

PARENTS LETTER

Dear Parents:

Welcome to our Awana Program. We are very excited and feel privileged to have your child participate in our Awana Program! Awana is a Christian club (see the enclosed doctrinal statement) for children that teaches the Word of God through games, Bible study, memorization, and a motivational award system based on achievement. We want to help you, as a parent, give your child a tool to develop spiritually, intellectually, and physically. If you have other children, they are also invited to one of our AWANA Clubs:

Puggles:	2-year-old boys and girls (must be 2 by August 1 st)
Cubbies:	3 & 4-year-old boys and girls (must be 3 by August 1 st)
Sparks:	Kindergarten through 2 nd grade boys and girls
T & T Girls:	3 rd through 5 th grade girls (6 th grade is optional)
T & T Boys:	3 rd through 5 th grade boys (6 th grade is optional)

Club time runs from 6:30 - 8:15 p.m. on Wednesday nights. Children will check-in at their club table located in the fellowship hall or at their room for the Puggles club. All clubbers (Puggles, Cubbies, Sparks and T&T) must be picked up by their parents or guardian. Parents should be ready to pick their child up at their classroom promptly at 8:15.

Each weekly club meeting has three main elements: Story Time, Activity Time, and Play Time. During Story Time, your child will be exposed to messages from God's Word and will participate in praise and worship of our Creator. During Activity Time, the clubbers will do a craft or activity that will reinforce the precept for the week. Play Time will be where they will learn to help and share with each other.

While our facilities and equipment are supplied by the church, each clubber should bring dues of 50¢ per club night to help reduce the cost of operating the Awana Club. It also encourages a sense of ownership in the program and teaches the clubbers responsibility and good stewardship. **These dues are not mandatory, but will be helpful.**

We are thankful to you for allowing us to spend this time with your child each week in our Awana Clubs. We have as our hearts' desire to love your child and to teach them about the Lord Jesus. Also, if you do not have a church home, we invite you to visit our church. We have Small Group Bible Study Classes that begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings with classes for all ages. There are also two Sunday worship services; one at 10:30 a.m. and the other at 6:00 p.m. On Wednesdays, there is an adult Bible Study held at 7:00 p.m. We invite you to come as a visitor and leave as a friend.

Please review the attached General Puggles Rules to make sure your child will be prepared to get the most out of their participation in Awana. Thank you for your interest and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, please call your Awana Club Commanders.

Sincerely in Christ Jesus,

Michael & Celeste DeLeuil

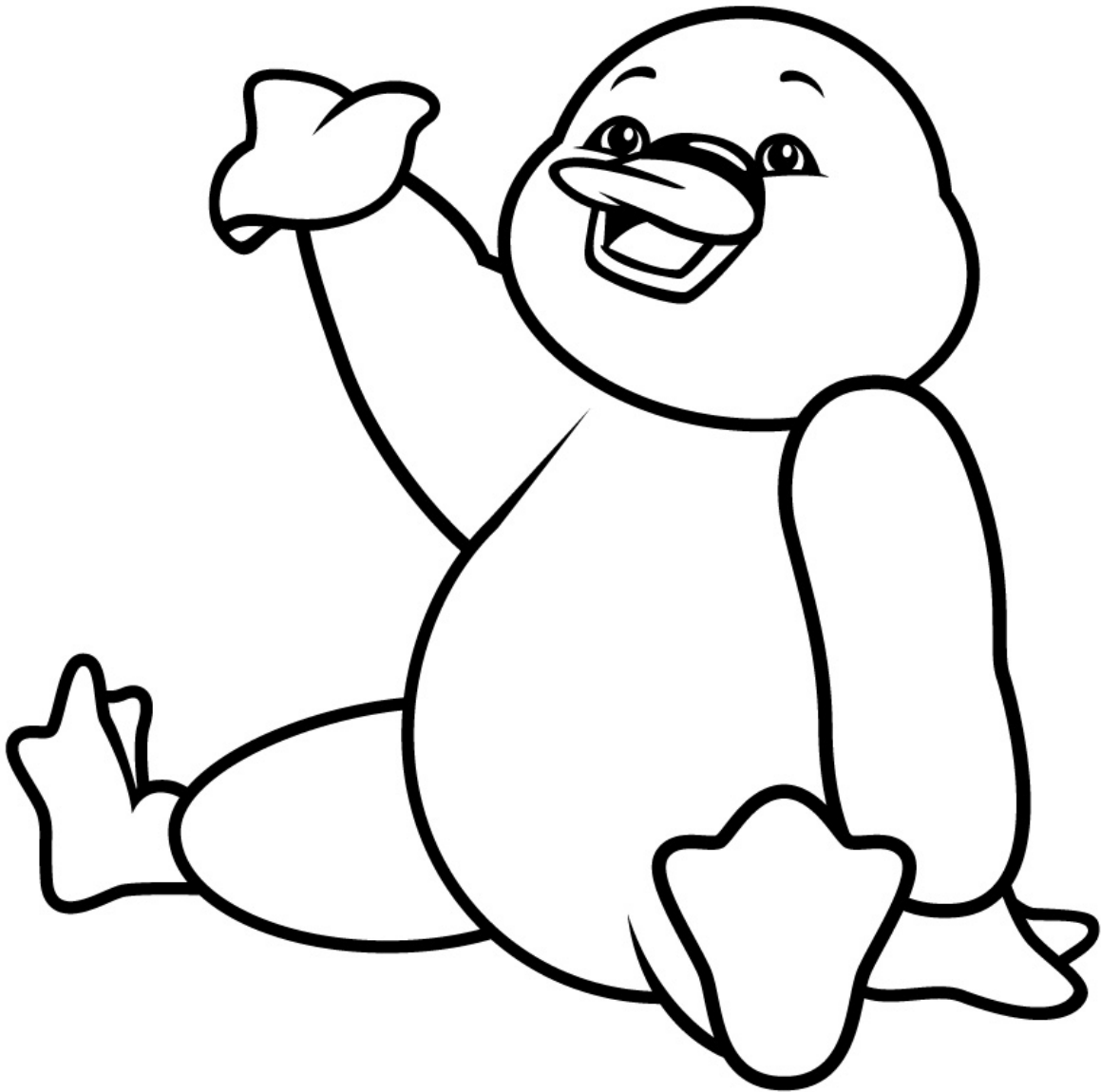
Michael & Celeste DeLeuil
Victory Missionary Baptist Church
Awana Club Commanders
641-0199 (Home)
747-7032 (Michael's Cell)
970-2905 (Celeste's Cell)

