

# **Book of Faith Statements**



## **2012 Confirmation Class**

## Abby, 7th grade

God is many things to me-

Friend  
Only God  
Risen

Glorious  
Overthrows sin and darkness  
Deliverer

Spirit comforts, protects, and gives gifts and wisdom  
Opens doors

Lives in our hearts  
Outstretches His arms to welcome us home  
Very loving  
Enriches our lives  
Doesn't care what we look like

Three parts: Father, Son, Holy Spirit  
Holy  
Everlasting

Will move mountains in my life  
Oversees everything we do  
Reveals His love for us in the Bible  
Lamb of God  
Died to save us from eternal separation from Him

Taught me that He has plans for my life and no matter how many times I  
mess up, I am still loved and forgiven  
Helpful  
Able to do anything  
The Bible is true from cover to cover

**H**eaven's ruler  
**E**vil flees His presence

**G**ood  
**A**ll good gifts come from Him  
**V**ictorious over sin  
**E**veryone is His creation, and we are called to be unique

**H**eals what hurts  
**I**f we believe in Jesus, we will be saved (Acts 16:31)  
**S**ummons us to show His amazing love to the world

**O**mnipresent, omnipotent, omniscient  
**N**oble  
**L**ight of the world  
**Y**outh-renewing

**S**pirit calls me to share my ideas and individuality with the church  
**O**ffers salvation to everyone  
**N**ever gives up on me

## **Kelly, 7th grade**

I believe that God is my guide. He guides me through rough times and helps me to do the right thing and influence others to also do the right thing. I also believe that he is a father to everything on earth. I believe that he made the glorious earth and the highest heaven. God has almighty power and created the good in people. I believe that God calls me to spread his name and to be kind to others, help the earth, and make sad children happy. To me God is the Holy Spirit.

I believe that Jesus is the son of God. I believe that he had once been on earth and died for us on the cross. I believe that he is a loving and caring person who sacrificed himself for the life of more people. I believe that he will forgive us when we admit what we did wrong and listen when we thank him and talk to him about troubles. I also believe that he will really think and appreciate what we say. I believe that Jesus went through an unbelievable amount of pain, but he gave that pain so we are forgiven for our sins. To be a follower of Jesus means the world to me. I want to follow in his footsteps and make the right decision when I am in a tough situation. Jesus is an amazing person and I am happy to be a follower of him.

I think the role of Christians and the church is to spread God's name. I also think that if you see someone who doesn't believe or has a hard time believing in God of Jesus that Christians need to help them and maybe try to slowly get them to believe. I think everyone in the church should try to go on mission trips to places as big as Haiti and to little places in the town like the SPCA to make a difference and help. I also think Christians should volunteer to read a scripture in church, do the offering, and express their talents in church.

This year in confirmation I learned that God has a specific reason to put us on earth. I learned that God has called each individual to play a role in the world and work together to make it happen. God has great power and created the world. I also learned what it meant to become a part of the church. In confirmation I learned that I was called from God for a reason and he put me on this earth to accomplish it. In confirmation I also became closer to Jesus and God and closer to friends.

I believe that the Bible helps me understand the Christian role that people play in the world. It also might help me to decide the right things and the wrong things to do in life. If I need a good understanding of Jesus and his life story I would go to the Bible for help.

## Duncan, 8th grade

As a Follower and Christian, I believe that  
God is the Creator  
The Almighty  
The Never-Ending  
And the Lover

Jesus Christ is the  
Savior  
The Prince of Peace  
The Son of God  
The Messiah  
And the Redeemer

The Holy Spirit is the  
Feeling of God  
The Presence of God  
The Spirit  
And the Comforter

The role of the church is to  
Cure the sick  
Feed the hungry  
Help the poor  
And spread God's word

Because God is the Creator  
Jesus is my Savior  
And the Holy Spirit is the Presence of God,  
I can live my life without fearing sin or death  
I can be happy  
I can feel safe  
And I can spread the Word  
Throughout my life.

### **Mia, 7th grade**

I believe God is our savior and guide in life. When I feel uncomfortable un a situation I know that God is with and beside me.

I know Jesus is the body of Christ and he died for my sins.

