

# AWANA PARENT HANDBOOK



2022-2023

From the Commander,

It is exciting as we look forward to another year of investing in our children through the Awana Program. I say investing because I feel that best describes the heart of the Awana Team here at PYBC.

We have a group of leaders and helpers who love these kids and desire to live up to the Biblical instruction in 2 Tim. 2:15, "Rightly handling the Word of Truth", teaching solid Biblical truth to our kids that will lay a foundation they can build their lives on. We also want to have fun and build relationships along the way.

Disciple is a word we seldom hear outside of church, it means follower. Something or someone is going to disciple our children, the question is...who or what? We don't want our kids to just become familiar with Jesus, our desire is that they truly follow Jesus. Those are the children that will grow up to become the next generation of disciples - workers who will impact a hurting world with the life changing hope that is only found in Jesus Christ and His Gospel. I am looking forward to "co-laboring" with you in ministering to our kids.

Sincerely,  
Bob Anderson

Feel free to contact me at 585-748-9432

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You're  
Invited!!

If you are  
between the ages of  
3 years and 12th grade,  
we invite you to join us....

Wednesday nights  
from 6:00 until 8:00 pm  
@ Penn Yan Bible Church



Awana is a program that teaches and shows children that God is real! It teaches that God loves them and expressed His love through His Son Jesus Christ. Children learn how God can help them in their daily lives and how to honor God through their actions.

The goal of Awana is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve Him. To reach this goal we at Penn Yan Bible Church use many resources. Club meetings are packed full with many different experiences and fun. Each club is led by one or more trained leaders who love the Lord and have a passion to reach children. Awana materials are filled with verses from the Bible and ways to help children memorize and, most importantly, understand them.



# What Every Awana Parent Should Know...

## What to Bring Each Week



- Bag
- Bible
- Handbook
- Uniform
- Pair of sneakers
- \$0.25 dues to help cover the cost of supplies and awards

## Communication

- Weather Announcements on website:  
[www.pybc.us](http://www.pybc.us)
- Announcements during opening on Wednesday  
nights 6:15pm

## FORMS

In order for us to get to know all Clubbers, it is necessary for you as parents to fill out the form you are given when your child begins Awana



## CLOSINGS

As a general rule, if the Penn Yan Schools are closed for weather, there will be no Awana. If the Awana program is closed for emergencies, you will be notified on the church website [www.pybc.us](http://www.pybc.us) or by one of the leaders. You can also contact your clubber's leader.

# 2022-2023 Contacts

Commander	Bob Anderson	585-748-9432
Cubbies Director	Andrea Garret	315-748-6177
Sparks Director	Joanne Switzer	315-759-1855
T & T Director	Dave Wignall	315-214-1045
Youth Director	Mark Benson	315-741-6227

HOW CAN PARENTS/GUARDIANS GET INVOLVED?

THAT  
IS



a  
great

Question!

- Work with your Clubber on their book
  - Verse Memorization
  - Red/Green Jewels (Sparks)
  - Silver/Gold Achievement
- Be willing to lend a hand during special events
- Help your Clubber remember to come prepared, especially on Theme Nights

## Club Rules

- Wear sneakers or socks for game time
- Outfits too tight or too short, even though unintentional give a negative impression. We ask that there be no bare midriff for boys or girls and that shorts have at least a 5" inseam.
- Gum, food and drink are to be enjoyed before or after club.
- Treat church property respectfully.
- Treat others respectfully.

# CLUB GUIDELINES

## 5 Count

The 5 Count is used by all leaders and simply involves counting to 5 to allow Clubbers time to settle and quiet down in order to focus their attention.

## 1-2-3 Rule

The 1-2-3 Rule allows a Clubber three opportunities to understand that rules are important and must be followed in order for them and others to enjoy participating in club activities.



1. Clubbers will be advised by their club leader or the commander if they have violated a club rule.
2. If an offense occurs a second time the Clubber will be removed from club and sent to the Commander to discuss the issue and the parents will be notified.
3. If a third offense occurs the Clubber will remain with the Commander or Secretary until the end of club. The Clubber will not be allowed to come back to the Club unless they and their parents agree to follow Club rules in the future.



