



# What's with UUS

Newsletter of the Unitarian Universalists of Sterling  
A Welcoming Congregation  
Sterling, Virginia



## Minister's Message



### Gratitude is a Spiritual Practice

**Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael**

Before leaving for the day Linda Weaver washed the dishes in the sink here at UUSterling. Most of the dishes were mine. When I walked past the sink and noticed, my heart was washed with a wave of gratitude. Sometimes the simplest offerings of goodwill feel the most divine.

Thank you Linda. Thank you for taking a moment to change my day... to remind me how all our lives, inter and intra-dependent, are woven so tightly that every offering has a great and subtly reverberating force.

Seeing the dishes clean and drying on the rack I thought of my grandmother Babchi who washed dishes after every meal she cooked. I could help dry, but she wouldn't give up her post at the sink. What a kind and generous offering. I wonder if I ever remembered to share my gratitude?

And gratitude should be shared. The title of the service on November 22nd is a quote by the English novelist G.B. Stern: "Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone."

And sharing gratitude requires a commitment of time and energy. A committee might choose to begin each meeting with an agenda item called: Affirmation – what's working and what are you grateful for? A class or a covenant group might spend their last 5 minutes going around the room so each

*(Continued on page 2)*

## President's Message



### A Grateful Space

**Bonnie Lepoff**

In this season of Thanksgiving, we have many things to be grateful for. We have food and shelter, family and friends, and we have UUS, our spiritual community. It's easy to take things for granted, to complain about the traffic or the price of gas, but it's important to step back everyone once in a while and really look at what we have. I am going to talk about just one thing that we all have in common and that is UUS. Our church is growing. The energy is contagious and visitors are returning and becoming friends and members. We don't have an over flow crowd every Sunday but our Religious Exploration space has become pretty tight.

In response to our expanding numbers, we began exploring the possibility of expanding our space. As luck would have it, (or maybe it was divine intervention!), the tenant next door announced their intention to move. At our annual meeting last May, we presented a budget that included expanding into the space next door during this fiscal year. It was a stretch for us but you all stepped up to the challenge and we met our pledge goal. I am grateful that we have members who are able and willing to do so.

I am also excited about our new space! If you've driven on the north side of our building, you've seen all the windows in the Capitol Cable offices. Those will be our windows! Our entry lobby will be bright and cheerful with windows along the front and side walls. Rev Anya's

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Worship Calendar

**Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael**

November's Liturgical Theme is "Gratitude"

November 1st "A Modern 'Saint' – The Poems and Promise of Sonya Sanchez" On this day known as All Saints Day in the Catholic tradition Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael reflects on the life and works of Sonya Sanchez an inspirational poet who said: "Fear will give you the energy to save just you... Love will give you the energy to save you and others." We will begin with a hymn sing at 10:20, and an inquirer's class for newcomers will follow the service at noon.

November 8th "Gratitude for Connection" Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael and members from UUSterling offer reflections on the state of the Unitarian Universalist movement. Who are we? Where are we going? What connections are we grateful for?

November 15th – "Standing on the Side of Love: Embracing Being a Heretic". The UU Campaign Standing on the Side of Love has deep roots in our historical and theological past. Rev. Rebekah will explore a few stories from our history that offer profound support for our current campaign. As a UU military chaplain, Rev. Rebekah often encourages and assists seekers and wanderers along their spiritual path and on this Veteran's Day, she welcomes you to reflect on our personal commitment to Standing On the Side of Love. Rev. Rebekah Montgomery is from Bethesda, MD and grew up in the River Road UU Congregation, where she is now serving as an affiliate minister. Rev. Rebekah is the 58th Troop Command Brigade chaplain in the Maryland Army National Guard, currently on Active Duty at the National Guard Bureau. Rev. Rebekah

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# Involve: Radical Hospitality: Creating Beloved Community for All Children

Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

November 21, 2009, 11am to 5pm

UU Church of Silver Spring, MD -  
10309 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver  
Spring, MD 20903

[www.uucss.org](http://www.uucss.org)

Leader: Sally Patton, Ed. M. Dev.  
Psychology

The purpose of this Involve workshop is to train religious educators, ministers and lay leaders to minister to children with special challenges and insure their successful inclusion into the life of our UU congregations.

For more information, please contact  
Linda Weaver at Re-  
director@uusterling.org or 703-406-  
3068

*(Minister Continued from page 1)*

person can share one thing that they will take with them, from their rich experience together. A project leader could call up everyone that helped their group achieve their goal simply to say thanks and how she “couldn’t have done it without them.”

