



Dear Parents,

I am looking forward to a great year in Children's Ministry as we get ready to kick-off our schedule in August. In the following pages, you will find information on Children's Ministry activities for the coming school year. Take a few minutes to read and pray over the information. My greatest goal is to partner with you in the spiritual development of your child. Each class we offer is a step toward this goal.

Each class is taught by a caring adult who wants to show your child God's love. If you are interested in volunteering in any of the areas listed below, please let me know. I would love to help you find a place to serve that matches the gifts, talents, and abilities God has given you. If you, as an adult, are looking for a Sunday School class or Small Group in which to be involved while your children are active in Children's Ministry, contact Gary Stinnett at 982-5531 or garystinnett@fbcmaryville.org.

Please invite family and friends who do not have a church home to join us this year!

I am looking forward to supporting you this year. If you have any questions or just want to talk, give me a call at 982-5531 or email me at conniesager@fbcmaryville.org. If you need me after church hours, my cell phone number is 865-816-0044.

Blessings,

Connie

Sunday School – Sundays 9:40-10:40 a.m.

Beginning at 9:40 a.m. on Sunday mornings, children are invited to explore the Bible with children their age. Our teachers utilize David C. Cook's Bible in Life curriculum to guide them in presenting each Bible story in an age appropriate, understandable manner to your child. Kindergarten through Fourth Grade classes are located in the Children's area that we call The Kids' Park. It is on the first floor and is decorated with trees and clouds. Fifth and Sixth grade are located upstairs in Room SM 202. This is the first room upstairs on the right when you walk up the stairs across from The Kids' Park.

In order to keep your child safe, to track attendance, and to provide emergency phone numbers, we use sign-in and sign-out sheets. If you need to update your contact information, child's allergies, or who is allowed to pick up your child, please update this information on a cream-colored sheet – found at the check-in table. Remember to sign in and sign out your child each time you come in The Kids' Park. Your child's safety is a priority.

Kids' Café – Sundays 10:50 a.m.- 12:00 noon

Worshiping God is exciting! Kids' Cafe is an opportunity for kids in Kindergarten through Fourth Grade to worship and experience God through songs, Bible stories, games, object lessons, offering, and prayer. Kids' Cafe is from 10:50 a.m. - 12:00 noon on Sunday Mornings in The Kids' Park. This fall, we are studying "Bible Boot Camp" in Kids' Café. We are studying the basics of the Christian faith. Kids' Cafe' is held the second, third, and fourth Sunday of each month. Fifth and Sixth Graders join their parents for worship each Sunday in the sanctuary.

The first Sunday of each month is special and different. On the first Sunday of each month, we do not have Kids' Café. Instead you are invited to worship with your child in the sanctuary. This time is crucial - in the pew, your child is watching you worship - and learning from you. Each first Sunday, a Children's Worship Guide is available for your child to follow along and learn during the service. These are available in The Kids' Park on the sign-in table.

AWANA – Sundays 5:00-6:30 p.m. - *New time (as requested by survey)*

This is a Bible based program that seeks to establish children on a firm Biblical foundation that will provide direction in their daily lives. Parents are called to be the chief spiritual influence of their children. When parents fulfill this role in partnership with their church, the child wins and God is honored. AWANA takes its name from 2 Timothy 2:15: "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed . . ." Our hope is that you will see AWANA as a means to develop your child's spiritual growth, not just on Sunday night, but also IN your home. As a parent, you are invited to lead your child in completing their book work throughout the week and practicing their Bible memory verses.

AWANA includes the use of books, rewards, vests or tee shirts, and store nights for each child. Thanks to the financial giving of our church family, we are able to cover most of the costs of AWANA. To help cover the cost of your child's tee shirt and store items, we ask you to give \$10 to this ministry. AWANA begins with a kick-off and registration on August 7th at 5:00 p.m. You will find a sheet with more information from the AWANA Club leaders and registration form attached to this email. Please bring the registration form on August 7th. Club leaders will be available to answer questions and help you with registration. Our first club night will be August 14.

Mission Clubs – Wednesdays 6:30-7:30 p.m.

As you read the book of Matthew in the Bible, it closes with Jesus telling us to "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." On Wednesday evenings, your child will learn what a missionary is and how he or she can share his/her faith with others in everyday life. Your child will explore the food, games, languages, and challenges of cultures around the world as they follow the journeys of missionaries. Our mission groups meet on Wednesday night from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Kindergarteners through Fourth Grade groups meet in The Kids' Park. Fifth and Sixth grade groups meet upstairs in SM 202.



We are so glad to have your child in Awana! We trust that he/she will have a great time and will want to keep coming regularly all year!

Deuteronomy 6 commands us "Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home..."

Each clubber is very special to us and to God. Awana presents an opportunity for your child to establish and grow in his/her achievements. Please take a few minutes to go over this material with your child. Feel free to visit the club meeting at any time and talk with us about your special concerns. You may contact your child's leader at any time.

Love in Christ,

The Awana Club Leaders

Chris & Jennifer LaRue 384-8240

Dave & Amy Finch 983-3511

Joel & Sarah Lay 567-5135

What do Kids Do in AWANA?

The Awana meeting will be a time filled with energy, fellowship and spiritual growth. Awana meetings are 90 minutes long and feature three main segments.

Game Time is comprised of exciting circle games exclusive to Awana that are popular with the clubbers.

Council Time is a large-group setting consisting of praise, worship, Bible-teaching, awards and announcements.

Handbook Time provides small-group interaction, recitation of Scripture that clubbers learned during the week, friendship building opportunities for leaders to mentor clubbers and help them understand the Bible verses they memorized.

Important Parent Information

Parent participation and support is so important to the success of Awana. Please use the following standards as a guide to helping your child.

Please be prompt. Our opening pledge begins at 5:00 pm in the Park. The Kids' Park will open at 4:45 pm to begin drop-off. Parents will need to remain with children arriving prior to that. Children arriving after the opening pledge will need to be escorted by the parent to their class. Please pick up your child from The Kids' Park at 6:30 pm.

Please help your child remember the following:

- ✍ Bible
- ✍ Awana handbook
- ✍ 25 cent weekly mission dues
- ✍ To wear his or her uniform each week. Awards are difficult to present to clubbers without their uniform on.

* Please supply your child with a tote bag of any type to help them keep track of their items.

Please help your child attend Awana every week. Consistency will build friendships and achievement.

Please work at home with your child to complete at least 2-3 sections each week. A section is earned when your child can recite the Scripture with no more than two helps. Kids love to succeed. Studying and memorizing God's Word takes time and practice. Please help your child succeed by devoting time each week to help with his or her book. There is no need to sign the section, however, leave that to your child's listener at Awana.

2011-2012 AWANA REGISTRATION

Child's Name _____

Address _____

Date of Birth ___/___/___ Grade in School _____

Cell Phone Number (in case of emergency) _____

Parents' Names _____

Parents' Email Addresses _____