



Because kids matter to God.

## Visalia Evangelical Free Church

Giddings & Main Street

1317 West main Street  
Visalia, CA 93291

627-3912

[www.visaliaevfree.org](http://www.visaliaevfree.org)

### Last note for parents

Our AWANA club secretary is located in Room 2 of the education wing. If you need to voice a concern, make an order (book, uniform or special item), or any other need please feel welcome to stop in from 6 - 7:45 p.m. Any other time you may reach her (Lynette Huber) at 627-3912.



Visalia Evangelical Free Church



Wednesdays 6:15 - 8 p.m.

## Parent/Clubber Handbook

Fall 2011 - Spring 2012

## OUR AWANA STAFF

Pastor.....Pastor Dale Payne  
**Church Office: 627-3912**

Commander..... Mr. Dave Laney

AWANA Secretaries .....Mrs. Lynette Huber  
**Church Office: 627-3912**

Game Square Director.....Mr. Matt Whitaker

Cubbies Directors ..... Mrs. Staci Ames

Sparks Director ..... Mrs. Sheila West

T&T Girls Director.....Mrs. Jan Franey

T&T Boys Director.....Mr. Mark Franey

AWANA Store Director..... Mrs. Karen Diltz

## Knowing the importance of parental participation

in a child's life encourage you to join in as many of the AWANA activities as you can. The following activities are designed for parents to share in the fun and fellowship of AWANA with their children.

### Adventure Park November 12th

This is our first special night of the club year. We will have 3 hours of family fun, from 5 - 8 p.m. \$10 for a wristband & \$6 for the buffet.

### Christmas Store December 14th

This is a special night for your children. Clubbers use the AWANA Bucks they have earned through scripture memory, individual merit and team cooperation to purchase Christmas gifts for their family.

### Bible Quizzing (Bible Jamboree) February 3

Bible verse and handbook competition between teams from various churches in our AWANA district. The kids work hard for this event! Please come to cheer them on to excellence.

### Sparky Drive-in Movie Night February 15

Your Sparky clubber may create a special vehicle (with a cardboard box) to sit in while enjoying a movie at the "Drive In". This is a night looked forward to by young and old alike. Come and enjoy the movie & popcorn with your clubber.

### AWANA Games March 24th

AWANA Games are somewhat like the Olympics, your children will be competing with teams from the other churches in our AWANA district. It is fun to be there that day and see the kids; they love having an audience too!

### Grand Prix April 14 (Saturday at 4 p.m.)

The Grand Prix is a model car racing event that combines creativity and skill. The kids each design and build their own cars. The cars will be judged for design and raced for speed on Grand Prix night. In addition to working on the cars at home we'll be having "pit parties" on several Wednesday nights to help the kids make their cars. We'd love to have you join us for great race day.

### Awards Ceremony May 9th

All AWANA staff, clubbers, clubber families gather in our church sanctuary to celebrate what has been accomplished during the AWANA year. The kids work hard all year and this is the time they receive their awards. We are sure they would appreciate having you in the audience that night. Refreshments will be served.

### Family Night at Roller Towne May 16th

Extend your child's time with his/her Awana Friends and enjoy a great family outing. This event is sponsored by the Visalia Evangelical Free Church.


## HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

Parents are essential helpers in their children getting the most enjoyment out of club. Please use the following checklist as a guideline.

1. Send in the completed permission slip and medical form. Children will not be able to participate in games if they have not turned in a completed and signed medical release form.
2. Be sure to have your child attend AWANA every week. Consistency will build friendships and achievement.
3. Have your children wear their uniform each week and have dues paid to date. Points are earned for doing so.
4. Be sure they arrive on time (6:10 p.m.). Promptness helps maintain good discipline.
5. Work with your children on their handbook sections. They need to pass 1-3 sections each week to finish their book and receive the book award. Your children will get extra AWANA bucks for each section you have initialed indicating that you have worked with them on it.
6. Attend all major events. (See next page) Parents are always welcome and may attend any club meeting.
7. Please pick up your children promptly at 8:00 p.m.
8. Cubbies & Sparkies must be picked up from their rooms.
9. Always encourage your child. Children have more fun when Mom & Dad show interest in their accomplishments.
10. Please feel free to speak your child's AWANA director if you have any questions.
11. If you will have your child print "AWANA" on a sheet of paper and you sign it, they will receive 5 AWANA bucks! (Have them bring it with the permission / medical slip.)

## Special Parent Dates

October 31	VEFC Harvest Festival
November 12	Adventure Park
December 14	Christmas Store Night
February 15	Sparky Drive-in Movie Night
February 3	Bible Quizzing (Jamboree)
March 24	AWANA Games in Clovis
April 14	Grand Prix (*this is a Saturday)
May 9	End of the year Awards Ceremony
May 16	Family Night at Roller Towne



**Don't miss  
these**

Dear Parents:

We are truly excited about having your child involved this year in our Awana Program. We count it a great privilege to have your son/daughter weekly in our program and we hope what it will be a great year together. As parents, you have the unique God-given responsibility to love, discipline, and instruct your children in the things of God. Our purpose as a Church is to come along side you as parents and support you in any way possible, and we hope that through our Awana or Children's Program, your child will come to know Jesus Christ as their personal Savior and Lord, grow in their faith and knowledge of God, and mature as young men and women in our community. We have a great team of adults with a deep love for kids and a passion for Jesus.