# ATTENDANCE

Clubbers are eligible to receive points for attending Sunday School or Church. Attendance at a church other than Penn Yan Bible Church is accepted. Up to two absences per period are allowed. To obtain credit for Sunday School/Church attendance, Clubbers are asked each week during check-in whether or not they have attended Sunday School or Church

# Awards

The goal of awards is to encourage, motivate and reward the clubbers. Awards are earned throughout the year for completion of sections as they work through their book and for attendance. These awards are handed out monthly as earned.

\*Final placement of each clubber in an appropriate classroom will be decided by the Commander, Leaders and the parents.

The Clubbers earn points by having all items at check in; bringing a friend, completing sections in their book and participating on theme nights. Those points translate to 'Awana Bucks' which allows the clubber to shop at the Awana store twice a year or for T & T and Youth Group they can apply those points to earning a scholarship to one of two summer camps.

Any parent that feels we have missed an award that your child should receive please see the secretary at the check in table.

## arrival|departure

The Awana program begins at 6:00. Please be sure that your child is on time and prepared for club that night. Your child will begin the evening with the entire Awana program in the Sanctuary. They are then dismissed to go to their classroom. They then can be picked up in the Sanctuary at 8:00

## A TYPICAL CLUB NIGHT

Arrival Time - Check in and opening ceremony

Handbook Time - Recite sections to the leader or listener

Game Time - Fun and games in the Sanctuary.

Bible Story Time - Learn a story from God's Word

Dismissal

You, as the parent, are always welcome to come and spend the evening with your child in his/her class.





**3YRS - 5YRS**

The Cubbies program is built around God's Word with fun and purpose. Different lessons are learned each week through the use of puppets, music, games and flannel boards. Crafts relevant to the lesson are also made each week. The Cubbie's book includes a CD that helps them memorization.



Parent involvement is **very important** to the Cubbies program. **Each week** there is a Bear Hug to read to your little Cubbie and a verse for them to memorize. The Cubbie Handbook gives you specific instructions on how to help your Cubbie understand each lesson.

There is space for a parent's signature with each Bear Hug. Please remember to sign it after completing the lesson so that your Cubbies' Leader knows the section has been worked on.



## **KINDERGARTEN TO 2ND GRADE**

Sparks dig a little deeper into God's Word. Clubbers learn basic truths about God, Jesus Christ, salvation and the Bible as they work through each book. The Sparks program has three separate books: Hang Glider, Wing Runner and Sky Stormer. Each book comes with a CD to help the Clubbers and parents in the memorization of God's Word. **As always parental involvement is key to helping your child hide God's Word in their heart!**





3RD-6TH GRADE

The T & T (Truth & Training) curriculum teaches kids the truth of Gods Word, how to follow Him and practice His grace through a fun and engaging Bible Study and scripture memorization.

MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL

*A youth group ministry*  
**412**

1 Timothy 4:12

Let no one despise you for your youth, but set the believers an example in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity.

**We believe that God's word transcends cultural changes and that His word is applicable to every generation therefore, the purpose of "412" is to teach teens in an age-appropriate way to handle God's word and to apply it to situations they face daily.**

# AWANA

## SCHEDULE AND THEME NIGHTS

September 14 - Opening Night

September 21 - **Western Night**

September 28 - Regular night

October 5 - **Pirate Night**

October 12 - Regular night

October 19 - **Awards Night/Pumpkin Night**

October 26 - **Bonfire Night** (Dress Weather Appropriate)

