

LIMMUD CHICAGO + MW

August 24-27, 2018

Perlman Retreat Center - Mukwonago, WI





Dear Friends,

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to wish a hearty mazal tov to everyone who has worked so hard to create Limmud Chicago 2018. I know how dedicated the team are and I have no doubt that this year's event will be vibrant and exciting. I'm sorry to be missing out!

Limmud's growth around the world has been astounding. Limmud's unique model of volunteer-led, cross-communal, multi-generational and transformational Jewish experiences is now truly global. There are now 89 Limmud groups in 42 countries round the world. In 2017 there were 72 Limmud events run by 4,000 volunteers with 40,000 participants. These events are all inspired and supported by the Limmud organisation, which provides training and support to Limmud groups around the world (you can find out more at www.limmud.org). Limmud is now truly a global community and we encourage you to attend Limmud events in other parts of the world if you are able to do so.

All of this would not happen without the tremendous work of all the Limmud volunteers who create all these events. My congratulations therefore to the wonderful team of volunteers and all those who have put so much effort into creating Limmud Chicago this year and wish you a very successful event.

David Hoffman
Chair, Limmud
August 2018

Limmud Chicago + MW 2018

Welcome to Limmud Chicago + Midwest 2018!

To Our Limmud Chicago Community,

Limmud started in England more than thirty years ago. Today, there are 89 Limmud groups in 42 countries around the world. Here in the Midwest, Limmud Chicago began in 2010 as a day-long conference. After years of successful conferences, Limmud Chicago decided it was time for a revamp and to try something entirely new. 2018 is the year for us to get out of town, build a weekend-long community, and include nature as part of the experience. It is time for Limmud Chicago to go back to camp. And that's how we came to be at this, our first-ever multi-night retreat.

The heart of Limmud is its values: We have a program that is planned and run entirely by volunteers in a space where everyone teaches and everyone learns and with a schedule that demonstrates the breadth, depth, creativity, and joy of Jewish life. It is our hope that Limmud Chicago + MW will continue to re-energize and inspire the vibrant Jewish community that exists throughout the Midwest. This weekend, we challenge you to move out of the comfort of what you already know and into exciting places you've never been. We encourage you to meet new people and study something you've never learned about before. And we invite you to settle in, enjoy, and be both a learner and a teacher.

Thank you to all of our volunticipants, presenters, sponsors, supporters, and everyone else who has worked to make this event come true. We especially want to thank the Limmud Chicago 2018 Steering Team who went along on this ride and have not only planned a weekend of exciting and original programming, but have also worked to make the entire planning process empowering, intentional, and joyful.

Enjoy!

Robyn and Ilana
Limmud Chicago + Midwest 2018 Conference Co-Chairs

Limmud A-Z General Information

Accessibility: All of the program buildings are wheelchair/handicap accessible. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please visit the help desk or ask a member of the Limmud leadership team for help.

Baby Watching: Baby watching is available each night until midnight on a volunteer basis. To volunteer for a baby watching slot, sign up on the volunteer sheet at the Help Desk.

Cars: Once you have arrived at Limmud, you can park your car in visitor parking and visit the registration desk. Once you've brought your bags to your room, you should return your car to visitor parking and leave it there throughout the weekend. Please do not drive your car through camp over Shabbat.

Check-in: Check-in hours are 12-6:30pm on Friday and 7:30am-3pm on Sunday at the Registration Desk in Sycamores.

Drinks and Snacks: Coffee, tea, and snacks will be available throughout the weekend. Hot drinks can be found in the Beber Dining Hall and snacks will be available all weekend in the Bisno Lounge. Cold water can be found in water coolers and water fountains throughout camp. All sink water is also potable.

Food: The dining hall will be CRC certified for the duration of the retreat. Please honor their policy by not bringing any outside food into or near the Beber Dining Hall. Limmud is under rabbinic supervision. All meals will be served in the Beber Dining Hall – see the daily schedule for meal times.

Games and Sporting Equipment: Board games can be found in the Bisno Lounge throughout the weekend. Some sporting equipment is available. Please ask at the Help Desk if you are looking for something specific.

Help Desk: The Help Desk and Registration Desk are located in the Sycamores Entryway. The Help Desk is open until 10pm every night. This is also where you will find the lost and found for items forgotten around camp, and the go-to place for any updates and announcements regarding schedule changes.

Internet Access: Wifi is available throughout camp. The password is **Boulder2017**.