I believe the Holy Spirit is God beside me but I can't see him. I can feel him and that he is there supporting me the whole time.

I believe a church is where I can practice my religion and learn about God and Jesus. Church is where I feel comfortable with people similar to me.

The Bible is a book that I can read to learn more about your religion.

I believe as a member of Dorchester Presbyterian that I need to pray and learn about Christianity. I will attend church and participate in youth group, Sunday school, and help in the nursery. I will also work on community projects to help others.

## **Ansley, 7th grade**

Growing up in life has changed many ways that I have perceived God and Jesus Christ. When I was a little girl, I used to believe what was taught about Jesus and God. I believed what came out of the teacher's mouth, and believed it because everyone else in my life did. I continue to thrive in the Christian faith, but now in a more personal and self-taught way. I've come to establish a personal belief of who God and Jesus are and what a Christian person and their faith is. My beliefs are more personal now, and not just based off of someone else's thoughts and/or feelings. I've taught myself, and come to know these things through my mind, and an open heart to God and Jesus Christ.

In confirmation class, I've been able to really focus on who God and Jesus Christ are. God is more than the father of Jesus, the creator, and more powerful being in there is. I believe God is the teacher who shows you the right from the wrong, and the one who puts every aspect in your life together for a purpose. Jesus is much more than the leader of the disciples and God's son. I believe Jesus is the one who died on the cross for everyone's sins no matter who they are, and the one who will judge and grade your life story at the gates of heaven. Jesus and God are more than what I have been taught while growing up. They hold huge roles in my life, and are two teachers and role models I get to know and build stronger relationships with each day.

I believe the role of the Church and Christians in the world is to spread God's word, help and support those less fortunate than ourselves, and be kind, giving, loving, and caring people. In Dorchester Presbyterian Church, I believe that every single person in our congregation are these things. I thank everyone for being the supportive, caring, loving, comforting, and teaching people they are. When I see the other people in our congregation, it makes me want to know what they see of me in my faith and myself. What I hope and want the people to see in me and my faith is that I am a mature, giving, sharing, supporting, and kind person. I want them to see me as someone who represents our beliefs and our church family in a mature and holy manner.

Throughout my life, people always ask "What is God calling you to do in your life?" I know part of what I want to be is a responsible, mature, loving, and caring person. At times my calling seems unknown, and at times I can just say something that pops in my mind. At times I feel ashamed at looking around and people having lists upon lists of what they want to be when they grown up. But after thinking about it, I found there is nothing to be ashamed of. I don't exactly know what I want to be when I grow up, but I do know how I want to act and what I want people to see in me at my work. When I think about it this way, I know there's nothing to be afraid or ashamed of because God will always be there with me. I feel he's just waiting for the right time to show me so when the times comes, I know I will be fully ready.

## **Savannah, 7th grade**

I believe Jesus is our savior. He saved us from our sins. He died for us for our mistakes in life. Jesus is also God's son that teaches us from wrong and right. To be a follower of Jesus is like being a disciple. Also I am happy to be a follower and to learn and live for Jesus.

I believe God is the Father Almighty and that God is our way through life to show us love and how to love. When you know that something is wrong you know that God is there to help you through the bad situation. I have learned that no matter what, when you do something bad, God still forgives you. I think that God calls us to do anything with our life, to follow your dreams and to learn from your mistakes so you don't do it again. I also learned that in the stories in the Bible God helped many people and was there for them whenever they needed it.

The role of the church and the Christians in the world is to spread the word and to worship God in many ways. I can go out and tell the world about the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. When people have no one to look up to or when they are going through a rough time and need help, we can tell them about God and Jesus. We can worship God, Jesus, or the Holy Spirit by praying, singing, talking, and playing any kind of way. There are many more ways to worship and spread the word of God.

I believe that God called me to follow my dreams as well as to set goals and to try to achieve my goals. I think that as we get older God has a plan for us being a child of God. He wants us to do what we set our minds to and believe in yourself and believe in God. Even though we might make mistakes along the way to setting our goals and following our dreams God will always forgive and love us. I might make a difference in the church by worshiping more in any way I can. That's what I believe and feel that God, Jesus, and the Holy spirit is and what they call me to do.

