

**2015-2016
Information Booklet**



**Peaceful Valley Church
292-8584
www.peacefulvalleychurch.org**

Dear Parents/Guardian:

Our goal at AWANA is to reach boys and girls with the Gospel of Christ and to train them to serve Him. AWANA stands for "Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed" based on 2 Timothy 2:15.

We have Directors and Leaders who have been through special training in each specific club to work with your children.

We want you, as a parent, to be aware of what we do in each club and we invite you to visit our club at any time. Please feel free to ask any questions. We also ask that you help your child each week to memorize, understand, and explain their sections. By taking a part in this program with your child, you are helping them to grow spiritually and giving them memories they will cherish forever.

This booklet outlines the rules, special events, and other important information. Please read it carefully and keep it in a handy place throughout the AWANA year.

Below is a list of our clubs:

<u>Club</u>	<u>Grades</u>
Cubbies	Preschoolers 3-4 year olds (must be 3 by September 30, 2015)
Sparks	K thru 2 nd Grade
Truth and Training	3 rd thru 6th Grade

If, after reading this pamphlet, you have questions, please call me at 850-7917 or email me at setumhi@msn.com

Remember, please feel free to come by and visit your child's club any time. Thank you again for your support.

In Christ,
Kathy Holloway
AWANA Commander
Peaceful Valley Church

What is more important than AWANA, than doing good things, or even going to church?

Becoming a Christian! - Eternal Options

Realizing how to become a Christian is the **most important discovery of your life!** Becoming a Christian is more than joining a church or saying a prayer. It is a personal relationship that will last for eternity. Do you know what will happen to you the moment you die? Where will you find yourself? Where is your destination?

There are only two destinations - and both are eternal: You will either find yourself living for eternity in heaven or existing for eternity in hell. Where will you be?

- **Eternity in heaven** - This destination is reserved for those who receive Jesus Christ's gift of eternal salvation. **Contrary to popular belief, heaven is not for the church-goers, the devout, or the "good people."** The only stipulation is receiving God's gift of salvation.
- **Eternity in hell** is reserved for those who reject Jesus Christ and His Gospel. The Bible sums up the Gospel like this: ". . . That Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4). Hell is described in the Bible as a fiery lake of burning sulfur.

How to Become a Christian - Studying the Facts

The Bible explains how to become a Christian in very simple terms:

- **Realize that everyone has sinned** and can not live up to God's standard of holiness. Romans 3:23 says, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."
- **Understand that the penalty for our sin is death.** Romans 6:23 states: "For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
- **Accept God's gift.** God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place, so we could be spared from hell. Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." According to the Bible, we aren't required to subscribe to a religious formula or do more good things than bad ones. God gives His gift freely to all who ask. "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

How to Become a Christian - 100% Assurance

Once you discover how to become a Christian and then accept God's gift, the Bible says that you can be 100 percent assured of your eternal destination.

1 John 5:11-13 says, "And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

Do you know for sure that you will spend eternal life with God in heaven? If not, this is a decision you don't want to put off. (You, parent, relative, friend are welcome to speak to any AWANA leader or our pastor on God's perfect plan of salvation!)

What Our Church Believes

1. ABOUT GOD: God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has revealed Himself as a Trinity in unity eternally existing in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The three are co-equal and are one God.

2. ABOUT JESUS CHRIST: Jesus Christ is the Son of God and is the image of the invisible God and is Himself very God. He is co-equal with the Father. He took upon Himself man's nature, being conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory where He is now our interceding High Priest and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

3. ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT: The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with the power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer a spiritual gift when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

4. ABOUT THE BIBLE: The Bible is God's Word to us. Human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote it. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because God inspires it, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

5. ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS: People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude that separates people from God and causes many problems in life. It is called sin.