Li'l Limmud: Li'l Limmud is our programming for Limmuniks 12 and under. These are supervised and facilitated activities that we aim to make fun, educational, and Jewishly inclined, and are specifically designed for all of our youngest Limmuniks. In addition, all Limmudniks are always invited to attend any session that they would like.

Lost and Found: The Lost and Found is located at the Help Desk.

Name Badges: You will be given a name badge during check-in. Please wear it at all times. Badges are both for security and for community building. If you lose your name badge, please contact the Help Desk for a new one.

Photography: We've set up a PhotoCircle account to collect and view photographs from Limmud Chicago 2018. To add and look at photos for the weekend, download the PhotoCircle app and use the code **640812**.

Pool: The pool will be open from 2-3:30pm on Saturday and from 1:30-3pm on Sunday. If you plan to use the pool, please bring an extra towel. The pool will not be open outside these windows.

Prayer: All participants are welcome to join in religious prayer services throughout the weekend if they so choose. These prayer services are led and facilitated by volunteers. We are delighted to provide the space for a variety of services over Shabbat, please see the schedule for more details. We invite volunteers who are interested to organize a Orthodox/traditional service. Please note that as participation is an individual decision, we cannot guarantee a specific type or size of minyan in each service.

Rooms: You will be given your room assignment at registration. Bed assignments in the cabins are on a first-come/first-served basis. Please respect the space of those staying in the cabins. Do not go into the sleeping area of a cabin other than your own.

Social Media: Limmud Chicago + MW is on Facebook and Instagram. If you post, feel free to tag Limmud Chicago and use the hashtag **#limmudchi**.

Valuables: Please do not leave valuable items in your room. Please lock them in your car. Limmud and the Perlman Retreat Center are not responsible for any missing or lost items.

Volunteering: We hope that everyone will take the opportunity to be a volunteer in our volunteer-run community. To sign up, stop by the Help Desk and ask to add your name to the schedule.

		Beber Dining Hall	Bisno 1	Bisno 2	Bisno 3
Friday					
12-1:30pm	Registration	Lunch			
2-3:15pm			What We Can Do to Reduce Prejudice and Discrimination with Jodi Eisentadt		
3:30-4:45pm			Multiple Marriages of Kabbalat Shabbat with David Kaplinsky	Your Health: The Jewish Connection with Wendy Schwartz	
4:45-6pm	Shabbat Prep				
6pm		Candle Lighting			
6-7pm					
7-8:30pm		Shabbat Dinner			
9-10pm			De- and Reconstructing Kabbalat Shabbat Through Hip Hop with Eden Pearlstein	The Comforting Journey of Teshuvah - ?! with Suzanne Griffel	Rest, Work, and Labor Day with Jonathan Wolf
10-11pm					
Saturday					
8:30-9:30am		Breakfast			
9:30am-12pm			Mindfulness Meditation with Lynda Dresher (9:30-10:45am)		

Sycamores 1	Chapel	Bisno Lounge	Dance Pavilion	Flagpole/Fire Pit
		Li'l Limmud Craft Hour		
Additional Kabbalat Shabbat Service Space	Traditional Egalitarian Kabbalat Shabbat	Songs and Stories for Shabbat with Li'l Limmud	Humanistic Shabbat Evening Option	
		Shabbat Oneg: Stories and Singing		
Additional Shabbat Morning Service Space	Traditional Egalitarian Shabbat Morning Services			

		Beber Dining Hall	Bisno 1	Bisno 2	Bisno 3
11am-12:15pm			Not From Heaven: If Humans Wrote the Torah with Adam Chalom		
12:30-1:30pm		Lunch			
2-3:15pm	Pool Open (until 3:30pm)		(Trans) Gender in Judaism From the Torah to Modernity with Abby Stein	Schmoozing with God with Neil Brill	Ready... Set... Forgive? with Anita Silvert
3:30-4:45pm		Walk and Talk: Building Community Through the Jewish Outdoor Club with Wendy Schwartz	The Notorious RBG: I Love It When You Call Me Big Safta with Matt Bar	Bodies of Water: Exploring Mikvah, Mindful Eating and Jewish Yoga with Naomi Malka	
5-6:15pm			Thinking in Nusach: How to Listen to and Understand Traditional Cantorial Modes with Carl Sayres	Each Person is a Torah with Shoshana Waskow	Equal Citizens of the Halakhic Nation with Esther Hugenholtz
6:30-7pm					
7:30pm-8:30pm		Dinner			
8:15-8:30pm					
8:45-9:15pm					
9:30-11pm					
11pm-12am			Sound & Spirituality with Ilana Emmett		

