time. Clubbers are split into four teams: Red, Green, Yellow, and Blue. The Game Director explains new games, uses other leaders to assist, and officiates the games. It is important for clubbers to participate and pay attention so as not to waste time for others. Game Time is fun only if we can keep it fast paced and get everyone involved. Any parents or leaders in the room are expected to help out a team and cheer that team on! Sportsmanship is an important trait to model for the kids. AWANA publishes several books of games, plus we make up some of our own. The Game circle shown on the following page is designed to facilitate relays of all kinds. There is even four-person tug-o-war. Points may be awarded for each game.

The game points are added to the points earned by each Clubber for completing Handbook sections, among other things as listed below:

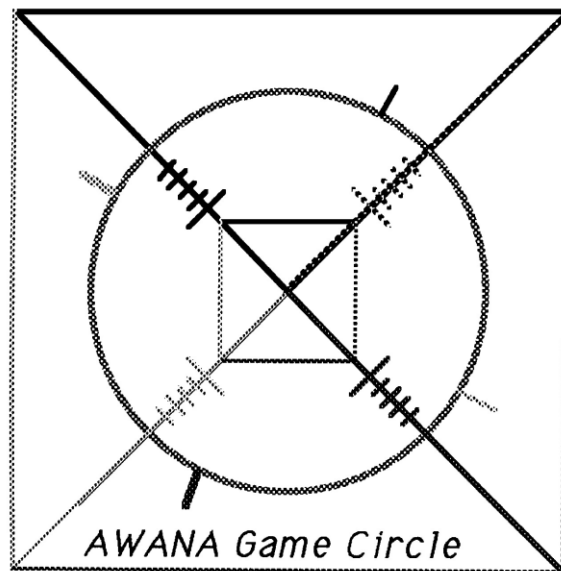
Game time-1st place – 3 points, 2nd place-2 points, 3rd place - 1 point, and 4th place - 1 point

Attendance	1
Bringing Dues	1
Bringing Book	1
Attending Sunday School	3
Wearing Uniform	4
Completing Sections	5 each
Bringing a new Clubber	5 each

Clubbers may be awarded AWANA shares based on their team's point totals. AWANA shares are awarded to the individuals on each team as follows:

First Place Team	3 shares
Second Place Team	2 shares
Third Place Team	1 share
Fourth Place Team	1 share

One share is given for every 20 points earned in during an AWANA Night on the record card. The AWANA shares are placed in the club bank each week. Clubbers can spend the shares at the Awana Store. Many things are available at the AWANA Store. The AWANA Store is open several times during the year.



Sparks-A-Rama and AWANA GAMES

Once a year, all the area AWANA clubs get together at a central location in Iowa and compete in games using the AWANA Game Circle. Sparks-A-Rama is for the Sparks and the AWANA Games is for the T&T clubs. Any clubber who has completed ten sections in their Entrance Exam and/or Handbook is eligible to compete. Clubbers must also make the commitment to attend the practices held prior to the event.

What We Believe

THE BIBLE

We believe that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is supernaturally inspired, so that it is inerrant in the original manuscripts and preserved by God in its verbal and plenary inspiration, so that it is a divinely authoritative standard for every age and every life. (Matthew 5:18; 1 Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

GOD

We believe in one God that eternally exists and reveals Himself in three persons - Father, Son, Holy Spirit - having each the same nature, attributes and perfections, worthy of the same worship and confidence. (Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; John 1:1-2, 14, 10:30, 14:15-17; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

We believe in God as absolute and sole Creator and Sustainer of the universe, and that creation was by divine command, from nothing and not through an evolutionary process. (John 1:3, 10; Acts 17:24-25; Genesis 1:1)

We believe that God, by His sovereign choice and out of love for men, sent Christ into the world to save sinners. (John 3:16; 1 Timothy 1:15; 1 John 4:14)

