get connected

We connect people to Jesus and equip them to be his disciples.

Pray for Awana!

by Renee Sanford, Prayer Coordinator

Awana club nights begin September 13 – but preparations have been underway since last spring! (Thank you, Angie Mullen! Thank you, Mike Hoffman!). Over the years we've had 60-100 kids weekly, with over 25 adult volunteers who keep this incredible outreach going. Please pray for all aspects of Awana, including:

Joy, Celebration, Fun

LORD, make 2023-24 a year of joy and blessing, all for your glory!
Let the games and fellowship draw kids to club, where they can hear the good news about Jesus.
May each award encourage kids to seek the you.

Fellowship, Belonging

Make Awana a welcoming place, where each child experiences belonging to the family of God.

Make it so uplifting that they eagerly invite their friends.

Spiritual Growth

Let biblical truth permeate young lives as clubbers memorize scripture and hear the weekly messages. Let the small group and large group lessons clearly point them to Jesus. May their hearts and lives be transformed by the Holy Spirit.

Salvation

LORD, we want our children to receive the gift of eternal life.

In your perfect timing, lead them to call on the name of Jesus and be saved!

Let them enter into a life-long commitment to

follow Christ and grow daily to be more like him.
Give them boldness to share their faith with others.

Family Impact

Move powerfully in the lives of Awana families as they work with their children on handbooks and verses.

Encourage clubbers to open their Bibles and handbooks during the week, creating opportunities to talk about spiritual issues with their families.

LORD, reveal where there are hurts and needs in the families of the children who come here. Show us how we can minister to them with the love of Jesus.

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September 2023

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Pray for Awana!, continued

by Renee Sanford, Prayer Coordinator

Safety

We ask for the blessing of physical safety at Awana for clubbers, their families, and our staff – especially in the exuberance of game time!

LORD, protect us spiritually as well. Foil any attacks of the evil one trying to prevent clubbers from getting to club or understanding what they learn.

Staff

Keep all staff and leaders healthy & spiritually strong.

Give them patience, wisdom, peace and the love of Jesus as they present God's truth to their small groups.

Provide opportunities for leaders to pray with clubbers and share the gospel. Let them experience the power of God working in and through them as they share with kids.

Resources

Thank you, LORD, for continuing to provide all the resources needed for this ministry. Thank you for the

funds, the staff, the space and the support of Awana Missionaries Tim and Cheryl Gilley.

Thank you for praying! We want God to be glorified in the lives of all who participate in our Awana Ministry. May 2023 -24 be a fruitful year, as God answers our prayers in Jesus name beyond what we have asked or imagined.



Fall Sabbath School Classes return!

by Pastor Liz Green

Please join us for our Fall Sabbath School lineup at 9:00 a.m. beginning September 2:

Helping Hand Class- Facilitated by Pastor Liz – God's Law is Love – Room 6

Mental Health Discussion and Support Group – Facilitated by Karissa Bornemann,
Library

Youth Class – facilitated by Pastor Nate – has been moved to Wednesday afternoons at

4:30 at Ice Shanty for a Bible Study, followed by Collision. Youth are welcome to join the Helping Class on Sabbath mornings.

Children's Bible Study (grades 3-6 – need to be able to read) Mark - Inductive Bible Study - facilitated by Kathleen Holbrook and Renee Sanford in Alcove Room

Nursery staff will be available to supervise children not attending a class at 9:00 a.m. Meet them in the Nursery area.

It's Time for Slime at Awana

By Angie Mullen, Children's Ministry Director

"It's the most wonderful time of the year" is silently being sung in the heads of many moms everywhere as back to school is here. I am also singing "It's the most wonderful time of the year" because that means the clubbers are coming!!

Awana begins with registration night on Wed., Sept. 6th, from **6:00-7:30**. Families are encouraged to stop by and get their children all signed up and ready for the coming club year. We will have people ready to take their registration forms, get handbooks and vests ordered, and collect dues. We will also have a station for clubbers to decorate their handbook bags as well as some surprises of things to do as they meet this year's staff. If your family is not able to make it to registration night, please contact Angie at 608-295-6484 or awanaclubs@miltonsdb.org.

Our amazing **Awana staff** will hold our annual staff meeting, beginning with a Staff Appreciation Picnic, on Sunday, Sept. 10. All staff should plan on attending. Supper will be served at 6:00 and the meeting will begin at 6:30. Thanks to Josh Harris and Linda Gilmore for helping with the food. All staff who did not complete Safety in Ministry training for the summer camping season must complete this annual requirement before coming to the meeting you can find the training at

https://
theconnecting.church/
sim/. Please
contact Angie if you
have any
questions.



playing games, too!