Gratitude is so much more than good etiquette. It can become a spiritual practice - a commitment to acknowledge when our minds, hearts, and souls touch – and to note the beauty that that touch affords.

A favorite line from the poet Rumi is: “There are a thousand ways to kneel and kiss the ground.” There are a thousand ways to share a grateful heart. I invite you to pause, right now, and discover one. Who deserves or what deserves your gratitude? How are you going to share it?

*(President Continued from page 1)*

office and the nursery will both be located along that outside wall of windows, too. If you have children in the nursery, you know what a difference this will make. And Rev Anya will have lots of natural light in her new office. Our current office space will be modified for use by the Religious Exploration program. The walls between the two RE classrooms and between Rev Anya’s office and the youth room will come down to make two bigger classrooms. Plus we’ll be installing a drinking fountain where the kitchen sink is now.

This would be plenty enough to be grateful for, but there’s more! A mezzanine level covers about half the new floor space. The youth will have a room up there and the rest of the space will be open with a big conference table in the center for meetings and classes and desks along the windows for our administrator, Phaedra Edwards, our RE director, Linda Weaver, and our music director, Kris Adams.

We expect work to begin in early December and our new space to be ready for occupancy in mid to late January. News and updates will be published in this newsletter, by email and verbal announcements, and by posters in our foyer. And yes, there will be celebrations!

I am grateful for our UUS community and for your support that is making this expansion necessary and possible.

Bonnie Lepoff

[blepoff@cox.net](mailto:blepoff@cox.net)



# Day of Thanks Celebrates Interfaith Community in Loudoun

Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

Sunday November 8th, 2009; From 5:00  
-8:00 at Ida Lee Recreation Center in  
Leesburg.

Register at:

[www.loudouninterfaithbridges.org](http://www.loudouninterfaithbridges.org)

Loudoun Interfaith BRIDGES, an association of congregations comprised of Christian, Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, Bahai, and Unitarian Universalist faiths, invites people of all faiths to the Day of Thanks.

The event features keynote speaker Ben O’Dell, Deputy Director at the White House Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. The program also includes a multicultural buffet dinner, musical performances, including world renowned percussionist Tom Teasley, among others, and the honoring of Interfaith BRIDGES adult and youth award recipients.

Tickets are 15 / Adult, 10/ Child, 40 / Family of four or more. Children under 6 are free. Visit the website: [www.loudouninterfaithbridges.org](http://www.loudouninterfaithbridges.org) to purchase tickets and for more information.

*(Worship Calendar Continued from page 1)*

lives in Bethesda with her husband, Travis and their two children.

November 22nd – “Silent Gratitude isn’t Much Use to Anyone.” Our all ages’ service led by Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael and Linda Weaver will take this quote by novelist G.B. Stern seriously, inviting us to share our gratitude in word and song. The choir will sing and we will share a seasonal cornbread communion. Come ready for celebration!

November 29th – “Into the Dark” Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael will lead a reflective service rife with silence and the evocative music of strings. Our children’s choir will sing and we will mark the first Sunday of Advent.

# Including Everyone

Linda Weaver

How could anyone ever tell you, you were anything less than beautiful?

We sing these words by Libby Roderick to the children every Sunday morning when they leave for Religious Exploration (RE). As we sing, we recognize the beauty, the wholeness and the miracle that is in every person. We celebrate each and every child for being the unique and amazing person s/he is.

At UUS we hope that all people feel welcomed and we strive to build a powerful community of diverse individuals and families. In children's RE the adult leaders work to create an inclusive community and a safe environment in which children share and grow. Several people are attending the Involve Workshop this month to increase sensitivity to the needs of children with special challenges and help us do an even better job of including all children in the programming and life of UUS.

In these ways we try to live out the first of the seven Unitarian Universalist principles, affirming and promoting "the inherent worth and dignity of every person," within the walls of UUS. We also encourage our children to carry this value beyond UUS and beyond Unitarian Universalism. One way we do this is by focusing on world religions every third year. As the children explore world religions this year, they are learning about the beautiful diversity of traditions and beliefs that are practiced and held by friends and neighbors in their community and around the world.

The kindergarten-5th graders benefit from an exciting program that promotes greater understanding of world religions while also serving the unique strengths and interests of a wide range of children. There is always a variety of activities for the different age groups and for different learning styles and interests. So far children have listened to a shofar, made giving boxes, found out why the story of Jonah and the Whale is told on Rosh Hashanah, decorated a sukkah, tasted lemons and challah bread, made a seder plate, played Find the Afikoman, and learned how to ask for necessities in

several languages. This month leaders are looking forward to drumming, more games, and more crafts!

