

# Church School Reports

2022

## Lower School - Christina Drauden/Lena Key

This year, during 2021, Christina Drauden taught the younger church school. Currently, Christina is not teaching because she just had her baby, so Lena Key is substituting. The placement of ages was not necessarily determined by age, but by the wishes of the child and parent.

The younger children have been working their way through the Bible, beginning with the Old Testament. We have been using the Children's Bible Reader, published by the American Bible Society. The illustrations look a lot like Byzantine-style icons, and the text is in child-friendly language. Many thanks go to the Bowman family for letting us use their copy of the book!

The children began the church school year by learning about Creation and have gone through Jacob and Esau reconciling after Jacob received Esau's blessing from Isaac. Beginning today (February 6), we have paused the progression through the Old Testament and are now learning about each Sunday on the liturgical calendar as we prepare for Great Lent and Holy Pascha. Today the children learned about Zacchaeus meeting Jesus, and next week they will learn about the Publican and the Pharisee. After Pascha we will resume our Old Testament lessons.

For each church school session, the children hear and discuss the story of the day from the Children's Bible Reader and then complete a craft related to the day's lesson. After the craft they color an icon that is related to the day's lesson or that is related to the Saint(s) the church commemorates on that day.

We ask for your continued prayers as we do our best to guide the children to learn more about their faith and the teachings of the Church.

## **Upper School - Harvest Bowman**

This year Harvest Bowman has been teaching the older Church School.

In the older class, using a Bible Reader approved by the Orthodox church, Harvest is taking the students through the Old Testament. They use *The Golden Children's Bible* and employ the Memoria Press curriculum for aid. The class practices reading from the children's Bible and answering questions about the people of the Old Testament, and the meanings behind their amazing stories. Currently, they are learning about Joseph, son of Jacob, and his story. However, the class began with learning about the Creation of the World.