Sycamores 1	Chapel	Bisno Lounge	Dance Pavilion	Flagpole/Fire Pit
		Board Games		
		Board Games		
		Board Games	Li'l Limmud	
	Mincha			
	Ma'ariv			
				Communal Havdallah <i>Flagpole</i>
	Concert with Bible Raps and ePRHYME			
				Campfire and Snacks <i>Fire Pit</i>

		Beber Dining Hall	Bisno 1	Bisno 2	Bisno 3
Sunday					
8-9am		Breakfast			
8:30-9am					
9-10:15am			Into the Depths with Naomi Malka	What's So Special About Pesach Sheni with Jonathan Bressler	
10:30-11:45am			Rappers and Rabbis with Matt Bar and Eden Pearlstein	How Can the Jewish State Fully Include Non-Jews in the Zionist Project with Asher Lopatin	
12-1pm		Lunch			The Experience of Mikvah: Putting it into Words a Panel Discussion with Naomi Malka, Abby Stein and Asher Lopatin (12:15-1:30pm)
1:30-2:45pm	Pool Open (until 3pm)		Broadway and the American Jewish Experience with Anita Silvert	Going South: Israel's Future in the Negev with Robyn Schneider	
3-4:15pm			Attaining a Heart of Wisdom with Gary Zimmerman	Three Jewish Heretics with Adam Chalom	Davening Like an Actor with David Kaplinsky

Sycamores 1	Chapel	Bisno Lounge	Dance Pavilion	Flagpole/Fire Pit
	Shacharit			
			Bliss Education with Lynda Dresher	
A Life in TRANSition: A Personal and Communal Journey with Abby Stein	In Memoriam: Eli Wiesel with Gary Zimmerman		Li'l Limmud	
Mussar Mixtapes: A Hip- Hop Curriculum with Matt Bar				
My Story in the Media: How Does It Portray Me and My Community? with Abby Stein			Li'l Limmud	

		Beber Dining Hall	Bisno 1	Bisno 2	Bisno 3
4:30pm-5:45pm			New Approach to working with Anti-Semites: From Stolen Wells to Abolitionism with Asher Lopatin	Pirkei Avot, Is It Still Relevant Today? with Neil Brill	
5:45-6pm					
6-7pm		Dinner			
7-9pm			"Now It's On To Chicago!": 1968 Fifty Years Later with Jonathan Wolf (7:30-9pm)		
9-9:15pm					
9-11pm					

Monday

8-9am		Breakfast			
9-11am			Social Justice in Chicago: An Open Discussion with Jonathan Wolf	Putting the "We" in Midwest: The Future of Limmud Chicago + MW	
11-12pm	Farewells and Final Checkout				

Sycamores 1	Chapel	Bisno Lounge	Dance Pavilion	Flagpole/Fire Pit
	How Leonard Bernstein Used the Music of Slichot Services to Create West Side Story with Carl Sayres		Li'l Limmud	
	Mincha			
	Film Screening and Discusson: <i>Ben-Gurion, Epilogue</i>			
	Ma'ariv			
				Campfire and Jam Session <i>Fire Pit</i>

Shabbat at Limmud

Limmud Chicago + MW brings together Jews from diverse backgrounds who come with a wide range of observance, Jewish knowledge, and comfort with Jewish tradition. We have worked hard to create an intimate and spirited Shabbat with diverse options for prayer services as well as other engaging experiences. We hope you will find programs comfortable for you and that you'll try things that are new and perhaps out of your comfort zone.

We encourage you to take the time to examine the ways you observe or do not observe Shabbat and explore new meaning in your practices. We invite you to be a part of this cooperative, pluralistic, and inclusive community. When Shabbat ends we hope you will feel reinvigorated, eager to begin the new week and continue learning and experiencing new things at Limmud.

The intention of the Shabbat experience of Limmud is comparable to that of a meditation retreat: We ask you to consider turning off outside distractions and tune in to everything we have in this shared space. Consider it a weekend reboot for your soul.

