

“Your gifts, whatever you discover them to be can be used to bless or curse the world.

The mind’s power, the strength of the hand, the reaches of the heart, the gift of speaking, listening, imagining, seeing, waiting.

Any of these can serve to feed the hungry, bind up wounds, welcome the stranger, praise what is sacred, do the work of justice, or offer love.

Any of these can draw down the prison door, hoard bread, abandon the poor, obscure what is holy, comply with injustice, or withhold love.

You must answer this question: What will you do with your gifts? Choose to bless the world.”

- The Reverend Rebecca Parker

We Care Mission

To respond to our neighbors with help in times of difficulty and loss

To develop closer connections between individuals and between individuals and the Cedar Lane congregation.

To help create a community culture where people feel safe to ask for what they need.

To Receive Support Through the We Care Program, Contact A We Care Chairperson for Your Neighborhood or the Associate Minister

Questions?

Contact Interim Minister for Congregational Life Michelle Collins at 301.493.8300, x204 or mollins@cedarlane.org

We Care



**A MINISTRY OF
COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**Cedar Lane Unitarian
Universalist Church**

9601 Cedar Lane
Bethesda, MD 20814

301.493.8300

www.cedarlane.org

*Photo of flower in Rock Creek Park,
near Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church*

What We Care Does

The We Care program connects Cedar Lane members and friends with tangible support in times of need. This support is organized by “neighborhood” so volunteers do not need to travel far to assist. We Care also helps Cedar Laners get to know one another and to stay connected to the congregation.

There is at least one We Care Chairperson per neighborhood who:

- Coordinates tangible support (Rides to dr. appointments, food delivery during an illness, reaching out in the event of a loss.)
- Brings the neighborhood together (Examples: a social gathering, a service project or creating a neighborhood listserv.)
- Checks in to see how you are. We often hear from the church if there is a need for money

or service. Sometimes people don't call the church when they could use support. Reaching out helps us stay connected.)

We Care cannot provide long-term support or offer help that requires the skill and experience of a clinician, social-worker or medical professional.

Why “We Care?”

There is a saying: “No one comes to a faith community to join a committee.” Many of us come to—and stay with—Cedar Lane as we want to be part of something greater than ourselves. We want to belong. We want a spiritual home, a place where we are known and supported and we can give out of our own compassion and hopes of making the world a better place.

While We Care *is* a committee of the church, it is an organized way to be together as a faith community, to become more than

a collection of individuals. We Care is a way to support each other in times of distress.

Common Questions

How do I know what neighborhood I am in?

Your neighborhood number is listed on your nametag and by your name in the church directory. You can also see a large map of the Cedar Lane neighborhoods posted in the church office and at our website: www.cedarlane.org. The directory also includes a listing of each neighborhood and its members.

How do I know who is my neighborhood chair(s)?

Neighborhood coordinators are listed in the church directory and at our website: www.cedarlane.org. As We Care leaders change from time-to-time, new coordinators are encouraged to introduce themselves at the beginning of their service.