

What is a Faith Story?

Your Faith Story gives you an opportunity to:

- Reflect on your life, faith, and your confirmation experience.
- Identify how God has helped shape you through this faith formation process.
- Express your trust in Christ and how that will help you live out your faith.

On your confirmation day you will declare your belief in Jesus Christ, your faith in the Triune God, and state that you desire to continue in the Christian faith. One of the ways you will do that is by creating a Faith Story.

Faith Story

Each confirmand is expected to create a Faith Story. This will serve as the basis for their three minute speech or media project. As we've learned in confirmation, our story is really a story of God's work in our life. As a result our testimonies should focus on how Jesus has formed the individual and his or her faith. Each one page story will be collected in a book of faith stories that we can look back to for years to come.

Draft: Minimum of one page, typed and double-spaced.

Due: The first draft is due one month prior to the confirmation date.

Your story should address the following questions:

1. Do I believe in the Triune God, the inspiration of Scripture, and the power of the Sacraments?
2. What does my confirmation verse mean for me?
3. How has your instruction (confirmation class, worship, and Bible study) impacted your faith?
4. Do I believe that I have been redeemed by Christ? If so, how will that impact my life?
5. Who has God created me to be? What gifts has he given me to use to His glory?

Faith Stories may be delivered in the form of a speech, or you may create a project using additional media.

Speech- If you choose to deliver your Faith Story in the form of a speech, you are encouraged to add personal anecdotes and details to your one page draft to construct a three minute speech.

Media project - You may want to add to your one page story by with a power point, pictures, music, video, or another approved medium. Please respect the three minute time allowance. For example, it wouldn't make sense to play an entire four minute song and introduce it with your single page draft. If you have any questions about what would be acceptable please contact John Durkin (john.durkin@poplc.org) before you begin your preparation.

Questions designed to help you with your speech or media project:

1. Describe a time God answered a prayer
2. Describe a time that God used a particular event to help you grow in your faith.
3. How has God used you as a witness for Him?
4. How do you feel God's presence in your life, and what specifically helps you feel close to Him?

Who Can Help You?

Creating your faith statement is not something you do alone. We encourage you to identify a faith coach and a staff advisor.

Faith Coach: Ideally a faith coach could be a parent, grandparent, godparent, or mentor. This is an adult that knows you well and follows Christ. If those people aren't available you might consider your small group leader.

Staff Advisor: Each confirmand should also choose a staff advisor from Prince of Peace. These servants of God are here to help you. They will proof read your material, offer suggestions for possible improvements, and pray for you and with you when needed.

Basic Examples, both could use a little work, but they should get you moving in the right direction:
Whom Shall I Fear? A Faith Story

“The Lord is my light and my salvation-whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life-of whom shall I be afraid” (Psalms 27:1).

I chose this verse because I believe that if I keep Jesus as the focus of my life, He will lead me on the right path, and always keep me safe from the evils of this world.

I believe He will keep the darkness out, and be my light. I know that I am a sinner, and often I head toward darkness. But I know the Holy Spirit is going to remind me that I need to turn to Jesus. The Holy Spirit will guide me to pray and change my behavior so I can continue to walk unafraid with God the Father.

My verse also reminds me that I do not need to fear death. I know this because Jesus died on the cross to take away the darkness and pain, and He replaces it with light and salvation.

I take comfort in knowing that Christ went through the darkness and suffering just to save someone like me, a sinner. This verse helps me remember that Jesus will protect me from evil and darkness, and someday I will be safe in God the Father’s kingdom.

This verse helps me trust in Jesus, and remain faithful to His Word and the promise of grace in the sacraments. I trust Jesus for my comfort and security.

In His Hands: A Faith Story

The bible verse that I picked out is Isaiah 64:8 “But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.”

Jesus Christ molds my life and reassures me of many things.

Jesus loves me and died for me. I am saved and can look forward to spending forever with Him.

God created me and I have been made in His image and with a purpose to serve Him. This is all possible because Jesus Christ, the Son of God, came to earth to die for the sins of the world so that we could live with Him eternally!

This verse is a comfort to remember when I’m stressed about school or dealing with other problems. It reminds me that sometimes a piece of clay needs to be slammed against a table a few times before its ready to be made into a beautiful piece of pottery.

Faith formation can hurt, but it’s good to remember that many of these hurts also help us to become stronger Christians. I know that in the same way a potter has a specific plan for each piece of clay, the Lord has a specific plan for each of us.

Going into high school next year I’ll be faced with lots of decisions. What will I get involved with? What kind of people I will spend time with? And most importantly, what kind of person I am going to be as I mature into an adult? It’s an amazing feeling to know that I will have the Creator of the universe by my side through all the ups and downs of my life.

I’m young and the fact that I can’t know what will happen in the future is terrifying, but to know that I’m in the palm of God’s hand gives me peace. I look forward to sharing that peace with others God sends my way.