

Statement of Faith:

As a child of God, I am in awe of God's activity. In the beauty of God's people, I recognize God's spirit and presence in my life. I recognize God in relationships, in the practice of forgiveness, in the asking of questions, in the experience of the holy. I believe in God the creator of all things who is still creating. God is love, mercy, and compassion. God created us, formed us, and is continuing to shape us today as God's beloved children. God initiated love first. Nothing can separate the unconditional love God gives us. God desires to be in relationship with us. We know this because God gave us God's son, Jesus, who is fully human and fully God. Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary. Jesus walked with us, wept with us, broke bread with us, and taught us what it means to be a follower of God. God sent Jesus to be with us, and Jesus modeled for us a way of living as faithful disciples. Jesus was mocked, beaten, and ultimately crucified on the cross. Through the resurrection, Jesus triumphed over the grave. Jesus ascended to heaven to be with God and reign with God. God gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to be a presence with us in our daily lives along our journeys of faith. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to the church. The Holy Spirit guides us as God chooses to reveal God's self to us. God, Jesus, and Holy Spirit represent the trinity, a divine dance three in one. It is through the scriptures that we learn of the Holy Spirit's presence with us. The scriptures are the Word of God, inspired by God, as recorded by human kind. The scriptures are God's story, the people Israel's story, the gospel story, and our story. We are called to be God's people and stewards of God's creation. We are all created in the image of God and created good. However, we are sinful. Our chief end is to praise God and live in response to God's grace and love. Yet our brokenness causes us to stumble. The good news for us is that we are dead to sin. By the grace of God we are given new life through the death and resurrection of Jesus and sanctified through the Holy Spirit. We are called to participate in God's activity by being the church, a body of imperfect people desiring to be in communion with God. Church is fellowship, community, and the celebration of the sacraments. We recognize God in the breaking of bread and the drinking of cup as we remember and live in hope until Christ comes again. Communion is a celebration of remembrance of what God did in Jesus Christ and is doing today. We recognize God in the waters of baptism, a proclamation of God's claim on our lives as children of God. The sacraments are visible signs of invisible grace. It is in the hope of the resurrection as people of faith that we will be united with God. I live in hope in God eternal whom I serve and praise. It is in the hope of our living God that we are called to live in obedience to the scripture, to be a voice to the voiceless and to recognize God's transforming love.

MEET THE LANES!

Here are some conversation starters!

Neeley: reading, crafts with the girls, cheering on Robert, Montreat, working out, enjoys Robert's cooking, phone dates with grandmother, spending time with three younger sisters, lake days with family, tap dancing, the PCUSA

Robert: Women's Soccer Coach at UGA, enjoys running, grilling out, craft beer, family vacations at the beach, Duke basketball, loves cookie cake

Kately (7): Loves ballet and musical theater, avid reader, pizza, enjoys being creative and experiments, piano, writing stories

Paisley (4): loves ballet and tap, Disney princesses, queen of puzzles, gymnastics, spaghetti, loves to rock her twirling dresses

MaryRantz (2): loves applesauce, baby dolls, coloring, painting, playing outside, watching her big sisters

Bailey: family dog! very old!