## **Taylor, 9th grade**

I believe God is the great "I am"

The Holy Spirit is continuous love that is carried with you even when you can't see it.

The Church is a place where you can practice your own religion and be yourself without anyone judging you, a place where you have a loving family aside from inside your own house.

The Bible is filled with god's ideas and a Christian's helpful guide to living a healthy Christian life.

The Church should be a place where you can be yourself, and have fun while learning about God.

I believe that I as a Christian and a member of this church, should value everyone's opinions, be friendly, and respect my elders along with my peers and to follow the Churches rules. I believe that I should love everyone in the congregation, no matter what age or ethnicity.

## Danielle, 8th grade

God is my father, maker and friend. He protects, nurtures, and leads me. He is merciful and one whom I praise. God's grace gives us hope in times of despair and helps us realize and refuse the power of evil. God's relationship with me is very important to me. It lets me know he is always there watching and protecting me from the wrongdoings of this world. God's forgiveness has saved this world from the powers of evil.

Jesus is my leader and mentor, born in human form to show me how to live my life. Because he is fully human and fully God, he guides me to do the Christian thing even if it is difficult and he understands temptations and pain. In John 15:16 Jesus says "You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit ...". Jesus leads me as I follow him into my life dedicated to him and God. I follow him because he guides me with love, compassion, and understanding. He truly loves us because he was willing to die for our sins, something that he never possessed. To follow Jesus means you have devoted your life to him and will not only be followers but teachers to others through personal experience and the Bible. We are giving him full control of our lives, trusting in him.

The Holy Spirit is always there, surrounding us, guiding us to do what God wants us to do. It is the living God on this earth. It leads us through life into the righteousness of heaven. It gives us the strength to preach God's word, help save others, and love those who don't express love back to me.

The Bible is something we should base our life off of. We shouldn't be afraid of the Bible because it is God's plan for us. It seems very long or boring at times, but I believe it gives us prayers, joys, and guidelines how to live.

The role of the church is to provide a safe place where Christians can express their faith in God without being criticized, humiliated, made fun of, or bullied in any form. It should provide the support to all from the congregation and allow the individualities of any type of person. The church should allow anybody, no matter race, social status, wealth, or personality, to worship and praise the maker of all living things on this earth.

As fellow Christians we are called to express God's love through our actions, words, the Bible, and our teaching. We are showed by the example of Jesus how to live Christian lives and show the Christian life to others. We need to express gratitude and thanks to God and Jesus Christ for saving and leading us as children of God. We also need to have faith in God's plan for us.

During confirmation I have learned that God loves us so much he sent his one son to save us all, and sometimes life gets so busy and we get so caught up in reality we don't acknowledge his love for us. Also, God set the sacraments before us to help us renew our faith and trust in him. I have learned that I question and wonder a lot. I think confirming my faith will help me believe in everything, but still allow me to wonder and question to make my faith stronger. Confirmation has made my faith in God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit grow and mature.

My role in this world is to seek out nonbelievers and help them with compassion instead of anger. I also need to ignore outside voices that tempt me to drift away from God. I will change the lives of others through my actions. I will illustrate what followers of God are called to do by showing God's love to everyone. My role is to show that God loves us all.



## **2010 Confirmation Class**

**Trenton, 7th grade, 2010**

I believe

In the almighty father

Creator of Heaven and Earth

Who loves us as his children

Who is my shepherd

And I am one of his sheep

In his son Jesus

Who lived and died for us

For are sins

Who died on the cross

Suffered for us

In the Holy Spirit

That helps me

Helps others

Leads me down the right path

In the Church

His Temple

Were I learn

About him

About Jesus

Where I go

The right place for me

Where I sing

Where we love one another

I want to learn more

About him

More about the church

The ways of the church

I want to help

Saving others

The ones not as lucky as me

I hope others see what I see

I hope they love others

Love God

The creator

The lover of the world.

**Alexis, 7th grade, 2010**

I believe God...  
welcomes everyone into heaven  
forgives our sins  
that there is only one God  
everything created by Him is good  
grants us eternal life.