GOD THE SON

We believe that Jesus Christ was fully God in the flesh and fully man, that He was born of a virgin and that He lived a sinless life, in which He taught and performed mighty works and wonders and signs exactly as revealed in the four gospels. We believe that He was crucified, shed His blood, died to pay the penalty for our sins and was raised bodily from the dead on the third day. Forty days later He ascended to the Father's right hand where He is Head of the Church and intercedes for believers. From there He is coming again personally, bodily and visibly to this earth to set up His millennial kingdom. (Isaiah

7:14, 9:6; Hebrews 1:1-2, 7:25; Luke 1:30-35; Ephesians 4:8; John 1:1-5, 10-14, 14:3; Colossians 2:9; 1 Corinthians 15:3-4; Acts 1:3,11; Revelation 20:4)

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person and is God, possessing all the divine attributes. He convicts of sin, regenerates, indwells, baptizes and seals all believers at the moment of their salvation, filling them in response to yieldedness with the goal of conforming them to the image of Christ. (John 3:5, 16:7-

11; Acts 5:3-4; Ephesians 1:13, 4:30, 5:18; 1 Corinthians 6:19, 12:13)

MAN

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature and became alienated from God. We believe that all men are morally corrupt, and of themselves utterly unable to remedy their lost condition. (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 1:18, 3:23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12)

SALVATION

We believe that salvation is a gift of God and is received by man through personal faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for sin. We believe that man is justified by grace through faith apart from works and that all true believers, once saved, are kept secure in Christ forever. (Acts 13:38-39; Romans 4:5, 6:23, 8:1, 38-39; John 10:27-29; Ephesians 2:8-9)

THE CHURCH

We believe that the true Church is composed of all persons who are regenerated by the Holy Spirit through saving faith in Jesus Christ; that they are united together in the body of Christ of which He is Lord and Head; and are commissioned for the God-given tasks of worshiping, fellowshiping, teaching, evangelizing and exercising the spiritual gifts. (Acts 2:42,47; Romans 12:5; Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:23-24; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2)

We believe that the establishment and continuance of the local church is clearly taught in the New Testament Scriptures. (Acts 14:27, 20:17, 28-32; 1 Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

We believe that the local church is autonomous and free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4, 20:28; Romans 16:1, 4; 1 Corinthians 3:9, 16, 5:4-7, 13; 1 Peter 5:1-4)

THE ORDINANCES

We believe the ordinances for the believer are water baptism by immersion and the Lord's supper as a memorial. They are, however, not to be regarded as a means of salvation. But both of which are an evidence of obedience and fellowship with the Lord. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38, 41, 8:12, 35-38; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29)

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

We believe that a Christian should walk in holiness and not after the flesh, with the goal of being conformed to the image of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As a new creation, walking in the Spirit, the Christian learns to grow in faith, in obedience to Scripture, in prayer, in fellowship with the saints and in a life of service. We believe that the Christian will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to have his life evaluated according to his deeds. (Galatians 5:16-26; Hebrews 10:25; Ephesians 4:20-24; Hebrews 11:6, 12:1-2; John 17:17; Ephesians 6:18; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)

THE SECOND COMING

We believe in the personal, premillennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, of the believer to everlasting glory and the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment. (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-52; Titus 2:11-13; John 14:1-6; Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:11-15; 2 Peter 3:10)

Staff Volunteers

	PASTOR	367-2472
Dennis Johnson	Commander	
	Assistant Commander	
Joe Cutshall	Cubbies Director	
Joe Cutshall	Cubbies Games	
Mary Gustafson	Cubbies Secretary	
Laura Stangl	Sparks Director	
Larry Dose	Sparks Game Director	
Mary Renze	Sparks Secretary	
Pat Bell	T&T 3&4 Grade Girls Director	
Susan Goodenow	Green Meadow Time/Council Time Coordinator	
Gordon Goodenow	T&T Boys Director	
Kara Lerssen	T&T 5&6 Grade Girls Director	
Kim Schmidt/Joann Dose	T&T Secretary	
Faith Johnson	T&T Girls Game Director	
Mike Bergman	T&T Boys Game Director	
Reed Lindgren	Church Van Driver/Contact	
Sandy Cutshall	Nursery	
Joyce Schnabel	Store Manager/Coordinator	
