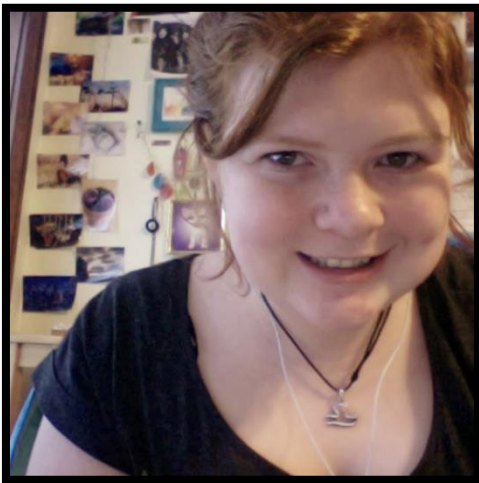


CON, as seen by Hannah

By Hannah Biggs (class of 2016)

Three years ago, I attended my first Senior High Youth Conference (CON). I had no idea what to expect, but let me tell you, I was caught off-guard. **For me, there is no experience quite like CON.**

I was actually terrified when I arrived at my initial CON. There were so many people I didn't know who were unapologetically themselves. I had no idea how to react. So, during my first CON, I was quiet and reserved. But I took in the experience, and during the next CON, I began opening up in new and exciting ways. Being surrounded by acceptance at CON helped transform me from the quiet girl in the back to someone who is excited about meeting people, more comfortable approaching others, and experiencing new and exciting relationships.



Unitarian Universalist youth, both as individuals and a group, are very progressive, loving, and unique. Everyone is independently themselves. As a group, we share fun, entertainment, and unCONDitional love. **The relationships we develop at CON, and within our own youth group and church community, are powerful and, oftentimes, life changing.**

“Expect to be accepted for who you are”. This is one of the main ideas I got from CON which I practice outside of church. CON is, for me, the single most supportive environment I’ve ever experienced, has connected me with open-minded people I would never have met otherwise, and made me much happier. I can’t wait to experience CON again this weekend with my fellow Eliot youth, deepen my relationships, and create new friendships and exciting UU memories.