In public spaces that cater to the entire Limmud group, we ask that you adhere to Traditional Shabbat observance. A Limmud core value of Limmudis that we all respect Shabbat observance in public areas. Please leave the lights on in communal corridors and bathrooms during Shabbat. Do not smoke or use personal electronic devices (e.g. cell phone, radio, iPod, portable video games, etc.) outside of your room or in any public areas. This request extends to the use of musical instruments except in cases of Limmud prayer services.

If you do not carry outside on Shabbat, please keep in mind that there is no eruv. If you have questions about where to leave your personal items, please ask at the Help Desk.

We ask that you arrive before Shabbat so as not to miss anything and so that you can begin the weekend with Kabbalat Shabbat with our community. In addition, arrival before Shabbat allows you to drive your cars through camp to transport your luggage to your rooms and park.

For those who are interested, there are Shabbat candles for you to light in the Beber Dining Hall beginning at 6:00 pm. Do not light candles in your room.

August 24 • Friday

12:00pm	Registration Opens	Sycamores Entryway
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch	Beber Dining Hall
2:00-3:15pm	Let's Talk: What We Can Do to Reduce Prejudice and Discrimination Jodi Eisenstadt In this interactive session, we will learn about and practice different techniques you can use to reduce prejudice and discrimination in our families, communities, workplace and beyond.	Bisno 1
3:30-4:45pm	Multiple Marriages of Kabbalat Shabbat David Kaplinsky In this session we will uncover the roots of possibly the most popular contemporary Jewish prayer service: Kabbalat Shabbat. Underneath the beautiful music we sing each week, there are multiple mystical-unions that our prayer facilitates. From the love poetry of Yedid Nefesh to the celestial wedding of L'cha Dodi, we'll see where these famous poems derive their source texts, how they describe the moment of Shabbat beginning, and find out which parties are betrothed each week. The goal of the session is to illuminate the purpose of kab shab, its history, and the mystical message underneath the pretty music. I want the session to deepen peoples' experiences with the service, and understand its root purpose. We will be looking at various texts in a source sheet as well as poems from the service to uncover what exactly Kabbalat Shabbat is.	Bisno 1
3:30-4:45pm	Your Health: The Jewish Connection Wendy Schwartz By presenting sources from Jewish liturgy and Torah, I will show how Judaism supports the importance of personal health. Then I will tie in my lay research, as well as what I have learned in treatment as a two time ovarian cancer survivor and volunteer (for Imerman Angels, Sharsheret, etc.) about how people can change their everyday health (by eating whole foods, certain types of exercise and prevention techniques). Tie-ins will include Jewish community statistics for certain cancers, mental illness, etc.	Bisno 2
3:30-4:45pm	Li'I Limmud Craft Hour: Decorations for Shabbat Programming specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Bisno Lounge
4:45-6:00pm	Shabbat Prep	
6:00pm	Shabbat Candle Lighting	Beber Dining Hall
6:00-7:00pm	Traditional Egalitarian Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Chapel
6:00-7:00pm	Humanistic Shabbat Evening Option	Dance Pavilion
6:00-7:00pm	Additional Kabbalat Shabbat Service Space	Sycamores 1

6:30-7:00pm	Songs and Stories for Shabbat with Li'l Limmud Shabbat songs and stories specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Bisno Lounge
7:00-8:30pm	Welcome, Icebreakers, and Shabbat Dinner	Beber Dining Hall
9:00-10:00pm	De- and Reconstructing Kabbalat Shabbat Through Hip Hop Eden Pearlstein Eden Pearlstein, in collaboration with renowned world-soul singer Basya Schechter, has recently released an exciting new musical album called RAZA. RAZA, which is Aramaic for secret, is a radical re-imagining of the traditional prayers and mystical poetry recited on Friday night to welcome the Sabbath Bride. Come learn about the creative processes of 16th century Kabbalists that led to the Kabbalat Shabbat liturgy that we use today. And see how this creative approach to Jewish life and practice is being applied by contemporary artists today.	Bisno 1
9:00-10:00pm	The Comforting Journey of Teshuvah - ?! Suzanne Griffel The rabbis assigned three haftarot (prophetic readings) of rebuke and warning leading up to Tisha B'Av (the day on which we mourn the destruction of the Temples), and seven haftarot of consolation leading from Tisha B'Av to Rosh Hashanah. They also designated the month of Elul, which precedes Rosh Hashanah, as a time to engage in introspection and teshuvah (literally "return," often translated as "repentance") in preparation for the Days of Awe. Hmmm, how do we reconcile these seemingly contradictory moods? In this session we will look at excerpts from the seven haftarot of consolation (both Hebrew text and English translation will be provided) and explore how a sense of feeling comforted might help to buoy us up through the teshuvah process.	Bisno 2
9:00-10:00pm	Rest, Work, and Labor Day Jonathan Wolf In the week before America's annual holiday celebrating working people and their labors, we will study texts on how Jewish tradition defines rest and creative work, on how our sages viewed jobs and laboring, and on the rights and responsibilities of employees and of their bosses. How have Jews been central to organizing American workers and to building the trade union movement? How are labor unions faring in an era of ongoing governmental and judicial antagonism and amid the 'gig economy'? We will review the history and contributions of the Jewish Labor Committee and of unions historically led and populated by Jews. The Ten Commandments in Deuteronomy declare that our Sabbath is intended "...so that your male and female servants may rest as you do. That is why God commanded you to observe the Shabbat," How do we follow and apply that obligation today?	Bisno 3
10-11:00pm	Shabbat Oneg: Stories and Singing	Bisno Lounge

