**First Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Faith Statement Guidelines**

A faith statement is a summary of what you believe, hope, and trust. The finished project will be your own statement of faith in God, your Savior Jesus Christ, and the presence of the Holy Spirit in your life. Your faith statement should answer the question, “What is my relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit?” There’s no one right way to write a faith statement. For some of you it will natural to write out a faith statement. For others it may make more sense to be creative with video, art, music, or dance. This is YOUR faith statement. Have fun thinking about how you can best express your sense of God’s work in your life. The following are some suggestions or ideas to consider as you work on your faith statement:

1. SHARE YOUR BELIEFS. Don’t begin by thinking, “How long does it have to be?” The answer is however long it takes to tell your story.
2. BE HONEST. Don’t worry about saying the right or wrong thing. Your faith statement isn’t graded or corrected, it is an opportunity to express yourself without fear.
3. BE CREATIVE. You can write a poem, song, or children’s book. You could create an art piece along with a written description on what inspired you to create it. Other ideas might be to play a piece of music or share a dance along with a written description on what inspired you to play/create it.
4. BE YOU. Share your beliefs in a way that best fits you.
5. SHARE A BIBLE VERSE. However you decide to do your faith statement, please include a favorite Bible Verse.

Here are some questions to consider as you work on your faith statement. Focus on one or two options as you formulate how you will share your beliefs.

1. What do you believe about who God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are & what they have done?
2. How have you seen God at work in your life? How has God been present in your life during your struggles? How has God been present in your life during joyful times? Have you ever been transformed or changed through your faith?
3. What does it mean to you to be confirmed? How are you planning on becoming involved in the life of the church now that you will be a confirmed member? Why is faith important to you?
4. How do you see yourself serving Christ throughout your life using the gifts God has given you?
5. Share a story of your life that helps illustrate what your faith is all about or how your faith in God has shaped you into who you are today.
6. Write about how your faith and view of God, Jesus, and being part of the church has changed since you started Confirmation. What has led to these changes in your faith? Is faith more important to you now? Why?
7. Who have been ‘key’ people who have been influential in your faith development? Why did you select that individual or individuals? How have they influenced you?

Remember that faith is a lifelong journey. This faith statement isn’t meant to be a final document, but a journal entry along your lifelong journey of faith. Confirmation is just one chapter in your life; it is not the end of your faith journey; it’s only the beginning.

The liturgy for the Affirmation of Baptism describes the faith practices that grow out of our baptism (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, page 236). We are to: “… **live** among God’s faithful people; **hear** the word of God and share in the Lord’s Supper; **proclaim** the good news of God in Christ through word and deed; **serve** all people following the example of Jesus; and **strive** for justice and peace in all the earth.”

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**Faith Statement Outline**

My faith statement idea is: written statement art video poem write a song

 write a children’s book dance other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supplies I will need to complete my faith statement:

I will focus on the following questions:

These are the steps I will take to complete my faith statement:

One of my favorite Bible Verses includes: