

Expressions of Faith

What is a statement of faith? It can be two things. First, the Church from the beginning has adopted statements (like the Apostles' Creed) that articulate the faith of the church. Although we may not all feel like we totally believe all the words at all times, we have these statements so we can come back to the things we believe in common.

It also can be a personal reflection on faith. We all go a life-long faith journey, and no two days will look the same. What we believe right now will not be what we believe in ten years – maybe not even ten days!

Often, we ask people to articulate their own faith as part of the process of discerning whether or not they should join the church. We do this in the confirmation to help students understand what it is they believe now, and how that fits in to the beliefs of the Church.

There are many ways to express our faith. Some people write, some paint, some sculpt, some sing. A trip to a museum or a night at a concert hall often show us how varied expressions of faith can be.

For confirmation, we are asking every student to have some expression of faith by May 9th, when the confirmation students will be meeting with our elders.

What might that expression of faith look like?

- Written work, such as a statement like a creed, a poem, a short story – you name it!
- A piece of artwork, such as painting, photography, sculpture, etc. (including even the pottery many have already made) accompanied by something written to explain its meaning
- An original piece of music

What issues might you want to address?

- Who is God? What is God like?
- What is your relationship with God? Jesus? The Holy Spirit?
- What is important about Jesus? Is Jesus somebody I feel like I can follow?
- What do I think about God's love?
- How is God related to the environment?
- What do I think the purpose of my life is? How does God relate to that purpose?
- What is the purpose of the Church?

Whatever you choose, please talk to me in person, call me, or send me an email to let me know about your choice. **It's important that these expressions of faith be ready by May 9th.**