Awana is a Bible-based Children's Program which centers on Bible memorization, group games, and Bible stores that will assist children to develop a greater understanding of the God of the Bible, and how to develop godly character.

This brief booklet will give you the necessary information to help you understand what the program involves and what you need to do as parents and participants to experience Awana to the fullest.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions or need more information about a specific age group or Awana event.

Sincerely,

*Dale Payne*

Pastor to Families

627-3912

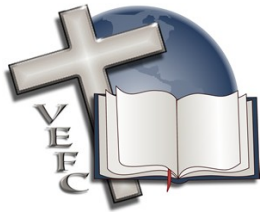
## OUR CHURCH

The **Visalia Evangelical Free Church** is a conservative, scriptural assembly associated with the Evangelical Free Church of America. We believe the Bible to be the inspired, infallible Word of God, in the deity of Jesus Christ, the bodily resurrection and the imminent return of the Son of God. We believe that salvation is by grace through faith, and is a gift of God to whosoever will come. The Bible is our only rule of faith: we preach it, we teach it, we obey it!

## OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

We invite you to attend our Sunday School, which meets at 8:30 a.m. each Sunday morning. You will find Sunday School class for all ages from pre-school to adult with a fully staffed nursery for the little ones.

Attending Sunday School is a highly recommended part of AWANA. Clubbers can receive awards for Sunday School attendance each year. For this award the club year is divided in half. Clubbers can miss no more than three Sundays for each half period. If you already attend Sunday School at another church, that's great. But if not, you are welcome to attend Sunday School at Visalia Evangelical Free Church. If you need a ride, tell your leader or director and they will help you find one.



## DISCIPLINE

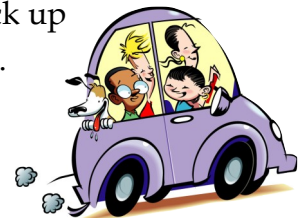
AWANA clubbers are called to order by the use of the five count, which is similar to many other clubs, like scouting. If a child is overly disruptive, he/she is put on the three count. This is an individual approach in which the child is given two warnings. If there is a third offense the clubber is removed from the group activity and taken to the Commander who will contact his/her parents. As a disciplinary measure, the clubber will not be allowed to attend club the following Wednesday, but we ***do*** want that boy or girl to join us again after that one week absence if he/she can act appropriately during club.

## AWANA STORE

For our kindergarten through sixth graders, we offer the AWANA Store. As a reward for their hard work, clubbers may receive one to several AWANA Bucks (play money) each week. AWANA bucks are awarded for passing handbook sections, bringing a first time friend, and for special contests announced by the club director or commander. Clubbers can spend their AWANA bucks in our AWANA Store where there are a variety of items. A clubber must say at least one section in order to be able to go to the store on their club's night.

## TRANSPORTATION & CHECK-IN

Parents bringing kids to club should park in the ALLEY lot. If you are just dropping off clubbers, please follow the Traffic Guy. Cubbies should be taken to their room (room 3). Sparkies should be taken to their room ( room 6) T&T Girls and Boys need to stop at the CHECK-IN table. **Do not** drop off or pick up in the south parking lot by the walking bridge.



## AWANA GUIDELINES

In order to have a safe, enjoyable and orderly environment, our club has established guidelines. All clubbers are expected to follow them. Your cooperation will bring about a good time for all.

### **Clubbers are expected to...**

1. Send in the completed permission slip and medical form. Children will not be able to participate in games if they have not turned in a completed and signed medical release form.
2. Have respect for fellow club members and leaders - treat them as you wish to be treated.
3. Participate - whether playing games, listening, studying, singing or anything else—all are expected to be involved unless he/she brings a note from you.
4. Remain on the church property at all times.
5. Leave all food and drink at home (including gum), except where provided by your club leader.
6. Come to attention whenever a leader begins a five count.
7. Bring your AWANA handbook every week.
8. Be honest. Only VEFC AWANA Leaders can sign-off handbook sections. Anyone caught cheating will not be allowed to participate in AWANA Games or the year-end outing.
9. Wear your uniform every week to club (after you receive it) and earn points for your team. Awards can only be given to clubbers in uniform.
10. Bring a note from your parents (or have them call your director or leader) if they have a question or request for you.
11. Take care of the church property and club equipment.
12. Always try to wear a smile...everyone will enjoy you more!
13. Have a good time in every part of club.
14. Wait for their parents. Cubbies and Sparks will only be released to custody of parents or older sibling.

## OUR PROGRAM

Our AWANA program offers clubs for boys and girls from ages 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The following will help you know what club your child should be in.



**Coed 3 & 4 year olds  
Must be potty trained  
& pre-K by 1 or 2 years**



**Coed Kindergarten,  
1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades**



**T & T Girls  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grades**

**T & T Boys  
3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grades**

## WHAT'S THE COST?

In order to help pay for the many costs of running a program like this, our club asks each member to contribute toward the expenses. You may pay dues weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per week, or on a yearly basis shown below.

