This year's confirmation class has been meeting since February 14, and they have been working with Ann and Frank Aichinger and Josie Russell in discussing aspects of the Christian faith in order to make a profession of faith. This year's class has been:

Lauren Eckley, mentored by Helen Scott Madison Campbell, mentored by Lois Clarke Nicholas Fuller, mentored by Randy Morris Maddy Wilson, mentored by Mary Wampler

Alisa Harris, mentored by Niki McGrew

They were received by Profession of Faith by the session on May 15, and will be introduced on Sunday, May 20.



# **My Faith Statement Lauren Eckley**



I believe that our God is the definition of perfect. God cares about every aspect of our lives because God is all about love. We, as God's children, know that our God is the reason for anything and everything. Something I've always believed is that everything happens for a reason. I now know that the reason is Jesus. Jesus puts all of the joy in my life. He's blessed me with my amazing family and friends, but he's also blessed me with every challenge I'll ever face in my life. Jesus gives me these challenges not to scare me, but to help me grow in his trust and that is the biggest blessing of all.

The Holy Spirit is constantly at work in my life through everything I do. Every decision, every hardship and every prayer, the Holy Spirit is right there next to me, guiding me through the life he already has planned out for me. That's why I want to be a part of this church, to continue the life God already has for me. This church is a way to build my relationship with God because we are all here for the same purpose, that is to worship our Lord.

I learned a lot of amazing things during the past few months of Confirmation Class. The most important lesson to me was that in the short run, we can mess up God's plan, but in the long run, God wins. God always wins. I feel so blessed to have gone through Confirmation with Ann, Frank and my other amazing classmates. I am so excited to become a part of Central Presbyterian and be active in the youth program.

#### My Faith Statement Alisa Harris

This is what I believe. God is our father, our creator, our teacher and someone who sees the good in all of us. To me, God is someone who motivates me to be the best person I can be and he makes me feel safe to know that he is there for me. I see God as the most important person in our lives. I believe God will always love me and he will forgive me for my mistakes.



I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of

God. I believe that Jesus was God in human form and I believe he also loved everyone and he set examples for other people. He came to teach us how to live and how to treat others. Jesus said we should love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We are also supposed to love our neighbors as we love ourselves, and those are some of the very important things he taught us. Jesus came to earth to forgive us for our sin, and he did this by dying on the cross for us. Jesus has helped me by teaching me that everything was going to be okay, and is always there when I feel like I need to talk to someone.

The Holy Spirit is the part of God and Jesus that lives inside of me and it helps me to know that they are here with me. The Holy Spirit gives you the sense that when times are tough, someone is there for you. When I thought no one was there for me and I was going through a tough time, I always felt like there was someone there listening to me and helping me believe everything was going to be okay.



The church is somewhere we all gather together to rejoice and worship and the church is not just the building. It is also the people who are a part of the church. I want to attend worship, Youth group and go to Montreat. I also would like to explore other things to get involved in.

# My Faith Statement Madison Campbell

I believe our God is a loving, kind, and forgiving God. I believe that God is all powerful and wise in all matters. Jesus Christ is the son of God. He was sent down to earth to spread the word of God, which he was persecuted for. He died on the cross so that my sins may be forgiven. He rose again and sits at the right hand of God in heaven.

When I was baptized, that was the moment I received the Holy Spirit and accepted Christ as my lord and savior. This is when I began my Christian lifestyle. The church is not just a building, the church is a place to come to worship and serve. I will take



my membership in the church seriously and strive to be a better Christian. I hope to grow in my faith within the church and spread the word of God by my actions.

## My Faith Statement Maddy Wilson



I believe in a loving, understanding, and accepting God. I believe he is the Creator of all things and I will trust in Him. He has been with me and has guided me through every aspect of my life while also allowing me freewill to make my own decisions.

I believe in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, he sets an example of how I should live and because of his death, I have already been redeemed.

I believe the church is a family of support and should provide a place for anyone to gather, to worship, and to further my spiritual development.

My parents did not make me do this confirmation class, the Holy Spirit led me to want to be a member of this church. The Holy Spirit has provided me with comfort, strength, and guidance.

I look forward to serving Christ through the church and building my relationship with God.

## My Faith Statement Nicholas (Nic) Fuller



For his full statement (17 pages), you may ask Nic for your personal copy.

I believe that God is the creator of all things and that everything comes to life through him. God is a God full of love, grace and forgiveness and is not quick to anger.

I believe that God sent his son, Jesus, into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. I believe that God calls on all of us to respond to his grace by instructing us to live our lives according to the

teachings of Jesus. Because we acknowledge Jesus as Lord and Savior, that means we should follow his most important commandment and that is to love God and to love our neighbor. Because we love God, he gives us the gifts of the spirit, and allows us to practice love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. We can exercise those gifts by treating everyone with love and compassion and by helping the vulnerable and the outcasts, by feeding the hungry, helping the homeless, healing the sick, clothing the naked and by standing up for those who can't stand up for themselves. As Christians, we should live by God's will and not our own. We can do this by praying and by listening to what God has to say, so that it depends on God's will and not our own.

