Our calendar for AWANA will be different this year. We will begin with a “soft-start” on October 4. The soft-start will give two weeks for students to attempt to complete as much as possible from the 2019/2020 AWANA year (they will not advance to their next group, yet). The children can also contact their leader, via Facebook, and request to quote verses to accomplish these tasks prior to the soft-start—just to get a little further ahead.

We will not have AWANA the night of October 18. On October 25, we will conclude our soft-start with an abbreviated awards ceremony and Big Store. These tasks are usually two separate nights, but because of our calendar and interference with the curse of Satan, aka, Covid-19, we must make them happen on one night.

A “hard-start” will begin on November 1. This will be the night that all children will advance to the new 2020-2021 year with a clean slate, in their new group (if applicable).

So, assuming our calendar stays in place, we will begin a soft-start for AWANA on October 4, 2020, a hard-start on November 1, 2020 and conclude the year on April 25, 2021. As this year unfolds, we need to remain flexible and NOT get bent out of shape by unexpected changes. Solomon wrote in Proverbs 27:1— “Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth;” and James wrote in 4:15— “Instead, you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.” If the Lord wills, we will stick to this calendar. Regardless, if He does or if He doesn’t, then praise be to Him.

There are several roles that are needing to be filled for this coming year. These roles are only for the 2020/2021 year.

These roles are (in no particular order): 1) listeners (more youth are encouraged to listen between 5 and 5:30); 2) Store Clerk; 3) Directors for Sparks and Cubbies; 4) Helpers; 5) Activities Coordinator; 6) Music Director; 7) Games Director; 8) Crafts Director

You will notice that some of these roles are new. Below, you will find a description of each role listed above.

1. Listeners—main responsibility is to listen to children recite their verses and work through their handbook sections
   a. Listeners are encouraged to stay the entire time with their group; however, it is not expected, nor is it necessary.
   b. So, if you can give 30 minutes to listening to a handful of children quote verses, this is the job for you!
2. Store Clerk—main responsibility is to ensure ample supplies are in the store (required to purchase items, price items, and sell items)
   a. If you like to spend, and receive, money for items that are not essential to living, this is the job for you!
   b. The store will be open for business once in December and once in April
3. Directors (Cubbies, Sparks, and TNT)—main responsibility is to oversee one, age specific club. You will help guide the “helpers” who work directly with the children. You are to equip others to serve.
   a. Keep open communication between yourself and parents (information, communication, unification)
b. Model Christ-like leadership  
c. Pray with helpers and children

4. Helpers—main responsibility is to help the club director with...anything  
a. Help children by encouraging them to memorize their verses throughout the week  
b. Helpers are also needed to ensure that activity time goes well and according to plan

5. *Activities Coordinator—main responsibility is to organize a calendar of events for each week by alternating games, music, crafts, and special event nights and to communicate the desired outcome to the directors of games, music, and crafts

6. *Games Director—responsibilities include: working with the activities coordinator to ensure that the calendar is clearly understood for what night games will take place  
a. To plan games that the children will enjoy and possibly have a lesson involved associated with the game

7. *Music Director—responsibilities include: working with the activities coordinator to ensure that the calendar is clearly understood for what night music will take place  
a. To plan music, songs, etc. for the children to learn throughout the year and sing at award ceremony in April

8. *Crafts Director—responsibilities include: working with the activities coordinator to ensure that the calendar is clearly understood for what night crafts will take place  
a. To plan crafts, including, but not limited to, cooking, sewing, painting, etc.

The mission of AWANA is to equip leaders to reach kids with the Gospel and to engage them in lifelong discipleship.

If you would like to join the fun of ministering to children, then please consider serving in one of the roles above.

Contact Daniel Thompson for more information or to sign up—662.418.6424.

* The idea behind these roles is to replace Game Time with Activity Time. This will allow for more children to participate in activities that fit their personalities. Each activity will alternate/rotate throughout the month so that each is performed at least once per month. The last Sunday of each month can be special activities such as talent night, skit night, etc. and will be determined by the Activities Coordinator.