August 25 • Saturday

8:30-9:30am	Breakfast	Beber Dining Hall
9:30am-12:00pm	Traditional Egalitarian Shabbat Morning Services	Chapel
9:30am-12:00pm	Additional Shabbat Morning Service Space	Sycamores 1
9:30-10:45am	Mindfulness Meditation Lynda Dresher Mindfulness living includes walking in nature, (hitbodidute practice), chanting and sitting meditation. Being in the moment aligns us with our divine self and Source energy (God). As we are inspired, in-spirit, we tap into our intuitive self and create the world around us in a state of joy. We will experience the stillness and practice staying present and focus on our good feeling thoughts. Through walking, chanting, and Meditation we will become clearer with who we are and our personal God connection.	Bisno 1
11:00am-12:15pm	Not From Heaven: If Humans Wrote the Torah Adam Chalom A traditional phrase claims the Torah's origins: "from the mouth of God, by the hand of Moses." But university Jewish Studies and non-Orthodox rabbinic seminaries teach our earliest literature's historical origins very differently. We will explore some of the evidence for these conclusions, how the challenges of archaeology and critical scholarship were received in the past and are addressed today, and what this means for personal, congregational, and inspirational connection to the Torah. This will balance contemporary knowledge and inherited tradition, and find ways to connect to Torah on one's own terms, be it secular or religious.	Bisno 1
12:30-1:30pm	Lunch	Beber Dining Hall
2:00-3:15pm	(Trans)Gender in Judaism From the Torah to modernity Abby Stein For generations most traditional Jews saw gender within Jewish culture as black and white, male and female, with no place for fluidity. Until today, Ultra Orthodox communities ignore the existence of gender diversity within Jewish tradition. However Judaism is rich and full with gender diversity. This session will explore different approaches within primary Jewish texts, from the creation story, the several genders of the Talmud, to transgender theory within Kabbalah, with real life examples. It will also include a hands on guide to creating queer friendly rituals!	Bisno 1
2:00-3:15pm	Schmoozing with God Neil Brill This text-based session will look at our prayers and our conversations with God as we express our individual needs, wants, and desires. We will examine some of the prayers printed in the Siddur (prayer book) and the meaning that individuals might attach to those prayers. We will discuss how we can schmooze with God like the "BFF" that God is.	Bisno 2