Include your children in the community being built within their RE classes by attending on as many Sundays as possible. This helps your children make friends and get to know adults at UUS. It is important for children to have adults and peers who support their family's beliefs, who encourage their individual growth and who accept them for the amazing individuals they are.

To find out more about the children's RE program or to let us know how we can serve your family contact Linda Weaver at re-director@uusterling.org or 703-406-3068. More information is also available on the UUS website at www.uusterling.org, or in brochures near the door at UUS.

## Involve Workshop

Sally Patton's Involve training is being held at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring, MD on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 11am to 5pm. Sally Patton, Ed. M. Dev. Psychology, has advocated and worked for children with special needs for over 35 years. She now offers this workshop to increase sensitivity to the needs of children with special challenges, help congregations include these children and their families in the life of their churches, and provide specific strategies for teaching and ministering to children with special needs. There may still be space available for this program, so if you are interested contact Linda Weaver at re-director@uusterling as soon as possible.

## Special Events

Nov. 1 – K-5 Open House and Parents' Meeting – Everyone is invited to visit the K-5 classrooms after the service. Parents meet with class leaders and assistants from 12-1pm to find out more about this year's program.

Nov. 15 - RE Social Justice Sunday – "Our Local Habitats" - Children will explore our local habitats and discover ways to help take care of them.



## Please Welcome New Member

Jackie Mills lives in Herndon with her gang of sweet, handsome boys: husband Patrick, sons Evan (7) and Jonah (6), and 5-month old puppy, Bowzer.

She grew up in Red Lion, PA, moved to Northern Virginia after graduating from Tyler School of Art/Temple University, and has lived in Herndon for 13 years. She is sole proprietor of True Blue Creative, providing graphic design and marketing communications to small businesses and non-profits. She is an active volunteer, serving this year as YMCA Fairfax County Reston Gala chair, and as Vice President on the Board of Trustees for Brain Injury Services, Inc.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading, watching movies and a few good TV series (Dexter right now), listening to music and NPR programs, and taking walks and hanging out with her family.

She loves so many things about UUS, and she looks forward to sharing what she can with the UUS community. Walking through the door the first time last spring was like opening a huge box filled with an infinite amount of little gifts and each week she can't wait to open another one to see what's inside!



# Childrens Art Workshop November 7, 2009

**Bonnie Lepoff**

International Visual Artist, Caryl Henry Alexander

Presents

A Hands on Visual Art Workshop for Day of the Dead.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact:

Caryl Henry Alexander

caryl@bigbangbanners.com

301 877 2029

Clinton, MD (September 15, 2009) – Caryl Henry Alexander, announced today a Hands on Visual Art Workshop for Day of the Dead. The workshop will take place on Saturday November 7, 2009 from 10am-1pm. The workshop location is at Davies Memorial Unitarian Universalist Church, 7400 Temple Hill Rd. Camp Springs MD. The public is invited.

The Day of the Dead/El Día de los Muertos is a holiday celebrated in Mexico and by Latin Americans living in the United States and Canada. The holiday focuses on gatherings of family and friends to pray for and remember friends and family members who have died.

During this 3 hour Hands on Visual Art Workshop, we will create a traditional altar honoring the deceased. Each student will make their own Folkart such as Huichol yarn painting, sugar skulls, paper flowers and papel picado/ cut paper banners.

The Hands on Visual Art Workshop is best suited to students from grades 3 and up, unless accompanied by an adult.

Caryl Henry-Alexander, Visual Artist

Caryl has been commissioned to create murals, sculptures, site-specific installations and paintings both here and abroad. She has exhibited extensively throughout the United States and at the American Cultural Center in Ibadan, Nigeria. She was a lecturer at the

# UUS Youth Group Meeting Schedule

**Bob Brown**

11/01/2009 – \*No Meeting\*

11/08/2009 – Regular Meeting at 12 Noon (Discussion on relationship to celebration)

11/15/2009 – Regular Meeting at 12 Noon (Special guest minister workshop after service)

11/22/2009 – Regular Meeting at 12 Noon (Discussion on relationship to relationship)

11/29/2009 – \*No Meeting\*

12/06/2009 – Regular Meeting at 12 Noon (Discuss Youth Service Theme)

12/13/2009 – Hanukah (Cook potato latkes for Hanukah)

12/20/2009 – \*No Meeting\*

12/27/2009 – \*No Meeting\*

01/03/2009 – \*No Meeting\*



California College of Arts and Crafts teaching West African YORUBA Art and Culture and Mixed Media painting. Caryl has been distinguished as a Master Teaching Artist by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and is currently on the MSAC and YAMD teaching artist rosters.

