

Dear Awana families,

We are writing to inform you that we have made the difficult decision to postpone the remaining two weeks of our Awana year to an indefinite date.

While we were hoping to be able to complete our year as scheduled, and although we had expected to have no issues as recently as the beginning of this week, the situation has been changing rapidly. Reports on March 12 regarding cases of the COVID-19 Coronavirus that have been confirmed in Kent County, combined with Governor Whitmer's decision to close all K-12 schools for three weeks effective this Monday, have led the Awana directors and the elders of Maranatha Bible Church to believe that it is best to postpone the Awana meetings planned for March 18 and March 25 until the risk of COVID-19 transmission has decreased. We are unsure at this time how these postponed meetings will look.

Please rest assured of all of the following:

**- This decision has not been made lightly, and has been made out of an abundance of caution with the health of our kids, families, leaders, and the general public in mind.** While we are not aware of any cases of coronavirus among anyone affiliated with Maranatha Bible Church or our Awana program, we have made the decision to postpone future meetings in accordance with health guidelines to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19.

**- We will ensure that your kids get the awards they have earned.** While we have not made definite decisions regarding the date of our postponed awards ceremony, we fully intend to make sure that your kids receive the awards that they have earned for all of their hard work. This includes any Day Camp scholarships that have been earned - if your child will be entering 2nd-8th grades in Fall 2020, will be at least 7 years old by June 15, and has completed (Sparks:) the equivalent of one full book, or (T&T:) sections 1.1-1.5, 3.1-3.7, and 4.1-4.7 within this year of Awana, your child will receive a scholarship to [Maranatha Day Camp](#) this summer, and we will be sure to make you aware of whether or not your child has received one prior to the beginning of registration on April 1.

**- We are available to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.** We are in the process of making many decisions about how to navigate this situation and properly conclude this year of Awana, and know that we will communicate with you as soon as these decisions are made. That said, please feel free to contact us at this email in the meantime if you have any questions or concerns about this situation.

Finally, we would like to say that we are thankful to God that He is sovereign over this entire situation and that we can trust in Him fully. May He be glorified in all of this.

Stay healthy,

Matt Tomlinson, Jacob England, and the elders of Maranatha Bible Church