The yearly dues per family is based on the number of children you are registering for AWANA this year.

1 Child yearly dues would be .....	\$25.00
2 Children yearly dues would be .....	\$45.00
3 Children yearly dues would be .....	\$65.00
4 Children yearly dues would be .....	\$85.00

The dues help provide the funds we need for awards, prizes and incentives for your children. AWANA is a non-profit organization and we appreciate, very much, your support of this ministry.

Scholarships are available. If paying the dues or other Awana expenses would be a hardship for you let the club secretary, Lynette Huber, know and she will give you a scholarship application.



## CLUB ATTENDANCE

The club year is divided into four quarters. Clubbers can earn one attendance award each quarter if they have no more than one unexcused absence per quarter. If you are sick and cannot come to club, bring a note the following week from home and you will get credit for attendance.

## YEAR END OUTING

Third through sixth graders who complete the equivalent of one handbook will be invited to go with us on the year-end outing at the end of the club year. Our invitation is only for clubbers who are able to go on this date. All clubbers who qualify for the outing must also demonstrate good behavior throughout the club year.

## HIGH SIERRA SCHOLARSHIP CAMP

Camp is for any clubber, 6th grader (to be in the fall) through High School, who have completed at least one handbook during the club year. High Sierra Scholarship camp is one of the highlights of the AWANA year. The camp is usually held in late June and early July. Clubbers who attend are eager to attend again and again.



**WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULES**

**Cubbies** have a separate time schedule and remain in Rm. 3 6:15 – 8:00

**All other clubbers**

6:15 - 6:20 Opening Ceremony & Prayer @ Game Square

**Sparks Rm. 7**

6:20 – 6:55 Story (Council) Time  
6:55 – 7:30 Handbook Time  
7:30 – 8:00 Game Time

**T & T Girls Chapel**

6:20 – 6:55 Handbook Time  
6:55 – 7:30 Game Time  
7:30 – 8:00 Council Time

**T & T Boys Rm. 5**

6:20 – 6:55 Game Time  
6:55 – 7:30 Handbook Time  
7:30 – 8:00 Council Time

During **Handbook Time** your child works in his/her handbook and recites the memory verses for his/her leader.

In **Game Time** your child will have fun, get exercise, learn good sportsmanship & have an opportunity to excel.

During **Council Time** all the children in that club join together for announcements, award presentations, singing, and a Bible lesson.

**UNIFORMS**

The AWANA uniform lets others know that your child is a member of our club. You will want to buy one as soon as your child completes the requirements for membership, which include completing an entrance booklet and attending three club nights. Uniforms are to be worn each week. Take good care of it and be sure to attach awards to it as soon as they are received. You may order his/her uniform at the AWANA Store.

**UNIFORM PRICES**

CUBBIES VEST..... \$11.00  
SPARKS VEST ..... \$11.00  
BOY’S or GIRL’S T&T T shirt (size 10-Adult XL)..... \$15.00

**HANDBOOK PRICES**

CUBBIES ..... \$ 9.00  
SPARKS ..... \$ 9.00  
T&T ..... \$ 9.00

**OPTIONAL MATERIALS**

Cubbie Book Bag..... \$6.00  
Sparks Book Bag..... \$5.00  
T&T Book Bag..... \$4.00

# AWANA 2011-2012 Schedule

## AUGUST

- 24 Registration Night
- 31 First Club Night



## SEPTEMBER

**B.A.R.F. Month** (Bring A Real Friend)

- 7 Beach Night  
14 Club
- 21 Miss Match Night
- 28 B.A.R.F. Awards



## OCTOBER

- 5 Favorite Sports Night  
12 Club
- 19 Veggie Night  
26 Club
- 31 *VEFC Harvest Festival*



## NOVEMBER

- 2 Missionary Night  
9 Club
- 12 (Saturday) Family Night at Adventure Park
- 16 Parents Who Love Dessert Night  
23 No Club  
30 Club



## DECEMBER

- 7 Wrap Your Leader Night
- 14 Christmas Store  
*No Club Dec. 21 - Jan. 4*



## JANUARY

- 11 Measles Night  
18 Club
- 25 Black Out Night



## FEBRUARY

- 1 Club
- 8 Chocolate Night
- 3 (Saturday) **AWANA Bible Jamboree**
- 15 **SPARKS DRIVE-IN MOVIE**
- 22 Crazy Hat Night
- 29 "Pie the Commander" competition begins



## MARCH

- 7 Sparks Treasure Hunt
- 14 T&T Treasure Hunt
- 21 Radical Hair Night
- 24 (Saturday) **AWANA Games (Clovis)**
- 28 Pie the Commander Night



## APRIL

- 4 No Club
- 11 Last Sundae's Story
- 14 (Saturday) **Grand Prix Parents please come!**
- 18 & 25 Club



## MAY

- 2 Wet 'n Wild
- 9 Awards Ceremony Parents come
- 16 Family Night at Roller Towne

