

Awana



Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

2 Corinthians 5:17

Chris and Sandy Mikesh | April 2024

It has been encouraging to hear from churches we have not visited and new churches in our expanded area. They are making resilient disciples and planning their closing programs with this in mind. Some have already started making plans for the fall season.

Thank you so much for being a part of raising the next generation of resilient disciples!

Ministry & Equipping Highlights

- A few weeks ago, we visited the First Baptist Church of Havre de Grace. After church service, we did a short refresher training on the Vision and Passion of Children's discipleship. Then we had some training on sharing the gospel.
- Lake Shore Baptist Church invited other Awana Clubs to a Bible Challenge (formally Bible Quiz). By using what they learned in the club, the students were able to share the Gospel to all those in attendance. It was very inspiring to see all that they had learned.
- It was encouraging to speak with them about child discipleship and see their excitement about continuing the club.



Impact Stories

In a recent visit with Pastor Jeff Noll of Hagerstown Bible Church, he spoke about a young man named Carl who was brought to AWANA by a leader who was aware of his family situation. Carl is a preteen from a difficult home life who often finds himself in trouble at school and sometimes in club. After a year in AWANA, he came to know Jesus at summer camp. One night, when he couldn't get a ride to the club, he walked through the town's sometimes dangerous streets by himself to get there. He arrived late but found a safe place where people cared about him.

Carl clearly BELONGS at this church, forming bonds with the leaders and Pastor Noll. He continues to make efforts to Belong, Believe, and Become a follower of Jesus by attending club and is making efforts to settle down and learn more. Your prayers are requested for Carl as he continues to grow in his faith and walk the path of discipleship amid very challenging circumstances.



Family Update

- Looking forward to our granddaughter, Parker's baptism.
- We were able to see the musical story Daniel at Sight and Sound Theatre with one of our daughter's family.
- Easter was a special time remembering what our Lord did for each of us. It is also good to have all the family (plus a few more) for a day of gathering.

Praise and Prayer Requests

- Pray for those churches that are searching for a pastor to lead them in discipleship.
- Let's pray for new Missionaries with skills, reliance on God, passion, and a calling to join our teams.
- Please pray for all churches that they will finish the season strong, and that the momentum continues into the Fall Season.

Ministry Goals

- Provide encouragement and solutions to churches who are navigating through ministry challenges.
- Inspiring leaders who will attend the Awana Ministry Conference on October 12th.
- Challenging churches with a call to action and making child discipleship a priority.



**ONE CHILD.
ONE FAMILY.
ONE MISSION.**

From the Awana Global Headquarters

Have the birds migrated back to your neighborhood yet? Breaking up the dark clouds and warming up our chilled bones, the sun seems to pioneer a pathway of buds, warmth, and new life. Like the soft soil ready for planting, the same may happen in the hearts of the kids in your life – deep conversations and hard questions leading to spiritual growth.

Luke 12:6-7 reminds us how precious the sparrows are to God, not one is forgotten in His sight. We are of even more value to Him, down to the last detail – even numbering the hairs on our heads!

Keep up the noble work of discipleship; those kids are worth more than we could ever dream. Lean in, listen, and lead them to their Creator who knows every hair on their head.

Melanie Hester | Director of Discipleship Engagement



Partner with us in reaching more children!

Chris and Sandy Mikesh

2527 Flowering Tree Ln, Gambrills, MD 21054

240-381-5525

ChrisM@Awana.org

missionary.awana.org/Chris-Mikesh

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