

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

COMING OF AGE

The Coming of Age program for eighth and ninth graders at First Unitarian Church is a rite of passage that recognizes the transition out of childhood. We appreciate that while our youth are not yet adults, they have reached the stage of development where they are thinking and reasoning for themselves, and our part is to facilitate their emerging religious identity within a Unitarian Universalist framework. The program has four major areas of emphasis, Mentored Learning, Community Service, UU identity, and writing an Affirmation statement. Highlights of the year are a field trip to Washington, DC in the Spring (for which the group fundraises through the year), the Coming of Age Sunday service, and the ceremonial dinner the night before. Contact Jennifer Halperin for more information about our 2009-2010 Coming of Age Program.



OUR WHOLE LIVES (OWL)

First Unitarian Church periodically offers this comprehensive, progressive, values based sexuality course from September to March to seventh graders. Our instructors are credentialed to teach the course by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). The curriculum was developed by UU educators in collaboration with the United Church of Christ and is published by the Unitarian Universalist Association. *OWL will be offered in Winter/Spring 2010* - contact Jennifer Halperin at 412-621-8008 x103 or jbhalperin@yahoo.com for details.

YOUTH GROUP

THURSDAY EVENINGS 7-8:30PM

Youth Group is open to Junior and Senior high youth 7th grade and above. Meetings can be social action activities, movie nights, ping pong tournaments, worship planning or holiday parties. Youth and their advisors determine the schedule for the year. Contact Jennifer Halperin at 412-621-8008 x103 or jbhalperin@yahoo.com for more information.

DISTRICT YOUTH EVENTS

Junior High and Senior High youth can participate in four Ohio-Meadville district youth conferences a year. *First Unitarian Church is hosting the District Social Action Con February 26-28, 2010.* There are three additional Cons throughout the year:

Senior High Con - October 11-13, 2009

(UU Church of Akron)

Junior High Con - November 13-15, 2009

(UU Church of the North Hills, Pittsburgh)

Spring Con - April 30-May 2, 2010

(First Unitarian Church of Cleveland)



Youth advisors from the church accompany the youth group- parents are invited to help with transportation. These conferences offer workshops, worship, fun, new friends and joyous reunions. It is a great opportunity to meet youth from other U.U. societies and churches, and amazing to be a part of this youth led event. Our youth are active on the district level, both planning and leading conferences.