2:00-3:15pm	Ready... Set... Forgive? Anita Silvert We begin the High Holiday season with Selichot, asking forgiveness. How did some of our favorite Biblical leaders handle this weighty load in Torah? Where do you find that forgiving place? Join Anita in a special Selichot session of Bibliodrama, a technique of text study that combines role playing and improvisation. You don't need to be a theater geek to take part! Come find your voice in the text, make some new midrash. It may be a serious subject, but you'll have lots of fun exploring it!	Bisno 3
2:00-3:30pm	Pool Open	Pool
2:00-5:00pm	Board Games	Bisno Lounge
3:30-4:45pm	The Notorious RBG: I Love It When You Call Me Big Safta Matt Bar Thanks to the rap musical phenomenon "Hamilton" teens across the country are now learning about the complexities of America's birth via incredible rap songs that tell the story of the unique personality of Alexander Hamilton. Well America needs another hero-win! Here about her story thru 6 new raps by Matt Bar. Imagine the raps on the big stage! The time is right for the rap musical, Notorious RBG, focusing on Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. If she ain't as cool as Hamilton, then it's the poet's fault, not hers.	Bisno 1
3:30-4:45pm	Bodies of Water: Exploring Mikvah, Mindful Eating and Jewish Yoga Naomi Malka Bodies of Water introduces Mikvah as a healthy, positive practice with which to experience the holiness of the body. In this session, we will do a "virtual" Mikvah immersion via a guided meditation, get a taste of Jewish yoga, and mindfully enjoy a snack with brachot. All ages and genders are welcome.	Bisno 2
3:30-4:45pm	Walk and Talk: Building Community Through the Jewish Outdoor Club Wendy Schwartz By presenting sources from Jewish liturgy and Torah, I will show how Judaism supports the importance of personal health. Then I will tie in my lay research, as well as what I have learned in treatment as a two time ovarian cancer survivor and volunteer (for Imerman Angels, Sharsheret, etc.) about how people can change their everyday health (by eating whole foods, certain types of exercise and prevention techniques). Tie-ins will include Jewish community statistics for certain cancers, mental illness, etc.	Meet at the Beber Dining Hall
5:00-6:15pm	Thinking in Nusach: How to Listen to and Understand Traditional Cantorial Modes Carl Sayres	Bisno 1

5:00-6:15pm	Each Person is a Torah Shoshana Waskow From Talmud to Rabbi Max Ticktin, traditional and contemporary Jewish sources have taught that each one of us is like a Torah. We will explore some of these sources together and consider the question: "If each of us is a Torah, how should we treat each other?"	Bisno 2
5:00-6:15pm	Equal Citizens of the Halakhic Nation Esther Hugenholtz This session will look at the tension between being a religious Jew and a Feminist. What do our ancient rabbinic texts say about the roles of women in prayer and leadership through the time bound commandments (ie tallit)? Is egalitarianism contradictory to Judaism or perhaps quite the opposite: a vision of being created in the Divine Image? By studying and discussing both rabbinic texts and contemporary experiences, we will make these important questions come alive in our own lives and communities and look at creating a more equal and inclusive Judaism.	Bisno 3
5:00-6:15pm	Li'I Limmud Programming specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Dance Pavilion
6:30-7:00pm	Mincha	Chapel
7:30-8:30pm	Dinner	Beber Dining Hall
8:15-8:30pm	Ma'ariv	Chapel
8:45-9:15pm	Communal Havdallah	Flagpole
9:30-11:00pm	Concert: Darshan x Bible Raps Matt Bar and Eden Pearlstein Come enjoy the beats and rhymes of two of the most dynamic Jewish Rappers on the scene today — Eden Pearlstein of Darshan and Matt Bar of Bible Raps. Each in their own ways, both Eden and Matt have been evolving American Jewish culture through Hip Hop music and methodology for over a decade. From albums to videos to concerts to classrooms to camps and curriculums, these two do not sleep (except on Shabbat)! This will be an intimate, acoustic set of Hip Hop music and poetry, perfect for dancing as well as for appreciating the intricacies of the poetry and Jewish thought on display in the lyrics.	Chapel
11:00p-12:00am	Sound & Spirituality Ilana Emmett In this session, we will look at both biblical and academic sources about sound and faith to consider the invisible, immaterial relationship between two invisible, immaterial concepts: sound and spirituality. In what ways does sound rely on faith, but also how does it work to build faith and faith communities? This will include a listening exercise and discussion.	Bisno 1
11:00p-12:00am	Campfire and Snacks	Fire Pit

