

Faith Statement

Hello my name is Karinna Welter; and I go to Eden Prairie Highschool. I would like to start off with a short prayer. Dear God, thank you for my experience of confirmation and this opportunity to share my faith statement. I want to thank you for giving me the ability to be able to speak from my heart, in god's name amen. I believe that God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are our saviors. I believe that God created the earth. That Jesus died for our sins, so that I could have eternal life. And that the Holy Spirit helped me develop my faith. God first said "Yes" to me when I was baptised, and I was saying "Yes" to him as well. By getting baptised my parents wanted me to be a part of his world, and learn as much as I can from him. In my understanding saying "Yes" to God was just a part of who my parents wanted me to be, and I'm glad they chose that for me. I chose to continue to say "Yes" to him because I have learned so much about all of the sacrifice he has done for us, and I want to make all of that sacrifice worth it. Of course it is all worth it, but I want him to know that I really care about our relationship. When my parents first told me that I was starting confirmation, I was scared. Scared that I wouldn't know anybody, scared I wouldn't make friends, and scared that people would judge me. But when I got there and I saw who was in my group, I knew everything would be ok. Seeing that I had friends in my small group made me happy, it made me want to keep coming not just for learning about God and Jesus. But to learn about all of this with other people, it helped me with living my faith. It is important to me because growing into an active faith is also me growing as a person. And that is very important to me. My relationship with God has helped me make new friends at church, but it hasn't affected my other relationships. Not only did I make new friends, but they were there for the same reasons I was. And that was to learn so much about God our savior, that one day we could teach it to other younger kids. I know how learning your faith can be scary, but with other people who once pretty recently also had to learn will help. The presence of God has made a difference in my church life, because I was shy my

first year of confirmation. But I feel like I opened up more in my last 2 years of confirmation, and I think it's because I became more confident in my faith. When times are hard, I like to take some time to myself and say a short prayer for myself and for other people. And I pray that people get better and are healed. Sometimes when I am having a hard time looking for stuff or trying to find lost items, I'll take a break and pray to God that I'll find it and that everything will be ok. Psalm 119:89 "Your word, Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens". I like this bible verse because I think it stands true and lives up to its meaning. Another verse is Proverbs 17:13 "Evil will never leave the house of one who pays back evil for good". This has been helpful for me; because if something good happens to me and I decide to be evil or mean back, then the evil will stay with me. This means if something good happens then I should always be grateful and happy. I plan to remain in God's family by being a confirmation student leader. I think it will be a good thing for me to help younger kids who are starting to learn about their faith. I will teach them about how learning about god can change your life in huge impactful ways. My bible verse is 1 Corinthians 9:26 "I will run with purpose in every step". I liked this verse as soon as I saw it. There's no particular reason why I like it, it just sort of clicked. It encourages me to know that everything I do has a purpose, and that I will not do anything without having a purposeful outcome. My expression of faith is my softball cleat. I think this works very well with my bible verse and softball is very important to me. I am passionate about softball, and I know I do everything on the field with a purpose. So I thought that would be something good to express my faith. And now I would like to close with a prayer. Dear God, thank you for giving me the gift to live an active faith. And for saying "yes" to me and letting me learn about you and your ways with the world, and most of all having a relationship with me where I can talk to you about anything, in God's name Amen.