

Reverend Scott Sammler- Michael

Curriculum Vitae

MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

- Settled Minister** – Called by unanimous vote to serve **Accotink UU Church in April 2008**. Still serving their fulltime, in good standing.
- Summer Minister** - The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, New Jersey: Served that 120 year-old Church, the last pulpit served by Kenneth Patton - 2007
- Intern Minister** - The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood; A fulltime internship involving all aspects of congregational life. Supervised by Rev. Sarah Lammert, Now head of Worship at the UUA – 2006-2007
- SUUSI Worship Leader** - Provided worship for the nearly 1000 folks who gather every July at the Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute. 2007
- Student Minister, The First Unitarian Society of Chicago, IL** – Worked directly with Rev. Nina Grey and First Chicago’s Board to provide worship teach RE; helped renew their young adult and campus ministry; including a Soulful Sundown Worship Series; Public witness for Unitarian Universalism at Campus events; and providing chaplain services to students in crisis - 2005-2006
- Worship Coordinator - Soulful Sundowns - @ UUFHC** – 2002-2004
- General Assembly Delegate for UUFHC, 2002-4; UUFHC Worship Committee; UUFHC Religious Education Committee;** Helped compose, run and evaluate our Coming of Age Program and recruit teachers and mentors.
- UUFHC YRUU Advisor;** Planned and hosted youth conferences (Cons), integrated youth programming into the life of the church; taught workshops on youth worship, trained youth chaplains; 2001-4;
- UUFHC Building and Grounds**

DENOMINATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Chesapeake Unitarian Universalist Minister’s Association – 2010-present** - On the retreat planning team, chief technologist, helped secure sites for retreats and trainings, led several trainings, including “Whose Are We?” (2011-12)
- George Mason University Campus Ministry Advisor** – Founded and served as advisor to the GMU UU Campus Ministry – 2011 – present; Brought “Interfaith Voices Radio” with Maureen Fiedler to campus in June 2016.
- UUMAC – Worship Leaders and Chaplains for the week** – We led worship morning and evening, hosted a theme talks, taught RE class, led a memorial service, served as chaplains and advised the planning team - July 2015
- UUA General Assembly Workshop Provider** – 2011 – 2014 - Regularly provided workshops for the UUA General Assembly, including two on *Beyond Partisan Division*; two on *UU Campus Ministry*; one on *Affective Theology and Neuroscience*, with Rev Dr Thandeka
- UUA Metro New York District task Force for Gulf Coast Relief** – Coordinated relief

efforts among congregations, trained relief workers for spiritual care for workers and victims in disaster zones, advised on spiritual care for volunteers - 2013

Baltimore Washington Growth Committee, Joseph Priestley District; Coordinating district-wide strategies and events to promote vital congregations and grow our Unitarian Universalist faith - **2007-2011**

JPD Workshop Planner – Hospitality Workshops – 2010 w/ Rev Dr. Amy Oden; 2013 w/ Janice Marie Johnson; **Technology Workshop** 2011; **Arts of Worship** 2012

Chesapeake Pastoral Care Network – 2008 – Present – Coordinated Regional Pastoral Care Training for churches and other caregivers. Annual workshop and Network support for caregivers throughout the region.

Northern Virginia Revival Planning Team – 2009

Chalice Lighter Grant Committee Member, Joseph Priestley District; Reviews grant applications and deliberates on how to best utilize the very successful JPD Chalice Lighter Program. 2002-4; 2007-9.

Founder and Director, TUUL-Belt Ministries; practical ministry of devoted UU’s trained to respond rapidly to domestic crises like Hurricane Katrina and to assist in long-term rebuilding efforts – 2007 – 2012.

UUA General Assembly Young Adult Worship Coordinator - Fort Worth, Texas 2005

Director of Unitarian Universalist Campus Ministries at the University of Chicago. Young Adult Steering Committee Central Mid-West District - 2004-6

Joseph Priestley District Youth and Young Adult Steering Committee - 2000-2004

CIVIC AND SOCIAL INVOLVEMENT

Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement (VOICE) –
Served as a leader 2008 – present; on Strategy Team 2011 – 2014; Technology officer and Clergy Caucus rep – 2014-16; VOICE is an IAF affiliate that has secured \$60 million in relief to homeowners defrauded in the 2006-8 mortgage crisis; we have held public solidarity events for our Muslim neighbors; secured affordable housing policy in Fairfax; won dental services for poor Virginians; many other victories.

SOAR/OWN Contributor – Invited to part of an Interfaith Discussion panel on Oprah Winfrey Network’s SOAR, October 2015

Fairfax City & George Mason University’s “Charette” – A study for the Long-Range Future of Fairfax City – Invited by Mayor Silverthorne to be a faith community representative in the discussion designed to come up with a long range (50-year) vision for Fairfax City - 2014

Fairfax County Community Chaplain Corps – Selected to be trained as a “Community Chaplain” to serve as spiritual care provider for citizens in crisis. Received training to be part of the nations’ Critical Incident Stress Management Team, to be deployed in times of disasters both natural and human-made – 2010-present

Hypothermia Shelter Program – FACETS – Led the church to offer its space to serve as a Hypothermia Shelter during Winter months for our homeless neighbors.

Same-Sex Marriage Valentine’s Day Witness Organizer – Fairfax Courthouse, 2012.

Interfaith Panel - The Bible and Homosexuality – Shared my presentation to the Community on the myths of what the Bible says about Homosexuality - 2012

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy – Day for All Peoples – 2009 – present
Worked with VICPP team evaluating bill's coming before the Va Legislature, prepared talking points, trained volunteers on good meeting strategies with their representatives.