6. ABOUT SALVATION: Salvation is God's free gift to us but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness, can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith, we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

Our Church

At Peaceful Valley Church we like to see ourselves as a light on the hill exposing people to God's truth found in God's Word, the Bible, and exposing them to God's great love for us all. We are a family of believers who gather together regularly to worship God and to encourage one another to share the gospel message of Jesus Christ in our homes with our families, in our community with our neighbors and in the world through our mission's efforts. It is our purpose to promote and produce self-initiating, reproducing, fully-devoted, followers of Christ who are living their lives expressing love for God and others and experiencing joy in God as they grow to trust God more and more. To Him belongs all glory forever and ever!

Please visit the church website at www.peacefulvalleychurch.org for times for our services on Sunday and other important schedules and events.

AWANA INFORMATION

CLUB RULES

1. You must take part in the entire club program unless you bring a note from your parents/guardian or are injured.
2. You must remain on the church grounds during club time.
3. You must not run or play in any of the buildings.
4. You must cooperate with and obey your leaders.
5. Parents of Cubbies: Please pick up your child(ren) by 7:45 pm.
6. Other than parents, only those individuals identified and authorized by parents of Cubbies and Sparks will be allowed to pick them up.
7. Parents of Sparks through T&T: Club ends promptly at 8:15 pm. Please pick up your child(ren) by then.

For club cancellations, please refer to the church's website: www.peacefulvalleychurch.org

WEDNESDAY CLUB SCHEDULE

6:15 pm Club starts with Flag Ceremony and prayer
6:30 pm Each Club meets with their specific programs
8:15 pm Club meeting ends

Parents, please do not drop your children off any earlier than 6:00 pm, because there will be no adult supervision prior to that time. Please arrive at club 10 minutes prior to club start time to allow the clubber enough time to check in before the flag ceremony starts. **PLEASE** pick up your child no later than 8:15 pm.

CLUB DUES

Dues for AWANA are a vital part of our program. Your dues help pay the costs of running the program, such as the clubbers awards for the year as well as end-of-year awards. Dues for the year will be \$40 per child with a maximum of \$80 per family. Dues will be discounted to \$35 per child if paid no later than Sunday, September 6, 2015. (After September 6th, dues will be raised to \$40 per child for the year.)

CLUB OUTINGS

There will be various outings during the club year for some clubs to attend. Sometimes a requirement must be met; sometimes everyone will be able to attend. The clubber must, however, have good behavior throughout the year, so that they are not hindered from being a part of our outings.

NOTE: For each clubber, a permission slip must be signed by a parent or guardian for the clubber to be able to participate in these club outings.

CLUBBERS DRESS CODE

When a Clubber qualifies to wear his/her club's uniform, it should be worn every club night in the proper manner and with the proper awards displayed.

Long sleeve shirts or sweaters can be worn under the club uniform. Coats should be worn during outside activities in colder weather.

Pants or shorts (finger tip in length) are strongly recommended. If a dress is worn, the Clubber must have shorts underneath so that she can participate in games and other activities.

Tennis shoes must be worn. Sandals, flip-flops, high heels, crocks, stocking feet, and bare feet will not be allowed during game time.

Please understand that this is for your children's safety and health. We all want them to return to us each week happy and healthy. We strive for the education and safety of each clubber.

3-COUNT DISCIPLINE

If a problem arises in a clubber's conduct, behavior, attitude, etc., and every effort has been made to correct it, we will use what is called the "3-Count Discipline System."

- 1. First Count** – the Leader will discuss appropriate club behavior with the clubber.
- 2. Second Count** – The clubber will be taken to Director of that club and will sit out for the remainder of the evening's activities.
- 3. Third Count** – Director will bring clubber to the Commander. Commander will call the parent/guardian to come and pick up their clubber. Possible solutions will be discussed with the parents at that time.