Website: bigbangbanners.com

Blog: carylhenryalexander.blogspot.com

# Sustainable Loudoun's Green Living Forum

**Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael**

When: Friday, Nov 13, 2009 6:30PM (doors open at 6pm for refreshments & exhibits)

Where: GWU Va Campus 20101 Academic Way, ASHBURN, VA

Learn how to incorporate sustainable practices into your everyday lifestyle, improve your quality of life, and save money while saving resources.

Networking - enjoy refreshments from Harris Teeter and Wegmans before the presentations begin

Exhibits - from local companies and organizations with the "whys" and "how-to's" of saving money and resources

Presenters - inspiring us with their expert knowledge of the latest technologies and best practices

Sponsored by:

Sustainable Loudoun - [www.sustainableloudoun.org](http://www.sustainableloudoun.org)

Chesapeake Climate Action Network - [www.chesapeakeclimate.org](http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org)

George Washington University Virginia Campus - [www.gwvirginia.gwu.edu](http://www.gwvirginia.gwu.edu)

REHAU Corporation - <http://na.rehau.com/>

M & M Print and Design - [www.mandmprint.com](http://www.mandmprint.com)

Minister, Unitarian Universalists of Sterling in Virginia

A welcoming and worshipping community of open hearts and open minds.

[www.uusterling.org](http://www.uusterling.org)

Secretary, Loudoun Interfaith Bridges

Mission: To bring together communities of different faiths to collectively address common challenges, and to build bridges of understanding and respect between diverse religious and ethnic entities.

Home Address: 21426 Potomac View Road, Sterling VA 20164

# Children's Religious Exploration Schedule

	Preschool Circle	Kindergarten - 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Middle School
<b>Nov. 1</b>	Differences	Earth-centered - Mabon	Judaism
<b>Nov. 8</b>	Boys & Girls	Earth-centered – Wampanoag Cranberry Day	Judaism
<b>Nov. 15</b>	Black is Beautiful	RE Social Justice Sunday	RE Social Justice Sunday
<b>Nov. 22</b>	Thanksgiving	Attend Intergenerational Service	Attend Intergenerational Service
<b>Nov. 29</b>	Church	Earth-centered - Hopi	Judaism
<b>Dec. 6</b>	Winter	Christianity – St. Francis	Christianity
<b>Dec. 13</b>	Hanukkah	Hanukkah	Hanukkah
<b>Dec. 20</b>	Christmas	Christianity - Posadas	Christianity
<b>Dec. 27</b>	Kwanzaa	Kwanzaa	Kwanzaa

To find the names of the leaders and assistants for each session, go to the UUS calendar at <http://www.uusterling.org/>, find the correct month and day and then click on the RE class session you would like to view.

## Roving Reporter

Susan Rose

Everyone wants to know what you're wearing for Halloween!

Nick (10) A skateboarder!

Julie (9) A vampire!

Kevin (8) A hippie!

Miles (8) A Star Wars character, Anakin Skywalker!

Langston (4) A race car driver!

Holly (11) A vampire!

Ashley (11) A midnight fairy!

Natalie (12) A court jester/joker!

Molly (9) A midnight fairy!

Evan (8) A werewolf!

Joanna (11) A diva kitty!

## A Child Dedication Ceremony at UUS

Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

“Unitarian Universalists believe that every child brings new life and hope into the world. We set aside a special time, called simply the Ceremony of Dedication, for the community to bless the child and celebrate the blessing of this gift of life. The ceremony does not make the life of the child sacred; we believe that life is sacred inherently. When we dedicate a child we acknowledge the truth that each child's life is sacred and hold that truth in the light of our faith.” – Linda Olsen Peebles, From “We Dedicate This Child”

Have you ever considered dedicating your child or children? Would you like a ceremony to mark their birth and the sacredness of their life? Our Worship Associates and I are planning to hold a child dedication on December 20th and would love to include your family.

