

2022 Church School Report – Younger Children
Presented by Christina Drauden

- I began teaching the younger children for the 2021-2022 school year. I work with children as young as 3 up to age 9.
- In the beginning of 2022 we were still in the old building at a coffee hour table we commandeered with our markers, scissors, and glue. I was out with the new baby so Lena Key, Melinda Bowman, and many others stepped in to teach the students in my absence.
 - In 2021 Fr. Chrysostom agreed on the Church School year theme of teaching the children major events of the Old Testament, which we started in September 2021. These OT lessons continued through the beginning of 2022.
 - In January 2022 we switched gears to focus on Theophany, the 3 Holy Hierarchs, and then explored the weekly themes from pre-Lent, Lent, Holy Week, Pascha, and the Paschal season. We ended the Church School year in late May.
 - Each session consisted of a beginning prayer, short lesson on the week's theme, a craft/icon coloring page, and an ending prayer. We also learned common prayers, hymns, and actions (like prostrations, when to bow, and making the sign of the cross)
- We had a summer break and when we reconvened we were in our new building where we meet in the nursery. We have a space of our own!
 - The new Church School year began in September 2022.
 - We are piloting the Ancient Faith curriculum written by Arlyn Kantz that takes us through the Acts of the Apostles and we are in the midst of that.
 - The 3 key themes we are focusing on are church growth, miracles, and persecution and the saints we come across as we explore those topics.
- Looking forward
 - Finish Acts curriculum
 - Appoint a Church School Coordinator for Fall 2023
 - Possibly create a Church School class for children younger than 5 years old for Fall 2023