I believe Jesus...  
is the Son of God  
The Messiah  
Saviour of our sins  
carried His own cross  
Son of Man  
teaches us to care for others

I believe the Holy Spirit...  
guides our way of life  
is with us all the time  
inspires us to grow and learn  
came to stay and comfort us  
loves us

I believe...  
God is calling me to share His love with others  
God has a purpose for my life  
My calling may change during my life  
We are all children of God.

## Collin, 7th grade, 2010

I believe that God...

Is the creator of everything,  
Is always there and is always looking over us,  
Knows what will happen in everyone's future,  
Picked Mary to be Jesus' mother and picked Joseph to be Jesus' father,  
Makes no mistakes,  
Created life for a certain reason,  
Welcomes everyone to heaven,  
Will see us when we die,  
Hears people's prayers.

I believe that Jesus...

Saved us,  
Is the son of God,  
Was tortured, died on the cross, and rose from the dead,  
Can heal disease and famine,  
Was born in a manger,  
Was the son of Mary and the son of Joseph.

I believe that the Holy Spirit...

Is God's presence in Earth today,  
Is shown through actions,  
A thing that makes people believe in God,  
Is everything.

I believe the Bible...

Is the book of God,  
Is God's message to everyone,  
Was written by many people,  
Is true,  
Is the word of the Lord,  
States the mistakes of the disciples and other people,  
Is a guideline for life.

I believe the Church...

Should welcome everyone in,  
Is God's house and a temple for God,  
Is a holy place,  
A place where everyone is equal,  
Place of nurture,  
Place of peace and love.

I believe I...

Should try and follow the Ten Commandments,  
Should try and spread the word of God,  
Should learn and believe about the Bible, Jesus, The Holy Spirit, the Church, and God,  
Should pray and ask God for forgiveness every day.

**Justyn, 7th grade, 2010**

I believe in Jesus Christ, and that he  
is the Son of God  
is the judge and the shepherd  
is the king of kings  
is the king of Jews  
is the true witness  
was born in a stable  
died on the cross for our sins  
rose from the dead

I believe in the Holy Spirit, and that it  
is represented by the dove and fire  
guides our way of life  
is part of the Trinity

I believe in God the Father, and that he  
sent his only Son to forgive our sins  
is the Father  
created the world  
loves the Earth and everything on it  
gives grace to the world

I believe that the church is  
God's house  
a place to learn more about God  
a place to worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

I believe that I am  
a disciple of God  
part of God's wonderful creations  
called to make a difference in other people's lives

## Austin, 7th grade, 2010

I believe God

Never forgets us or turns his back on us  
Inspires us to find happiness  
Encourages us to be better  
    Closer to the nature He designed us to be  
Gives us the ways He wants us to live  
Gives signs he's still in the world  
Is the First, the Father, and the Creator  
Gives us a choice to follow Him  
Imbues us with a desire to be loved  
    And loves us always, completely  
Forgives all our sins, always  
Gives us a land  
    Of peace  
    Of dreams  
    Of hopes  
    Of joy  
In Heaven  
Wants us to live with,  
And within  
His ways forever

I believe Jesus

Is the Messenger of God  
Showed the world God's ways  
    How to love  
    To reconcile and forgive  
    To be at peace within,  
    To overcome our fears  
Provides us with an example  
    Of selfless sacrifice  
    And a flawless life  
Puts a face on the figure of God  
Opens the door to the Kingdom  
Washed away our sins  
Gives his body and his blood to us  
    In wine and in bread

I believe the Holy Spirit

Comes to us in different ways—  
    A dove,  
    A flame  
Worked miracles then  
Works miracles now,  
And will continue—forever  
Completes the Trinity of

The Father  
And The Son

I believe the Bible  
Is the Word of God  
Teaches the ways of Christ  
Contains life lessons  
Was written by ordinary people  
    To explain the extraordinary words of God  
Is our sanctuary  
    In times of hardship  
And our guide  
    In times of peace

**Evan, 7th grade, 2010**

I believe that God...  
is the lord

I believe that Jesus...  
is the savior  
is the king of Jews  
is the messiah

I believe the church...  
is a place of worship  
is a temple

I believe the holy spirit...  
is the spirit of Jesus