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December 2016

Merry Christmas!

Do you enjoy celebrations? Recently, the most celebrated event has been the Cubs winning the World Series after 108-year drought! People all over, even our missionary family in Austria, woke at odd hours of their day to watch this historic event. According to best estimates, the Cubs celebration parade drew approximately **5 million** people and is said to be the 7th largest attended event in mankind! Christmas is said to be the most celebrated holiday around the world with traditions both secular and religious. However, the real celebration occurred more than 2,000 years ago with one of the least attended events by mankind—the birth of the Savior of the world, Jesus. With no room in the inn, God's appointed parents to Jesus had only a small crowd of barn animals. One thing to be sure, God protected them and the advent of baby Jesus was the beginning of the most significant series that would offer protection to the world—the fulfillment of more than 350 prophecies, ultimately his atoning death on a cross for our sins, so we could live with God forever if we trust him.

We're excited to share the message of Jesus' birth at AWANA. If your family is looking for a place to celebrate Christmas services, we invite you to consider joining us for the following Red Brick Church services—Saturday, December 24, 4pm and Sunday, December 25, 9am only.

Because GOD PROTECTS!

Mr. Darren & Mrs. Deb

December 7 | M&M Night

We are excited to view our monthly video update from the Boyd Family.



Clubbers can bring in money (dollars or coins) in their M&M Bank and we'll exchange it for a plain package of M&M candies that they can eat at home.

December 14 | Silent Night, Holy Night

Jesus was surrounded by a variety of people and animals the night he was born. Tonight, clubbers should dress as one of them—shepherd, wise men, angels, or even barn animals! This will also be our next Praise & Worship Night led by Mrs. Jamie Long and the praise team. We are really excited because tonight we get to worship the new born King—Jesus! Parents: feel free to join us early to worship together.

December 21 | Happy Birthday, Jesus & AWANA Store

Clubbers can spend their earned AWANA dollars at our Store this night! We'll have a special devotion for this last night of the year. On Store Night, the clubbers receive their earned dollar amount on an "AWANA Debit Card" from their leader, but make sure to bring any dollars given out during club to spend. These Debit Cards are collected at checkout and used again for April's Store. **DONATIONS APPRECIATED!** If you would like to donate to the Store, check out the back side of this newsletter listing the items we are looking for. You may drop off items in the AWANA office downstairs.

We will be serving each clubber a cupcake & a water to celebrate Jesus' birthday, so if your child has allergies or is on a special diet, please make sure to bring a special snack for them (clearly marked with their name on it).

<u>PARENTS</u>: We will need 10+ parents to help this night between 6–7:30 pm (to help clubbers shop and also help take down the Store). If you can help, please sign up with Mr. Darren or Mrs. Deb starting tonight! Thank you so much! We can't do this event without parent helpers!

CHRISTMAS BREAK REMINDER

December 28 & January 4, 2017

There will be NO AWANA for two weeks for Christmas Break. We'll see you back on January 11, 2016 for our first 2017 M&M Night!

Red Brick Church Christmas Services



◆ Sunday, December 25
Christmas Morning Service @ 9:00 am only
We would be honored to have your family join us!

Grand Prix Kits Now Available!





Need something fun to do with your clubber during Christmas break? Then, consider working on your AWANA Grand Prix car! Mrs. Dawn Clinton in the AWANA office has Derby cars available for \$5.00. Plan to pick one up soon so you can get an early start on your design!

If you need help cutting our your design, we will conduct TWO cutout clinics: Saturday, January 28 from 1–3 pm and Saturday, February 11 from 9–11 am downstairs in the church.

Then, plan on joining us for 2017's AWANA Grand Prix which will be held on Saturday, February 18, 2017! You won't want to miss this fun, family event!

dust for Parents/Guardians:

With the colder weather approaching, PLEASE make sure your clubber wears gym shoes to AWANA each Wednesday night for game time. Clubbers can BRING a pair of gym shoes. They really do need gym shoes for game time for safety reasons—we can't have clubbers play games in slippery boots or bare feet!

Thanks for your help!

Clubbers Shop Til They Drop!

Two times per year, our AWANA club has an AWANA "Store" where we have fun items for the clubbers to "buy" toys, games, and other items with the AWANA dollars they've earned. Our first AWANA Store will be December 21.

If you would like to donate any <u>new</u> toy items to the store, feel free to bring them any club night <u>no later</u> <u>than December 14</u>. Please drop them in the AWANA office downstairs. Below are some clubber favorites:

- ♦ Art kits/art supplies
- Balls (sport balls, playground balls, small or large balls, colorful ones, light-up ones, spiky ones, or fuzzy ones...the kids LOVE balls!!!)
- ♦ Pillow pets/stuffed animals
- ♦ LEGO kits
- ♦ Nail polish (fun colors)
- ♦ Sports card sets
- ♦ Baking/cooking kits
- Sidewalk chalk
- ♦ Matchbox or Hot Wheels cars
- ♦ Winter toys for playing outside

Clubbers will be able to shop during their game time (T&T first, Sparks second, Cubbies last). While they shop, our weekly leaders are upstairs working with your clubber learning verses. Because of this, we are in need of MANY parent volunteers to help in a variety of roles:

- Helping our clubbers shop—especially our Sparks and Cubbies!
- Check-out and collection of AWANA debit cards/ AWANA dollars spent
- ♦ Clean-up at the end of the night

This is a HUGE event for our AWANA program and we need "all hands on deck" to make it successful. If you are available and can volunteer, please contact Deb or Darren on a club night or by phone or e-mail (provided in the "Stay Connected" box below). Thank you!! We can't do this without your help!!

SIAY



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AWANA is a ministry of The Red Brick Church (Congregational Christian Church of Stillman Valley)