"A Teenager’s Prayer"
Each day brings new beginnings
Decisions I must make
I am the only one to choose
The road that I will take
I can choose to take the road of life
That leads to great success
Or travel down the darkened road
That leads to great distress
Please open up my eyes, dear Lord
That I might clearly see
Help me stand for what is right
Bring out the best in me
Help, Lord, to just say "no"
When temptation comes my way
That I might keep my body clean
And fit for life each day
When my teenage years are over
I know that I will see that life is lived its very best
With you walking next to me.

Author: J. Morse
Source: http://www.scrapbook.com/poems/doc/7635.html

Youth Group
Are you thinking about starting up a new Youth Group at your church? Or just looking for some ideas to expand your programming. Below are a few recommended resources to support you in your ministry.

FREE On-line Resources

The Source for Youth Ministry
Jonathan McKee is a youth worker, speaker, author, trainer and the president of the nonprofit organization, The Source for Youth Ministry (www.TheSource4YM.com on the Web). His website offers free resources for youth workers including curriculum, activities, and ideas, as well as articles about youth culture, teenage attitudes, and trends.

EGADideas
If you work with youth, visit http://www.egadideas.com/ for youth group games, fundraisers, sermons, illustrations, activities, resources and ideas. Each one has been tried and tested by those currently working in student ministry so you can be assured that you will only find quality, timeless, free ideas that you and your students will enjoy.

Tried-and-True / Recommended Reading

Single-Digit Youth Groups: Working with Fewer than 10 Teens
Small churches and churches with small numbers of youth will be delighted that someone has finally written just for them! Marcey Balcomb helps them discover the joys and power of a single-digit youth group and provides the practical help they need. Learn More >>

Single-Digit Youth Groups: More Activities Plus Mission Ideas

The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry
In this book the authors, Kenda Creasy Dean and Ron Foster, offer a lively spiritual primer and practical guide for those who pastor young people. They rechart a course for youth ministry through the classical spiritual disciplines of the church. The book identifies families, congregations, and mentor relationships as the "holy ground" where young people are most likely to say "Yes!" to God.

Devotionals for Youth
OMG Devotionals for Teens and Young Adults

These devotionals may not be what you're expecting. They're not lectures. They're not mini-sermons.

They're meant to help you live your life better by connecting you with God—no matter what's on your mind or going on in your life. They can even help you pray.

Click Here to order this resource or better yet Meet the Authors!

Learn More About this Event >>

Training Opportunities

Saturday, November 15, 2014
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Keynote, Worship, Workshops and Lunch with Ivy Beckwith
West Hartford, CT

CAUCE (Connecticut Association of United Church Educators) invites you to join them at the First Church of Christ Congregational in West Hartford, CT to meet with Ivy Beckwith, Team Leader, UCC Faith Formation Ministry.

Employment Opportunities

Director of Christian Education - Exeter

The Congregational Church in Exeter NH, UCC seeks a Director of Christian Education to support, develop, coordinate, and oversee educational programs to spiritually engage the children, youth, and adults of the congregation.

For more information, contact Lisa Ann McConnell, Search Committee Chair or visit the church website: http://congchurchexeter.org/job-opportunities/
East Parish Congregational Church - East Derry
Director of Christian Education

The congregation is looking for someone to oversee the Christian Education program, which includes church school classes for nursery through 12th grade students, and to reach out to young adults and help them find a niche. A detailed job description is posted on the UCC Ministry Opportunities website.

The Classified/Help Wanted Section of the NHCUCC website also publishes employment opportunities throughout the Conference.

Save the Date:

NEAUCE 44th Annual Conference "From Broken Hearts to Burning Hearts"
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Molly Phinney Baskette, author of Real Good Church
Craigville Retreat Center, Cape Cod, MA
May 5-7, 2015

National Youth Event (NYE) 2016 - BELIEVE
Walt Disney World's Coronado Springs Resort
July 26-29, 2016
Learn More >>

The Word of God
"Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12 (NRSV)

Contact Info
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1 Timothy 4:12 (NRSV)