

COGLEY NEWS

*For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance
: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third
day according to the Scriptures,
1 Corinthians 15:3,4*

Strong Beginnings,

This fall we have had many opportunities to help God's people across Ohio strengthen their Awana Clubs as they continue to reach out to the children and families of their communities with the gospel. We have also been blessed to see many new churches get signed up and begin working to start Awana. In October we were part of training 21 churches in the inner-city area of Cleveland, and another 6 in November. Of these churches, 10 have made the commitment to begin using the Awana Ministry in their communities. These churches are working to start programs in neighborhood schools and the church. We still have churches preparing to start after the first of the year, and we are training in December. God is doing some big things in Northern Ohio, and we are blessed to have a front row seat to the demonstration of His work. Thank you for partnering with us in this work.



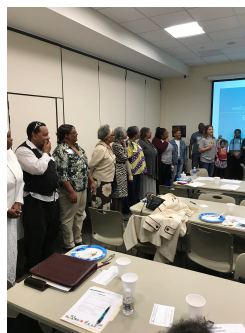
Along with getting new churches trained and started to break through the hopelessness and despair so many of today's children are facing, we also have the privilege to encourage and strengthen those clubs who have been at it for a while. One way we do this is through our Awana Ministry Conference (AMC), which was held October 14th in Groveport. This year we had nearly 150 leaders from around Ohio join us to further hone their skills of working with children and ministering to families in need of the hope that only Jesus Christ can bring. This year's conference offered 33 different workshops taught by 21 instructors. These instructors all have a heart for children and families, and a desire to impact the world through developing leaders who minister to those God has placed in their circles of influence. It has been exciting for Melinda and I to follow up with many who attended and see the excitement over their anticipated successes over the coming months. God gave us all a special blessing at AMC this year. A pastor friend brought four of his middle schoolers to help with serving, setup, and attendance counting. While they were waiting for their next task Saturday afternoon, Pastor Hery had a conversation with Juan, about a verse on a piece of artwork. As Juan explained the meaning of the verse, he told Pastor Hery he wanted to trust Jesus as his Savior. I am sure 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 will stick in his heart.

Serving Him Together,
Ken & Melinda

Catch your breathe, Prepare to move!

Due to the high demands on our time, we will take a couple weeks at Christmas to rest and spend time with family and friends. Then we will begin our second round of visiting our new churches to followup on questions they might have about the functional aspects of club. There was a time when Awana missionaries were viewed as the Awana Police and folks didn't necessarily want to be told what they were doing wrong. We have been working hard to correct that perception. We visit and communicate with the churches to build them up and encourage them to reach more kids. Often times, we see parents who end up helping in clubs because of what their children have learn and taken home from Awana. This is our greatest joy, that entire families will come to know, love, and serve the Lord as a result of the work we are blessed to part of.

As we approach the end of the year, would you consider making a special gift to continue sustaining the work that God is doing through Awana here in Northern Ohio? We will continue to be your servant-partners to develop more Awana Clubs that will evangelize and disciple children and youth.



AMC 2017, Groveport

21 churches being trained



Trunk n Treat
Jonah in the Big Fish



FunFair



First night at New
Sardis Baptist Church

Praises:

- Salvation decisions at clubs
- New churches partnering with Awana
- Seeing Children follow in baptism
- Leaders excited about ministry

Prayer:

- More opportunities to impact lives
- Health concerns
- Balance of time, family, ministry & support
- Travel mercies