



2016- 2017

Welcome to the AWANA SPARKS club at Linworth Baptist Church, an AWANA club for Kindergarteners, First, and Second Graders. The goal of SPARKS is to reach boys and girls with the gospel of Christ and train them to serve him.

Meeting Time & Location: 6:55 – 8:35 on Wednesday nights (9/14/2016 – 5/3/2017) in the upstairs classrooms (No drop-offs before 6:40pm please). Your child should check-in and be picked-up at their classroom (rooms are labeled). If the weather is bad, check the church website at www.linworthbaptist.org, listen to WTVN 610 AM, or call 614-844-4477 ext 13 after 3PM to see if our Wednesday evening ministries have been cancelled.

Cost: \$10 per child and includes all dues, handbooks, uniforms, awards and crafts. Replacement jewels, books, vests, etc. are available for purchase as needed. The actual cost for materials is much higher than the \$10 dues, but the church subsidizes the initial costs for each child so we can keep a fee structure that makes the clubs affordable and allows as many families to participate as possible. If cost is a concern, please speak to one of the leaders about scholarships that are available.

Meeting Format: SPARKS club meetings have 3 parts. Each clubber will have lesson time, game time, and handbook time. During lesson time, we have announcements, singing, and a bible based lesson. “Handbook Time” is where the children recite their memorized scripture passages to have their handbook signed-off and complete a craft while they are waiting for their turn to say their verses. Unlike Cubbies, *there is no set verse schedule in SPARKS*. Sparks clubbers go at their own pace saying as many or as few sections each week as they like. We limit clubbers to 5 sections each week until everyone has had an opportunity to be signed off. During “Game Time”, clubbers play AWANA games in the gym. **We WILL NOT release children to meet you downstairs.** *You or someone you designate MUST pick up your child FROM THE CLASSROOMS UPSTAIRS. The upstairs hallway gets crowded. Please help us keep it open by only having one person come up to pick up your child if possible.*

Handbooks: Handbooks have scripture memorization and activities designed to help the clubbers learn about God and Salvation. Clubbers typically complete one handbook each year (3 total) and many complete a supplemental Frequent Flyer book if they complete their handbook before the end of the year. Handbooks are available in different translations (ESV, NIV, KJV, NKJV,). **Returning clubbers will stay in their current translation** (since many verses repeat in each handbook). New clubbers will use the ESV as the default unless you request otherwise.

Awards: Clubbers earn handbook awards (red and green jewels) and attendance awards (blue jewels). Children do not receive an award for each section they memorize. Instead, each red and green jewel requires completing multiple sections, some of which will take more than one week to finish. Blue jewels (attendance) are earned quarterly by attending at least 5 of the meetings during the quarter. It is not possible to make up for missed meetings to go back and earn a missed blue jewel. Additional awards (review patch, frequent flyer pin, and Truth Scripts) can be earned once the handbook has been completed. Awards are given out weekly and several lucky clubbers will take home Sparky, our firefly mascot (stuffed doll), to entertain until the next meeting. Sparky likes to come back “CLEAN, DRY and NEXT WEEK “(your assistance is appreciated).

Uniforms & Supplies: New clubbers will receive a Sparks bag and *Flight 3:16* entrance booklet at their first night of attendance. After they complete the *Flight 3:16* entrance booklet, they will receive their *Hang Glider* handbook and vest (no sooner than their 2nd meeting). Returning clubbers receive their next handbook(s) as soon as they are ready for them.

Email List: if you would like to be added to the Linworth Sparks Club email list, please send an email from your preferred account to us at linworthsparks@gmail.com

Volunteering: The SPARKS club is ALWAYS looking for additional leaders... no experience required! If you can spare a couple of hours to listen to a clubber say verses, help us organize or assemble crafts, help clubbers play great games, or even just help with paperwork, we’d love to have you! Adult volunteers go through a background check as part of the Church’s safety policies.

Contact info: SPARKS Directors – Mark & Lisa Merrick: 614-937-5585 or linworthsparks@gmail.com.
Church Office: 614-844-4477