

CONFIRMATION 2016 PREPARATION FOR YOUR FAITH STATEMENT

You may find using a timeline helpful. Here are some suggestions for developing such a timeline:

- A. Draw a timeline from left to right on a sheet of paper, the left being your birth and the right being the present.
 - B. On the timeline, mark and identify, by year, significant events (or turning points) in your life.
 - C. Above the line, what else was going on at that time in world & national history, in U.S & WNY Episcopal church, at St. John's and St. Andrews; interview a long-term member of either church and find out what he or she remembers)
 - D. Below the line, describe your awareness of God. Do you think God was present or absent in that event? What do think God was doing at that time?
 - E. Look at the entire timeline. Do you see any patterns? What is your experience with God so far? Is your relationship with God growing?
 - F. Perhaps now you can begin to write out (or outline) your story. Tell how God has been present your life and what the result has been when you have recognized God's presence.
 - G. Write a faith statement that begins: I believe.....
3. Keep in mind that this story is not intended to be a "confession" or "tell all." If there are very personal events that you do not wish to share that is OK. The important thing to share is the result of your faith journey which is your statement of faith. It is the way you see God in your life right now. This is a life long journey. Your faith statement may be different as you encounter more experiences with God over time.
4. The following is a partial list of people from both churches who have been 'long term members' :
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|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <u>St. Andrews</u> | <u>St. Johns</u> |
| Dorothy Haas | Lois Carter |
| Virginia (Ginnie) Rowland | Bob Colangelo |
| Wes & Pauline Wright | Norm Kopeck |
| Shirley Litz | Keith & Sharon Rhodes |
| Margaret Moran | Millie High |
| Judi Naylor | Beth Pyskaty (Atfield) |
| Mike & Liz Depew | Denise Failla (Bateman) |
| May McNally | Jerilyn Carney (Bateman) |
| Larry & Prudy Waters | Lois Bateman |
| Jean Mayer | Priscilla Moot |
| Doug & Bonnie Wintersteen | Marsha Sabie |
| Gary Cheasty | Jamie Hamilton(Figura) |
| Gerry & Cindy Harrington | Dennis Desso |