Yours in Faith,

Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael,

minister@uusterling.org



## Loudoun Interfaith Relief

Trish Weaves

The Loudoun Interfaith Relief pantry in Leesburg supplies emergency food supplies for Loudoun County residents. The pantry is located on Miller Drive in Leesburg, near the Leesburg airport. Between 85 and 100 families per day are in need of this service. A small paid staff along with 200+ volunteers make the pantry possible. Major donors include Giant, COSTCO, Wegmans and Target along with many generous citizens.

Trish Harris is now a volunteer grocery planner and will keep us informed as to which items are most in need throughout the year.

At this time a "Soap Box" is set up in the rear of the sanctuary. Bar soap and shampoo are most in need at this time. This collection will continue through October. Our donation will be weighed on a digital scale upon arriving at the pantry. Let's put on some weight!

You can check out the LIR website at:

[www.interfaithrelief.org](http://www.interfaithrelief.org)

# Unitarian Universalists of Sterling Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes October 7, 2009

Present:

Minister: Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

Administrative Assistant: Phaedra Edwards

President: Bonnie Lepoff

Treasurer: Paul Roche

Secretary: Joan Johnson

Director of Religious Exploration: Linda Weaver

Former President: Dave Miller

Youth Member: Julia Burns

At-Large: Belinda Bullock

At-Large: Dorine Scher

At-Large: Ken Ward

At-Large: Lindy Reeder

Rev. Anya introduced our new Administrative Assistant. Phaedra will attend Board meetings as her schedule allows.

Old Business:

1) The Board reviewed the liaison reports. Paul noted that the Treasurer's report was revised to show the last rent payment.

2) Facilities/Aesthetics. Rev. Anya reported that this committee is prepared to work on the new space and will receive tasks from the Board.

3) Website maintenance. The Board decided to start a task force for website cleanup. Bonnie will announce this. Bryan and Phaedra will meet next week to review website status. Phaedra reported on her research into web based calendar tools. We are looking for a user-friendly web-based calendar that translates to Microsoft Word easily and allows multiple users to make entries. Phaedra will also update the current calendar

4) Strategic Plan and By-Laws. Revisions need to be submitted to the congregation on April for voting in May. The Board agreed to establish a task force for this effort.

5) The Board reviewed the updated duties and OOS words and approved. The Board Host is responsible for counting money and Usher/Greeters are responsible for counting people. The bank bag is to be given to Nancy McCormick to deposit.

6) Committee on Ministry. Chris Houck agreed to serve on the committee.

7) Subtenants AAFCJ. A standing status meeting will be held Sundays at 2:00 at the church to include Ken, Rev. Anya and Linda. This will be either every other month or quarterly. We need to begin sublease negotiations.

8) Nursery Care Providers. Linda asked to begin search for a 3rd provider to serve as backup. Linda's flier will be posted. The ad will also be posted on Craig's List. New hire must be 21 or older. Interviewers will be Linda, Ken, Dorine, Julia, Belinda and Lindy.

9) New Lease. Final negotiations were concluded including arrangements to swap carpet in the sanctuary. Construction will be coordinated to minimize disruption. Dave Miller agreed to serve as project manager for the build out. Dave explained that lease needed to be executed now so the landlord could apply for the required site plan amendment. Paul explained that we agreed to pay a \$2100 share of the site plan amendment fee upon signing and this was not in our budget. Ken made a motion to borrow \$2100 from the building fund, Dorine seconded, and the Board unanimously approved. The Board thanked and applauded Dave Miller for his work on the build out and lease negotiation. Dave recommended that the Board empower a representative to make quick decisions during build out if the Board cannot confer in time. The Board agreed and Dave will discuss with candidates. Dorine made the motion to sign the lease, Lindy seconded and the Board unanimously approved. The new lease was signed, witnessed and applauded!

10) Paul and Phaedra are working on a poster notifying the congregation of the

new space that will include a sample board. Rev. Anya will append the OOS Board Host words to announce the new space. A formal dedication ceremony and completion party will be held.

11) JPD Grant. The grant submittal has been reviewed. We are requesting funding for four adults to OWL training, 4 to Involve Workshop and 3 to the Anti-Racism conference. Belinda will email the revised request.

12) JPD Fall Workshops. The Tech Summit was well-attended. Bonnie attended the Presidents Round Table. A new position has been added to JPD staff that will address lay leadership development.

13) Social Justice Council. This is not a committee. The Council will assist with identifying programs but will not be responsible for implementation. The Council includes John Botts, John Boone and Yvonne Centala. They are currently working on planning and setting goals.

14) Bios are needed for Dorine and Julia for the website.