Our club year officially begins on Wed., Sept. 13 at **6:25 pm**. Our K – 6th graders will be learning about what happens when it feels like we've been SLIMED in life as we walk through the Bible account of Jacob. They will be thinking about how selfishness can lead to trouble, learning that God sees our dishonesty, understanding that God loves us in spite of our sin, wants to save us and give us new life and many other important Bible truths. Of course they will be memorizing God's Word and learning how to apply it to their lives in their small groups and playing exciting games,

too! Our Cubbies (preschool clubbers) will be memorizing verses, learning who God is and how they can love Him, and

What children do YOU know who would love to be a part of the fun, exciting activities we do on Wed. night and might need a chance to learn about Jesus? Milton is part of our mission field and Awana is a super easy way to help children come to have a relationship with their Savior. Pick up a welcome bag and all the information they need to come and try it out in the Welcome Center. And don't forget to be praying that God will use us to do his MIGHTY WORKS in the lives of children at our Awana Club this vear.



Testimonies from Three Koinonia Singers

by Hayden, Ellie and Andrew as interviewed by Pastor Nate

This summer our outreach ministry was pleased to provide scholarships for Hayden Rotzoll, Ellie Greene, and Andrew Hegle to participate in the ministry of Koinonia. As has been our habit for many vears concerning ministry projects, we encourage those who have benefitted from the support of the church to share highlights of their ministry with the church family. In doing so, our hope is to encourage you all in the Lord with what He is doing in and through our youth.

Hayden: This was Hayden's second year on the trip, and the Lord worked in her heart to be more open to talking to both the people in the crowds they ministered to and to other youth on the trip whom she previously would not have tried to talk to. Hayden says that on a few nights "they had to drag me away from conversations after the performance." She enjoyed talking and praying with members of the audiences and also with the other youth especially on the bus. She often asked others to share their testimonies with her.

One of the awesome things that the Lord did on the trip was to bring one of the Koinonia youth to a saving knowledge of Jesus. This particular girl was on her first trip. On the third day Larry ate a duck egg and got sick because he is allergic to them. So the group was hanging out singing songs of worship. This girl played a song for the group which brought everyone to tears. Later that evening she "got saved!" For

the rest of the trip she was talking to people about how Jesus saved her, and she couldn't wait to get home and talk to her brother about it!

Ellie: Ellie is also a veteran Koinonia Singer. This year the Lord was working in her heart to remind her that God is still there even when she doesn't feel him. The trip for Ellie was not as impacting on her emotionally, but she was impacted strongly through the study and discussion of His Word. In the times of devotions, in the conversations on the bus, and in the focus on Psalm 119 which happened throughout the trip, Ellie came to know in a greater way the sweetness and the power of God's Word.

One of the most impacting things Ellie saw the Lord do was in the conversations with people after their performances. Some of these conversations took place with people who had never heard the gospel. She was deeply impacted by these talks. Finally, Ellie



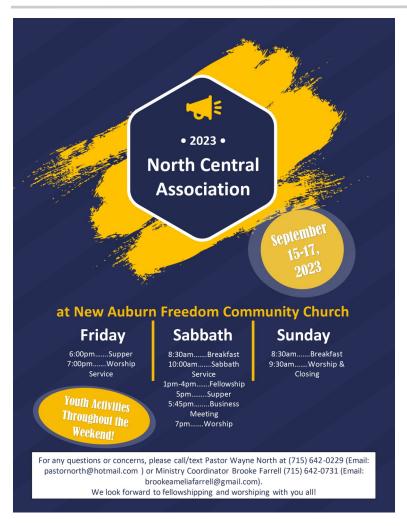
was encouraged by the way the Lord was working on some of the youth on the trip who went "from going through the motions to pursuing God."

Andrew: This was Andrew's last year on the trip, and it was different from other years because he "did not have a eureka moment" like he had in the past. Instead, he felt encouraged in his walk with the Lord "step by step" and was able "to be content and patient." As this is his last year with Koinonia, Andrew is looking at the future beyond high school. Koinonia has been such a big part of his growth in the Lord, but he knows that the Lord will continue to lead and guide him in other ways since the Lord works in many other ways. His desire is to continue to seek the Lord wholeheartedly. Join with him in praying that he and all the Koinonia crew will grow so that their faith will become their own and not just because of being around other Christians.

Congratulations on Your Baptism!



From left to right: Pastor John Pethtel, Skyler Shields, Sophia Kersten, Henry Lubke, William Holbrook, Debbie Johnson, Pastor Nate Crandall (not pictured, Roper Uhlich)





Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas in July fundraising event. We had \$835 donated for supplies and to help with mailing the boxes. Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

I know July is over and if you missed the opportunity to give, don't fret! Our goal is \$1250 so the display will stay in the Parlor and the fundraising will be ongoing! We'd like to reach the matched goal of \$1,250. \$415 to go!

An update on items to fill the boxes: **WOW items and small toys** are most needed. Many summer toys are on sale now.