INCENTIVE AWARDS

CLUBBER OF THE MONTH FOR SPARKS/TRUTH AND TRAINING

Each month one boy or one girl is recognized from each club for this special honor. They will receive a special award. This award is based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance (Club and Church)
2. Uniform worn properly
3. Exceptional handbook effort
4. Christian behavior and attitude
5. Participation in all areas of club
6. Consistently brings their Bible
7. Sportsmanship attitude during game time

CLUBBER OF THE YEAR FOR SPARKS/TRUTH AND TRAINING

Only one boy or one girl is selected from each club for this special honor. They will receive a special award or trophy. This award is based on the following criteria:

1. Attendance (Club and Church)
2. Uniform worn properly
3. Exceptional handbook effort
4. Christian behavior and attitude
5. Participation in all areas of club
6. Consistently brings their Bible
7. Sportsmanship attitude during game time

CLUB UNIFORMS

The AWANA uniform is a vital part of the AWANA Club. It lets others know that the clubbers are a member of our club. It is also the only way a clubber can receive his/her awards and display them. Parents will want to purchase the clubbers uniform as soon as they complete the entrance exam for their club.

Once the clubber qualifies and has their uniform, they need to make sure to take good care of it and attach the awards on it as soon as they receive them. Below is the cost of each uniform and handbook:

Cubbies Vest	\$12.00
Sparks Vest	\$12.00
T&T Shirts	\$12.00
All Club Handbooks	\$10.00
All Club CD's	\$10.00
Cubbie Handbook Bag	\$ 6.00
Sparks Handbook Bag	\$ 6.00
T&T Handbook Bag	\$ 6.00

If you cannot afford a uniform or a handbook, please let the clubbers' director know. We have a few options for helping in this area. It is important to us that clubbers have the things they need to be an active part of our club.

A Little Tidbit On What Each Club Is About

CUBBIES



Cubbies® celebrates the spiritual potential of preschoolers by helping them develop respect for God, His Son and His Word.

Preschoolers can hardly wait for their next Cubbies club meeting. Whether it's the fun puppets, the exciting games or all their Cubbies friends, they simply love it. At Story Time each week, preschoolers learn about God – the greatness of His love and His Word – and about His Son, Jesus Christ, the promised Savior. Non-competitive games build excitement and reinforce Story Time lesson themes.

Cubbies helps you lead your child to God early so your child will respect and trust Him for life.

SPARKS



Sparks® ignites the curiosity of early elementary-age kids to learn about the people and events of the Bible, building a foundation of wisdom for knowing Christ.

To many children in kindergarten to second grade, Sparks is the highlight of the week! They love their red vests, the exciting games and spending time with leaders and friends.

Sparks is divided into three years, each with a unique rank: HangGlider®, WingRunner® and SkyStormer™. Each year, Sparks clubbers:

- explore the biographies of people of the Bible from a new portion of Scripture
- memorize Bible verses
- complete handbook activities

The handbooks, combined with Large Group Time lessons from the WHO Do I Need to Know from the Bible series, take your child on a journey through the entire Bible!

TRUTH & TRAINING (T&T)



T&T engages third- through sixth-graders by answering their questions about God and the Bible, guiding them through this pivotal life stage to grow in Christ's grace.

Handbooks and large-group lessons deepen a child's knowledge about God and His Word and teach how to put that knowledge into action in everyday life.

T&T is different from other Awana programs. It is comprised of two clubs with distinct curriculum, uniforms and awards:

- [T&T Ultimate Adventure™](#) for third and fourth grades
- [T&T Ultimate Challenge™](#) for fifth and sixth grades

Local churches can run the T&T clubs separately or combine them for Large Group Time and Game Time. In any case, the two clubs are designed to help kids stay plugged into T&T as they move into the preteen years and continue growing in their relationship with Christ.

Today, 10- to 12-year-olds, known as tweens, face unique pressures, demands and distractions. These factors can result in a marked increase in discouragement, apathy and disengagement. Christian children are not immune.

Awana has responded by updating T&T to reinforce commitment, identity and community for these kids and to give third- and fourth-graders a new club stage to anticipate. These updates also focus the attention of leaders on the unique challenges and needs of this age group.

The ultimate message to kids of every age group is that nothing is more important than their relationship with Christ and following His way of living in the Scriptures.