

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP...

by Cal Wacker, Youth Program Director

Hi.

To those of you who know me, and those of you who don't, my name is Cal Wacker. I am your new Youth Program Director, and I want to start off my time with you saying something I believe to be profoundly important.

Thank you for this opportunity to return to the congregation that helped raise me. Thank you for trusting my years of personal and professional experience and choosing to hire me. Thank you for working with me as a student, a parent, an advisor, or member of this wonderful and welcoming congregational home we've all worked hard to make. I hope you are as excited as I am about this coming fall and spring, because we've got a lot of excitement ahead of us.

Sun. Sept. 7: Homecoming at 10:00 am

BBQ sponsored by RE Council followed by a voluntary Safety training for anyone 14 and up.

Friday, Sept. 12,: 6:00pm Parents and Youth Potluck, 7:00-9:00pm Meeting

This is first time we'll be meeting this year as parents and youth, laying out the schedule and our goals for the year. Chance to talk to parents about volunteer needs, and getting any stragglers who have not signed registrations to do so. We'll also be broaching the topic of Senior High OWL classes: Yay or Nay.

Sunday, Sept. 14, is the first day of 9:00 and 11:00 am services!

Youth Group meets officially starting at 11am on this day! Our own homecoming and opening of our time together.

RSVP HERE:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054ea8a923a02-fall>

Sunday Sept. 21, Manhattan, NYC- People's Climate Change March.

This is a pretty cool event that it turns out will be happening in our own neck of the woods. As part of a call to show support in global awareness and action concerning the environment, Sunday will have a march starting at Columbus Circle and ending down at the United Nations Building.

Currently the NY metro district UU community is organizing to be a presence there. David Vita is organizing members of UU Westport to be there. I would like to have our youth be a part of this and travel to march that Sunday. Feasibility, interest, and logistics can be talked out with parents at the September 12th potluck.

Thanks for all your time, and I look forward to seeing you on Friday. It's gonna be a great year!

Best wishes,

Cal

Ministerial Search Focus Group Update

Two of the planned search related focus group sessions are over! Thirty one congregants have expressed their ideas about our future ministry including programming, preaching style, administrative skills, community involvement and personality traits. With ten people in each group, it takes an hour for everyone to be able to express themselves fully. The search committee will use this data for three things:

- To create a portrait of our congregation that prospective candidates will read
- To help us perfect the survey you'll be filling out in September
- To guide us in finding the right minister for all of us

Here are the dates of the remaining focus groups:

- **Thursday 9/4 2pm**
- **Saturday 9/6 Noon**
- **Tuesday 9/9 10am**
- **Tuesday 9/9 11:30 – Seniors**
- **Wednesday 9/10 7:30pm**
- **Sunday 9/14 10:30am**
- **Wednesday 9/17 7:30pm**
- **Sunday 9/21 12:30pm**

The Search process won't be over until May but right now is the time for you to give us your ideas. We hope to see you all soon at one of these important information gathering sessions. Sign up on our website or on the triangular bulletin board in the Fellowship room or write to ministersearch@uuwestport.org.

Jim Cooper, Charles Harrington, Linda Hudson, Kristen Leddy, John Mason, Carrie McEvoy, Catherine Onjemelukwe, Anita Pfluger and Kathy Roberts – your search committee

Feel like going to the movies?

Enjoy going to the movies? Ever wish there was someone to talk about them with? Consider joining the UU Movie Discussion Group! We meet on the last Friday of the month at the Meeting House.

Here's how it works: each month we choose two films to be discussed the following month. We rate them on a 1 to 10 scale and then the fun begins. Discussions are lively ... sometimes we all agree, but more often than not we don't. It's a great chance to gain insights into a film that you didn't originally perceive.

And – best of all – the discussion is preceded with a potluck dessert, so you get to share some goodies and chat a bit with others.

Drop in some Friday and share your movie experience! Films are announced monthly in SOUNDINGS.

UU Movie Discussion Group

Led by Lorna Donnelly & Carol Goddard

7:30: Potluck Dessert, 8:00: Discussion Begins

Next meeting: Friday, Sept. 26 at 7:30. at the Meeting Hse. Films to be discussed are "Boys n' Flowers" and "Calvary".