WELCOME TO PUGGLES !!!

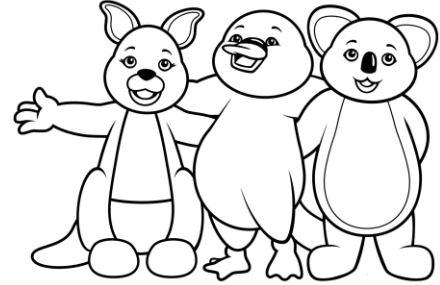
We are looking forward to a fun filled, exciting year. We are very blessed to be able to teach your children. Here is some basic information for you.

Each night, clubbers will sing, have a lesson time, activity time, snack time and play time. All of these will be designed to reinforce their Puggles precept (a scripture phrase) for the week.

We look forward to teaching your children about God's love for them.



PUGGLES SCHEDULE



6:30-7:00 **COMING-IN TIME**

Register new Puggles
Take dues
Clubbers put away personal belongings
Place an attendance sticker on attendance chart
Free play in toy room

7:00-7:20 **PUGGLES PRECEPT LESSON TIME**

Sing the Puggles Theme song and other songs
Bible Lesson with teaching card
Prayer

7:20-8:00 **REINFORCE PUGGLES PRECEPT**

Complete the activity/craft for the night
Sing active songs
Snack

8:00 **GOING-HOME TIME**

Clubbers will help pick up, gather their belongings, and get ready to go home.