Loudoun Interfaith Bridges - Leesburg, Va – 2007

Interfaith Religious Leaders of Ridgewood - Ridgewood, New Jersey - 2006-7; group has met since the 1930's, including Jews and other non-Christians from the start!

CAMP – A weekly after-school mentoring project - Paterson, New Jersey - 2006-7

People's Organization for Progress - Newark, New Jersey - 2006-7; A vibrant fifty year-old group providing services to poor folks, including seeing that the needs of poor citizens of color are being disseminated and presented to public officials.

Bergen County Sanctuary Committee - Ridgewood, New Jersey - 2006-7:

provided witness for asylum-seekers imprisoned since passage of the Patriot Act

New Jersey Senate Judiciary Committee Testimony – In favor of same-sex Marriage; against the death penalty.

Hyde Park/Kenwood Interfaith Council - was the MLTS rep to the Council - -

Rockefeller Chapel Interfaith Task Force - as UU Campus Minister to the University of Chicago; sat on a panel that looked at issues of interfaith life on the U. of C. campus and helped plan and participate in the dedication service for the new *Interfaith Worship Center in Rockefeller Chapel - Chicago, 2005-6.*

Habitat For Humanity - Baltimore; New Jersey; Chicago; New Orleans - since 1993

Havre de Grace Arts Council - Havre de Grace, MD - 2002-3 - planned concerts and community events.

Tree-Mendous Maryland – Tree planting project - Baltimore, Md. - 1996-98; helped run a nursery on a vacant city lot and planted trees in locations around Baltimore.

Safe-Play - Playground reclamation project - Baltimore - 1994-97; reclaimed vacant lots and converted them to playgrounds in poor areas of Baltimore.

Hollins Market Neighborhood Association - Vice President - Baltimore -1993-95.

UMBC "Out of South Africa" - Student group demanding UMBC Divest its funds from South Africa in protest of apartheid - UMBC, Catonsville, Md. – 1990

Harford County Nuclear Freeze - Co-Founder - Bel Air, Maryland - 1983; sought a freeze on nuclear weapons production and testing.

PULPIT EXPERIENCE

UU Congregation of Fairfax, VA; UU Church of Loudoun, Leesburg, VA; UU Church of Arlington, VA, Chapel; UU Church of the Shenandoah Valley, Stevens City, VA; UU's of the Blue Ridge, VA; Channing Memorial Church, Ellicott City, MD; Accotink UU Church, Burke, VA; Central Unitarian Church, Paramus, New Jersey; Gettysburg UU Fellowship, PA; Mount Vernon UU Church, Alexandria, VA; Bull Run UU, Manassas, VA; Paint Branch Unitarian Church, Adelphi, MD; The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood, New Jersey; Bond Chapel, The University of Chicago, IL; North Shore UU Church, Deerfield, Il; UU Congregation of Rock Valley, Il; The First Unitarian Society of Chicago, IL; Meadville Lombard Vespers, Chicago, IL; General Assembly Young Adult Worship, Fort Worth, TX; Beverly Unitarian Church, Chicago, IL; UU Fellowship of Harford County, Churchville, Maryland; UU Fellowship of Ocean County, New Jersey;

UU Fellowship of Burlington, Iowa; UU Fellowship of Clinton, Iowa; UU Fellowship of Sunnyvale, California; Unitarian Universalists of Sterling, Virginia; Unitarian Universalist Church of Reston, VA; UU Fellowship of Cumberland, Maryland; Unitarian Universalists of Fallston, Maryland; Southeastern Unitarian Universalist Summer Institute (SUUSI); Grace Chapel, Hazel Crest, Illinois; Rockefeller Chapel Interfaith Center, Chicago; et al ...

EDUCATION

Fairfax County Community Chaplain Corps – top-level training in working with first responders in crisis situations – 2010-present

“Whose Are We?” – UU Minister’s Association – trained to lead other ministers in this work discovering the deep core of our callings - 2011

Master of Divinity – 2008 Meadville Lombard Theological School (MLTS), The Unitarian Universalist seminary in Chicago, IL; MLTS Awards included The Jenkin Lloyd Jones Scholarship (twice won); The Robert and Martha C. Atherton Scholarship; the Von Ogden Vogt Scholarship for Liturgical Studies; won prize for outstanding UU History paper. Served on the MLTS student leadership team; Chaired the Undoing Racism Committee; Studied UU ethics, UU history, world religions, philosophy, arts and aesthetics, religious education, liberal theology, social justice, worship and preaching etc.

Master of Liberal Arts – 1992 - St. John’s College, Annapolis, MD
Studied the Classics in an intense, scholastic atmosphere dedicated to learning and challenging one another .

Bachelor of Arts – UMBC University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Catonsville, MD
Recipient of UMBC’s Outstanding Contribution in English award
Graduated with an Honor’s English degree; English student rep to Faculty board
Honor’s project was “Stages in Chaos: American Plays and the Vietnam War.”
Editor of “Apostrophe,” The English majors newsletter; poems published in “Bartleby,” the English Dept Journal

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Foreman School

Instructed in labor regulations, staffing techniques, motivational strategies, administration tactics, treaty and code compliance

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Electrical Foreman (1997-2004); Several International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers jobs, including the Mustard Gas Neutralization facility in Edgewood, Maryland, and the MBNA Credit Card Info Storage Center, Wilmington, DE.

Adjunct Professor (1994-2004); **Coppin University**, Baltimore; taught English and Drama at Coppin, a Historically Black University in Northwest Baltimore.

Electrical Mechanic (1993-1997); Worked as a licensed electrician.

School Teacher (1992-1994); Sixth grade English in Baltimore City Public Schools.

Audio Vision Engineering (1987-1994); Involved in all aspects of recording, live sound and lighting for concerts, plays, dance recitals and other live shows.