We have the needed hygiene items and many of the school supplies. We can use a few more boxes of crayons and pencil sharpeners. **No scissors** are needed.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 Doug Lubke
- 1 Janet & Kevin Butler
- 1 Aurora Johnson
- 4 Lori & Bob Ball
- 5 Neil Lubke
- 5 Ryan Curry
- 6 Randy Kersten
- 7 Jamie Dutcher
- 12 Javne Lubke
- 12 Calvin Lubke
- 12 Liz Green
- 13 Tal Kersten
- 15 Janette Loofboro
- 17 Isaiah Call
- 17 Tara Rotzoll
- 17 Jordan Dutcher
- 19 Joe Bornemann
- 20 Kevin Butler
- 28 Caleb Sanford
- 28 Tom Rotzoll
- 29 Mike Hoffman
- 30 Perla Call

Ladies Sit 'n Sip

Tuesday, Sept. 12 9:00 a.m. at Sharla's Come relax with some church friends!

September Children's Church

September 2 Unit 18: Session 1

Esther Saved Her People (Esther)

September 16 Unit 18: Session 2

Nehemiah Rebuilt the Walls (Nehemiah 1-7)



GIFTS Homeless Shelter - Fall Week To Serve:

Mark your calendar now for Oct 2, 3 and 5 for our church's week to serve this fall at the men's homeless shelter – GIFTS. Watch for sign up sheets at the Welcome Center – to donate food for meal prep, to serve the meal to the men staying there, or to be an overnight volunteer.

September – Awana						
6	Registration Night 6:00-7:30					
*10(Sun.)	Staff Meeting 6:00-8:00					
13	Club - First Club Night 6:25-8:00					
20	Club 6:25-8:00					
27	Club 6:25-8:00					



Thank you to everyone who helped with the church rummage sale. We earned \$547.75 for the Camp Wakonda kitchen upgrade.

September – Collision				
4	Magnolia Bluff with Koinonia			
6	Student Leaders/Bible Study @ The Ice Shantea (4:30-6)			
13	Bible Study @ The Ice Shantea (4:30-6 p.m.) Collision @ Camp Wakonda (6:30-8 p.m.)			
15-17	YOUTH RETREAT @ Freedom Community Church North Central Association in New Auburn, WI			
20	Bible Study @ The Ice Shantea (4:30-6 p.m.) Collision @ Camp Wakonda – PIZZA NIGHT			
27	Bible Study @ The Ice Shantea (4:30-6 p.m.) Collision @ Camp Wakonda			

"FALL" BACK INTO ACTION



Focus on Funds

as of July 31, 2023

General Fund Balance \$ 2,232.32 Cash at Mem. Fund \$46,123.95 July Undesignated Income \$17,632.81 July Total Income \$25,857.95 July Expenses \$28,203.98 Denomination Giving YTD \$ 3,370.00 Capital Campaign Fund \$ 9,724.38

September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					B	
	Sept 1 7:32 p.m. Sept 8 7:20 p.m.				1	9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church
3	8:00 TOPS Labor Day Youth at Magnolia Bluff with Koinonia	7:00 Scouts	6 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person 4:30 Youth Bible Study 6:00 Awana Registration Night	7	8	9 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship
9:00 Trustee Meeting - Library 6:00 Awana Staff Picnic & Meeting	8:00 TOPS Remembering 9/11	9:00 Ladies Sit 'n Sip – Sharla's 7:00 Scouts	13 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom 4:30 Youth Bible Study 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision	14	North Central Association in New Auburn (Youth Retreat too)	8:00 Men's Chorus Rehearsal 9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship and Children's Church North Central Association in New Auburn
17 North Central Association in New Auburn	18 8:00 TOPS	19 7:00 Scouts	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom 4:30 Youth Bible Study 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision	21	22	9:00 Sabbath School 9:00 Kids Fellowship 10:30 Worship
24	25 8:00 TOPS	7:00 Scouts	27 6:30 Men's Bible Study - Sharla's 9:30 Women's Bible Study - In person and on zoom 4:30 Youth Bible Study 6:25 Awana 6:30 Collision	28	29	30



September 2023

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Angie Mullen asmullen92@gmail.com

Prayer Coordinator:

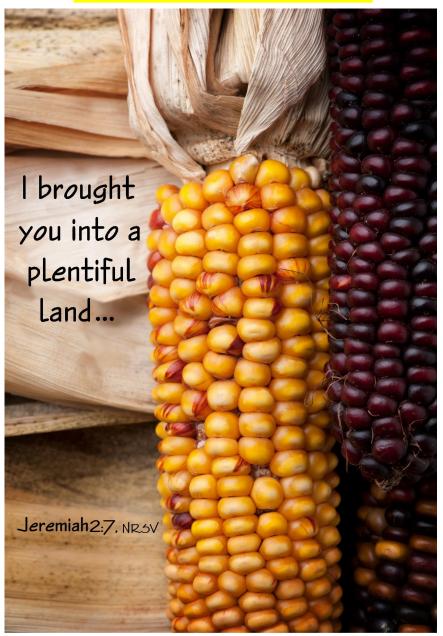
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Communications Coordinator:

Joel Osborn joel@miltonsdb.org



Online Worship

Our Sabbath morning worship service is available **live** on our YouTube channel. Go to http://TheConnecting.Church/WorshipOnline for the link. We are also posting links to the sermon notes on that same page.