GENERAL PUGGLES RULES

- 1. Puggles need to be in the classroom and ready to start by 7:00. There will be free play in the room from 6:30-7:00.** We have done this for the following reasons:
 - To allow Puggles to get adjusted to their surrounding prior to start time. However, we ask that you do not linger after your child is settled.
 - To allow parents with older children, time to get them checked in and settled before bringing their Puggle to class.
 - To allow parents who only have a Puggle, the flexibility of arriving closer to the start of the Wednesday evening service.
- We ask that each Puggle have at least one parent **PRESENT** in the church during the entire Awana club time. We encourage you to attend the regular Wednesday night service or help in another area of Awana. Just make sure that we know where you will be in case you are needed.
- Parents are asked **NOT** to stay in the Puggle classroom during class time. We know that it can be extremely hard to leave an upset child, but if they do not calm down in a fair amount of time, we will come and get you.
- Please be respectful of the Puggles Precept Lesson Time which will begin at 7:00 and end around 7:20. During this time, the children will be seated and all the focus will be on the night's precept. Please **DO NOT** come in the classroom during this time as it is extremely difficult to regain focus after an interruption.
- Each clubber will be eligible to purchase a uniform. Once obtained, each clubber should **wear their Puggles uniform every time they come**. The uniform serves to bond the group and distinguish them from the other clubs.
- Club dues of 50 cents should be brought each club night** to help reduce the cost of operating the Awana Clubs. These dues are not mandatory, but will be helpful.
- Clubbers will receive a snack each night**, so please let us know verbally if they have any food allergies or diet restrictions.
- Clubbers should not bring toys to club.** If your child brings such items, they will be held for your child until time to go home.
- If your child is not potty trained or in the process of becoming potty trained, please notify the Puggle leaders and send extra clothing, including undergarments each week. For those still in diapers, a diaper check is not usually conducted unless it is obvious that a bowel movement has occurred.
- Parents or Guardians are to pick up their child, unless other arrangements have been made.** Please let your child's Club Director or Secretary know if someone other than a parent or guardian will be picking up your child.
- An "Emergency/Activity Permission Form" should be brought back on the child's second club night.**
- Awana Clubs will meet only when school is in session.** During holidays, spring break, and summer break, Awana will NOT meet. If for any reason (weather, etc.) school is cancelled on a Wednesday, Awana will not meet.
- The structured Puggle class will end at 8:00.** We ask that all parents of Puggles **NOT** helping in other areas of Awana to please pick up your children when the Wednesday night service is over. This allows time for room cleanup and for the Puggle leaders to occasionally watch the Club awards. If you **ARE** helping in Awana, your Puggle will watch videos or play until you arrive and occasionally come out as a group to watch awards.

AWANA CLUB DESCRIPTIONS

PUGGLES:

Puggles is a one-year program for two-year olds. A two-year-old Puggle must have their second birthday before August 1st and be entering Kindergarten in 3 years. Parents of this age group must stay at church during club to be available if their child needs them. Puggles includes a lovable baby platypus named Puggle and a uniform t-shirt. In Puggles, the curriculum is centered on helping the clubbers understand what God's love is all about and that God created the good things around them. Puggles will also be encouraged to help each other, to share and take turns.

CUBBIES:

Cubbies is a two-year preschool program for ages three and four. A three-year-old Cubbie must have their third birthday before August 1st, and be entering Kindergarten in 2 years. Cubbies includes a cute character named "Cubbie Bear", a blue uniform vest with accompanying awards for "Cubbies" to wear, and an animal theme. Cubbie Bear encourages children as they achieve in handbooks. Handbooks provide Bible memorization and curriculum and stimulating activities specifically for preschoolers. Geared to encourage parental support, the handbook teaches preschoolers about God – the greatness of His love and His Word – and about His Son, Jesus Christ, the promised Savior.

SPARKS:

Sparks is a three-year program for children in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grades. Sparks includes a fun firefly character named "Sparky", a red uniform vest with accompanying awards for "Sparkies" to wear, and an aviation theme. Sparky firefly, along with his three friends, encourages and motivates children to learn their verses and complete activities throughout all three handbooks. Each handbook builds a foundation of biblical wisdom through memory verse drills, crafts, activities and review of key doctrine and Bible facts.

T & T GIRLS & BOYS:

T & T (Truth & Training) Girls and Boys are 3rd through 5th grade girls and boys (6th grade is optional). This club includes green shirts with accompanying awards for those working in the Ultimate Adventure Handbooks; Grace in Action and Evidence of Grace, and the Ultimate Challenge Handbooks: Agents of Grace and Discovery of Grace. Each of the handbooks contains a variety of Bible memorization curriculum and other Bible-centered achievements.

Each club is a one-hour and forty-five minute program comprised of three primary segments: Council Time, Handbook Time, and Game Time. Each Sparks and T & T club meeting begins with a flag ceremony where clubbers pledge to the National Flag and then to the Awana Flag. The clubs then break-up into the three thirty minute segments.

AWANA DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

THE BIBLE

We believe that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is supernaturally inspired, so that it is inerrant in the original manuscripts and preserved by God in its verbal and plenary inspiration, so that it is a divinely authoritative standard for every age and every life. (Matthew 5:18; I Corinthians 2:13; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21)

GOD

We believe in one God that eternally exists and reveals Himself in three persons - Father, Son, Holy Spirit - having each the same nature, attributes and perfections, worthy of the same worship and confidence. (Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; John 1:1-2, 14, 10:30, 14:15-17; I Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

We believe in God as absolute and sole Creator and Sustainer of the universe and that creation was divine command, from nothing and not through an evolutionary process. (John 1:3, 10; Acts 17:24-25; Genesis 1:1)

