

Apostles Sunday School Class Description

Ages: This class is designed for students in grades 4-6. If you have a question about which class is the best fit for your child, please contact Monica Ness, Director of Christian Formation.

Curriculum: Our curriculum is called the Episcopal Children's Curriculum and was written by the Virginia Theological Seminary. The lessons have a three year cycle and each week there is a familiar structure which will provide a safe and familiar learning space for all children and especially children with unique learning/classroom environment needs.

Arrival and Departure: Children begin the morning in the worship service with their parents. Immediately after the announcements, children are dismissed to class. We meet until 10:45 a.m. The teacher ends the class with a handshake and a thank you to each child. The children return to the sanctuary and join their parents for communion and the remainder of the worship service.

Rhythm of the Lesson:

Gathering – An introduction to the lesson often Collect from the Book of Common Prayer. We normally review the previous week's lesson.

Introducing the story – The teacher will share a Bible story. We may use a “newspaper” called the *Covenant Times* that builds on the Bible story. This newspaper is fun and shares the story with a more contemporary point of view.

Activities – This will vary from Sunday to Sunday and include working puzzles like cross words or word scrambles, writing/drawing in response to the theme, playing a game, readers' theater, etc.

Group Discussion – Teachers lead a final wrap up of the lesson's key point.

Memory verse – As time allows, the memory verse will be learned using some quick interactive games.

Collection cards and Covenant Times Take Home Items – The collection cards are like baseball cards. The cards have a picture and scripture or key information from the lesson. The *Covenant Times* newspaper has child friendly information about the lesson and activities to continue at home.

