



Dear Cedar Lane Senior High Youth, Parents and Advisors,

Summer seems to be in fast forward, at least for me. I hope yours has given you time for relaxation, reflection, and fun times with friends and family!

As we approach this church year, I've been thinking about our Senior High Youth Group (SHYG—for grades 9–12). After conversations and huddles with parents, youth and Susan we have developed a plan for the year that we expect to be both fun and meaningful. Included is an activity flier/schedule for your fridge!

The activities this year fall into three experience areas: worship, fellowship and service. We hope all will provide learning and growth and are also mindful that you will have ideas of your own! Please come to our annual in-gathering on Sunday, September 12, at 12:30 p.m. (after the second service) with suggestions and we'll decide as a group what else to add. Would you like to be a voice as one of the two teen representatives on the RE Council?

All of our events will take a bit of work to succeed. You'll see on the schedule that the Senior High Action Group (SHAG) will meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month (October will be the 3rd Sunday) to coordinate the elements. We need youth and adults to join together to plan for implementation!

When we gather on September 12, it is with a clean slate— like the freshly painted white walls of our Youth Room. Together, we will create the experiences, the reflective moments, friendships and fun that we'll all enjoy and remember. Blessings and see you on September 12, bring your calendars!

Peace, archene

OUR YEAR TOGETHER includes

WORSHIP is an important part of Unitarian Universalism and central to our faith. It allows us to celebrate life together in meaningful ways. Worship activities include designing and leading a youth worship services for a regular Sunday service in January for the whole Cedar Lane family. Obviously, we can't do intergenerational or youth focused services without your participation and support. Let's talk about what this means at the ingathering.

FELLOWSHIP is another way connections are made. Fellowship experiences are within the church (hang outs, lock ins & field trips) as reflected in our scheduled events and we'll talk at the ingathering, about events with other Unitarian Universalist youth. Typically, these other events are called "Cons" and are for UU senior high youth around the beltway. We can participate in them individually or as a group. In either case, arrangements must be made well in advance with me.

SERVICE is last but far from least. If we are to have a better world, we need to take part in creating it. Service activities this year include working again with other UUs on the annual Thanksgiving food drive for needy families; we'll also take part in two interfaith events, the Unity Walk and the Martin Luther King, Jr service day. For the interfaith events we'll be partnering with an organization that has a youth initiative that connects youth from Jewish, Protestant, Catholic, Buddhist, Hindu, Baha'i and other faith groups (like UU) to learn and work together.