We believe that God, by His sovereign choice and out of love for men, sent Christ into the world to save sinners. (John 3:16, I Timothy 1:15; I John 4:14)

GOD THE SON

We believe that Jesus Christ was fully God in the flesh and fully man, that He was born of a virgin and that He lived a sinless life, in which He taught and performed mighty works and wonders and signs exactly as revealed in the four gospels. We believe that He was crucified, shed His blood, died to pay the penalty for our sins and was raised bodily from the dead on the third day. Forty days later He ascended to the Father's right hand where He is Head of the Church and intercedes for believers. From there He is coming again personally, bodily and visibly to this earth to set up His millennial kingdom. (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6; Hebrews 1:1-2, 7:25; Luke 1:30-35; Ephesians 4:8, John 1:1-5, 10-14, 14:3; Colossians 2:9; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Ephesians 1:13, 4:30, 5:18; I Corinthians 15:3-4; Acts 1:3, 11; Revelation 20:4)

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person and is God, possessing all the divine attributes. He convicts of sin, regenerates, indwells, baptizes and seals all believers at the moment of their salvation, filling them in response to yieldedness with the goal of conforming them to the image of Christ. (John 3:5, 16:7-11; Acts 5:3-4; Ephesians 1:13, 4:30, 5:18; I Corinthians 6:19, 12:13)

MAN

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but that in Adam's sin the race fell, inherited a sinful nature and became alienated from God. We believe that all men are morally corrupt, and of themselves utterly unable to remedy their lost condition. (Genesis 1:26-27; Romans 1:18, 3:23, 5:12; Ephesians 2:1-3, 12)

SALVATION

We believe that salvation is a gift of God and is received by man through personal faith in Jesus Christ and His sacrifice for sin. We believe that man is justified by grace through faith apart from works and that all true believers, once saved, are kept secure in Christ forever. (Acts 13:38-39; Romans 4:5, 6:23, 8:1, 38-39; John 10:27-29; Ephesians 2:8-9)

THE CHURCH

We believe that the family of God is composed of all persons who are regenerated by the Holy Spirit through saving faith in Jesus Christ; that they are united together in the family of God. He is Lord and Head of the church and they are commissioned for the God-given tasks of worshipping, fellowshiping, teaching, evangelizing and exercising their spiritual gifts. (Acts 2:42,47; Romans 12:5; Ephesians 1:22-23, 5:23-24; I Corinthians 12:12-14; 2 Corinthians 11:2)

We believe that the establishment and continuance of the local church is clearly taught in the New Testament Scriptures. (Acts 14:27, 20:17, 28-32; I Timothy 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11)

We believe that the local church is autonomous and free of any external authority or control. (Acts 13:1-4, 20:28; Romans 16:1, 4; I Corinthians 3:9, 16, 5:4-7, 13; I Peter 5:1-4)

THE ORDINANCES

We believe the ordinances for the believer are water baptism by immersion and the Lord's supper as a memorial. They are, however, not to be regarded as a means of salvation. But both of which are an evidence of obedience and fellowship with the Lord. (Matthew 28:19-20; Acts 2:38, 41, 8:12, 35-38; Luke 22:19-20; I Corinthians 11:23-29)

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

We believe that a Christian should walk in holiness and not after the flesh, with the goal of being conformed to the image of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As a new creation, walking in the Spirit, the Christian learns to grow in faith, in obedience to Scripture, in prayer, in fellowship with the saints and in a life of service. We believe that the Christian will stand before the judgment seat of Christ to have his life evaluated according to his deeds. (Galatians 5:16-26; Hebrews 10:25; Ephesians 4:20-24; Hebrews 11:6, 12:1-2; John 17:17; Ephesians 6:18; Romans 8:29; 2 Corinthians 5:10; I Corinthians 3:10-15)

THE SECOND COMING

We believe in the personal, pre-millennial and imminent coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the dead, of the believer to everlasting glory and the unbeliever to judgment and everlasting conscious punishment. (I Thessalonians 4:13-18; I Corinthians 15:51-52; Titus 2:11-13; John 14:1-6; Matthew 25:46; Revelation 20:11-15, 2 Peter 3:10)

PARENT'S CHECKLIST FOR PUGGLES

- Read Parent's Letter.

- Completed Emergency/Activity Permission Form for my child (To be returned 2nd night your child attends).

- Reviewed Club Rules with my child.

- Reviewed Club Nightly Schedule with my child.

- Ordered Uniform.

- Made a personal commitment to work with my child, as needed, to reinforce the weekly Puggles Precept.**