November 2 - **Operation Christmas Child Night**

November 9 - **Camouflage Night**

November 16 - **Awards Night - Community Heroes**

November 23 - **Thanksgiving Break - No Awana**

November 30 - **PJ Night**

December 7 - **Double Points Night**

December 14 - **Awana Store**

December 21 - **Christmas Party/Awards Night**

December 28 - **Christmas Break - No Awana**

January 4 - **Stuffed Animal Night**

# AWANA SCHEDULE AND THEME NIGHTS

January 11 -Regular Night

January 18 - **Bible Character Night**

January 25 - **Awards Night**

February 1 - **Pastor Appreciation Night**

February 8 - **Valentines Night**

February 15 - **Gift for Missionaries Night**

February 22 - **President's Week - Special Event/TBA**

March 1 - **Awards Night**

March 8 - **Backwards Night**

March 15 - **Awana Colors Night**

March 22 - **Crazy Hair/Hat/Socks Night**

March 29 - **Awards Night**

April 5 - **Easter Break - Special Event/TBA**

April 12 - **Double Points Night**

April 19 - **Awana Store**

April 26 - Closing Ceremonies/Final Awards

# AWANA

## SCHEDULE AND THEME NIGHTS

### Glossary of Theme Nights

- WESTERN NIGHT - TIME TO BE A COWBOY OR COWGIRL
- PIRATE NIGHT - YO HO HO AND A BOTTLE OF APPLE JUICE! COME LOOKING AND OR TALKING LIKE A PIRATE
- PUMPKIN NIGHT - COME WITH A PUMPKIN (OR A PICTURE OF A PUMPKIN) TO SWAP WITH OTHER CLUBBERS
- OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD NIGHT - BRING A GIFT FOR A CHILD FOR THE SHOEBOX PACKING)
- COMMUNITY HEROES - BRING PACKAGED SNACKS FOR THE AMBULANCE CORPS, FIREHOUSE, POLICE STATION, ETC
- PJ NIGHT - COME DRESSED IN YOUR FAVORITE PJS, BUT NO SLEEPING!!
- DOUBLE POINTS NIGHT - EVERYTHING YOU DO EARNS DOUBLE POINTS FOR YOUR SCHOLARSHIP/AWANA STORE
- CAMOUFLAGE NIGHT - COME WEARING SOMETHING CAME
- STUFFED ANIMAL NIGHT - BRING YOUR FAVORITE STUFFED ANIMAL TO GO TO YOUR AWANA CLASSES WITH YOU
- BIBLE CHARACTER NIGHT - DRESS UP LIKE A BIBLE CHARACTER
- GIFT FOR MISSIONARIES NIGHT - BRING COINS AND/OR DOLLARS TO BE GIVEN TO THE PYBC SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES
- CRAZY HAIR/HAT/SOCKS NIGHT - COME WITH THE SILLIEST LOOK YOU CAN THINK OF
- PASTOR APPRECIATION NIGHT - COME WITH A CARD/PICTURE FOR PASTOR LEO/MARTHA AND/OR PASTOR MARK/TIFFANY
- VALENTINES NIGHT - WEAR PINK/RED/OR HEARTS
- BACKWARDS NIGHT - COME WITH YOUR CLOTHES ON BACKWARDS (OR MAYBE YOUR NOSE?)
- AWANA COLORS NIGHT - COME WEARING RED, GREEN, YELLOW OR BLUE

# Scholarships and Camps

Throughout the year as your student works hard to earn points toward a scholarship, you can help them by encouraging completion of their weekly lesson, memorizing verses, coming prepared, doing theme nights and being part of class participation.

By doing this your student will earn points toward a scholarship for a week at either Letourneau Christian Camp or Word of Life Camp in Schroon Lake.

Points for the different levels of the scholarship are:

**Yellow:** 250-599 points (1/4 scholarship)

**Red:** 600-1099 points (1/2 scholarship)

**Blue:** 1100-1599 points (3/4 scholarship)

**Green:** 1600-or more points (Full scholarship)

If a student puts forth reasonable effort they will easily earn enough for a full scholarship

Points reset at the end of each year.

# PYBC

We are so glad you join us each week for Awana, we know some of our families are looking for a church to call home. We invite all of you to join us on Sunday to worship.

We also offer Sunday School programs for all ages!  
And nursery care for the littles!

For more information about who we are and what we do check us out on [www.pybc.us](http://www.pybc.us)

