September 13, 2009

Dear Church School Families,

Welcome Back to a new year of Church School! This year we are opening our program with activities based on this year's theme – "We are Stewards of the Earth." This theme draws upon the "Going Green" initiatives currently prevalent in the secular world, the OCA's "Caring For God's Creation" resources, as well as the "God's Green Earth" theme adopted by St. Vladimir's for their upcoming Orthodox Education Day. The children will focus on ways that they can be good caretakers of God's creation and we hope you will too!

Attached you will find this year's Church School Calendar (double sided in keeping with our theme!). The major feast days are noted in ***bold italics*** on the date they fall or the Sunday prior. Your reinforcement of these feast days at home will help the children understand their significance. I have included a "Parent's Guide to Feast Days and Holy Days" for your information.

We would also like your continued support in helping your children learn some of the major prayers. These prayers will be reinforced during church school lessons as well. The "general guidelines" we previously established for learning these prayers are as follows:

Learning to bless yourself	preschool
The Golden Rule	K/1 grade
The Lord's Prayer	2/3 grade
The Ten Commandments/Communion prayer	4/5 grade
The Creed	6/7 grade

If you have any questions about your child's participation in church school, please feel free to contact me at 459-1219 or Lemc15@aol.com. Your continued support is appreciated and vital to our church school program.

Yours in Christ,

Laura Coughlin, Church School Coordinator