New Business:

Vice Presidency. The Board discussed proposed nominees to fill the vacancy and Dave Miller volunteered to approach them.

Auction Nov. 7. Rev. Anya will remind the tenants of auction date.

Board Host Schedule:

Oct 18 – Belinda

Oct 25 – Julia

Nov 1 – Joan

Nov 8 – Lindy

Next board meeting 11/4 readings and snacks: Bonnie



# November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> 10:30 Worship Service "A Modern Saint - Sonya Sanchez" by Rev Anya 12 K-5 Open House 3:30 AAFCJ	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6 Craft Night 7:30 Choir	<b>6</b> 6:30 Band Practice 7:30 Families Anonymous	<b>7</b> 5 AAFCJ
<b>8</b> 10:30 Worship Service "Gratitude for Connection" by Rev Anya 12 Inquirer's Class 3:30 AAFCJ 5 Interfaith Day of Thanks	<b>9</b> 7 Committee on Ministry	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>13</b> 7:30 Families Anonymous	<b>14</b> Social Justice Empowerment Cluster Workshop - Collegeville, PA 6 AM AAFCJ
<b>15</b> 10:30 Worship Service "Veterans Day" by Minister Rebekah Montgomery 3:30 AAFCJ	<b>16</b> 7 Book Club	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7 Lifespan Faith Development Council	<b>19</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>20</b> 6:30 Band Practice 7:30 Families Anonymous	<b>21</b> 11 Radical Hospitality Workshop - Silver Spring, MD 5 AAFCJ
<b>22</b> 10:30 Worship Service "Silent Gratitude Isn't Much Use to Anyone" by Rev Anya 11:45 Family Support Circle 3:30 AAFCJ	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6 Old Sterling Gable HOA Mtg	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 Choir	<b>27</b> 7:30 Families Anonymous	<b>28</b> 5 AAFCJ
<b>29</b> 10:30 Worship Service "Into the Dark" by Rev Anya 3:30 AAFCJ	<b>30</b> 7 Membership Committee					



## Unitarian Universalists of Sterling

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22135 Davis Drive  
Suite 104  
Sterling, VA 20164

Office hours are:  
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday  
10:00 AM—4:30 PM



### *Your Church Leadership*

**Minister:** Rev. Anya Sammler-Michael

**Director of Religious Exploration:** Linda Weaver; **Music Director:** Kristina Adams

**2009-2010 Board of Trustees:** *President* - Bonnie Lepoff; *Secretary* - Joan Johnson;

*Treasurer* - Paul Roche; *At-large* - Dorine Scher, Ken Ward, Linda Reeder, Belinda Bullock; *Youth Member* - Julia Burns

### *UUS Mission Covenant Statement*

The Unitarian Universalists of Sterling offer a place where reason and spirituality converge. We welcome members of the community who are seeking such a religious home.

Our mission is to make the community a better place to live by promoting a variety of religious expressions, working toward social justice, and fostering diversity. In order to carry out this mission, we covenant to listen to each other, encourage the exchange of creative thought, and respect our differences.

### *UUS Sunday Services 10:30 AM*

**Unitarian Universalists of Sterling** meets at the Sterling Oaks Commerce Center Sterling, a handicapped-accessible 24-7 facility, located on 22135 Davis Drive near Route 28 and Church Road in Sterling, Virginia. Child care and children's religious education are both provided during worship services. Dress is casual. Children are encouraged to wear play clothes.

From Northbound Route 28: Take Route 28 North exit from the Dulles Toll Road. Turn right at Church Road. Turn right on Davis Drive. Go about one block and turn right into the parking lot.

From Southbound Route 28: Take Route 28 south from Route 7. Head east on Church Road. Turn right on Davis Drive. Go about one block and turn right into the parking lot.

From Westbound Route 7: Turn left at Sterling Boulevard. Turn right at Church Road. Go three miles. Turn left on Davis Drive. Go about one block and turn right into the parking lot.

### *What's with UUS*

**Editor:** Bob Brown

**Media Relations:** Terry Dick

**Production:** Jeff Chandler, Susan Miller

**Board Liaison:** Bonnie Lepoff

To submit material for publication, send by email to [newsletter@uusterling.org](mailto:newsletter@uusterling.org)

#### **Submission Deadlines**

11/20 for December

12/18 for January

1/22 for February

2/19 for March

**For information about times and dates of events concerning the life of the congregation, please go to [www.uusterling.org](http://www.uusterling.org) / Keeping In Touch / UUS Calendar**