August 26 • Sunday

8:00-9:00am	Breakfast	Beber Dining Hall
8:30-9:00am	Shacharit	Chapel
9:00-10:15am	Bliss Education Lynda Dresher As an artist, meditation instructor and congregational cantor at Har Shalom in Highland Park, Cantor Lynda Hope Dresher is excited about her new venture, teaching adults and children to open and embrace their God given creative spark. The program is called “Bliss”. This program takes you back to the beginning of creation to understand its origin. It confirms your individual God connection and co-creating journey. It helps clarify your inner being. It provides life skills to grow your soul and to achieve a moment to moment blissful state from which all creativity flows. Creative, fun and inspiring activities are part of the experience. We will be having a God conversation and discuss Genesis creation stories. We will participate in an “I Am” Meditation which aligns you with God, universe (whatever you call it). We will Conclude with a creativity discussion and exercise.	Dance Pavilion
9:00-10:15am	Into the Depths Naomi Malka Mikvah is a powerful yet controversial Jewish practice. Join me for a discussion exploring how this ancient ritual is gaining relevance in progressive Judaism. Learn how we are removing “Purity” from the conversation about Mikvah, going back to its biblical roots and re-framing it as a ritual of transition. We will look at the development of Mikvah practices and Halacha outside of orthodoxy, and take note of trends that now extend far beyond the traditional uses around conversion, monthly usage, and kashrut. Many of us grew up with negative associations about Mikvah and have never imagined that it could be relevant to us. See how we are changing perceptions and practices so that a new generation of Jews grows up with positive feelings about ritual immersion. All ages and genders are welcome.	Bisno 1
9:00-10:15am	What's So Special About Pesach Sheni Jonathan Bressler Pesach Sheni is the “make-up” festival for if one is unable to offer the Korban Pesach during the regular time of the holiday. We will be exploring the basis of this “second” opportunity festival, and what makes it tick and unique, through the lens of biblical and rabbinic texts.	Bisno 2
10:30-11:45am	Rappers and Rabbis Matt Bar and Eden Pearlstein Be a part of the Pardes Podcast Rappers and Rabbis! Matt Bar and Rabbis, Eden and you, will tape a podcast about Radical amazement! Join in on the fun!	Bisno 1

10:30-11:45am	How Can the Jewish State Fully Include Non-Jews in the Zionist Project? Asher Lopatin Israel is the Jewish State. Yet 25% of its citizens are either Muslim, Christian or of no determined religion. How did the founding fathers of the State of Israel and subsequent thinkers - inside Israel and outside - imagine including this non-Jewish population - many of them Palestinians - in the project of building the Jewish State? Some surprising solutions.	Bisno 2
10:30-11:45am	In Memoriam: Eli Wiesel Gary Zimmerman Elie Wiesel was the voice and face of Holocaust literature and education for two generations. He is a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. Wiesel is known for his stark and powerful focus on life in Nazi death camps. Wiesel is also recognized for his focus on questions and questioning, as well as his emphasis on wonder, and imagination. He speaks to the abiding value of stories and storytelling. Wiesel helped us retain the ability to celebrate life and to maintain a sense of hope despite tragedy and loss. Wiesel experiments with new ways of using language and silence, song and story as tools of understanding. We will read selections from Wiesel's vast corpus of published work, focusing on a range of stories/tales/creative midrash, and look at characters from Tanakh, Talmud, and Hasidic legends. We will examine how his dual emphasis on questions and stories enriches our teaching and learning.	Chapel
10:30-11:45am	A Life in TRANSition: A Personal and Communal Journey Abby Stein The story of a girl, raised as a boy in the Hasidic world, ordained as a Rabbi, then left and came out as a Trans-Women. This session will explore the intersecting worlds of the Hasidic Community, Education, arranged marriages in today's America, LGBTQ issues, and the story of the first Ex-Hasidic Transgender support group.	Sycamores 1
10:30-12:00pm	Li'l Limmud Programming specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Dance Pavilion
12:00-1:00pm	Lunch	Beber Dining Hall
12:15-1:15pm	The Experience of Mikvah: Putting it into Words Naomi Malka, Abby Stein, and Asher Lopatin Naomi Malka will moderate a discussion with Abby Stein and Asher Lopatin in which they discuss central themes of the Mikvah--gender, the body, transition, and wholeness.	Bisno 3

1:30-2:45pm	Broadway and the American Jewish Experience Anita Silvert We begin the High Holiday season with Selichot, asking forgiveness. How did some of our favorite Biblical leaders handle this weighty load in Torah? Where do you find that forgiving place? Join Anita Silvert in a special Selichot session of Bibliodrama, a technique of text study that combines role playing and improvisation. You don't need to be a theater geek to take part! Come find your voice in the text, make some new midrash. It may be a serious subject, but you'll have lots of fun exploring it!	Bisno 1
1:30-2:45pm	Going South: Israel's Future in the Negev Robyn Schneider Come learn about the developments in Israel's Negev desert, an area that makes up 60% of the land but has less than 10% of its population. Find out more about the prophetic vision of Israel's first Prime Minister, David Ben-Gurion, and the epicenter of the Silicon Wadi.	Bisno 2
1:30-2:45pm	Mussar Mixtapes: A Hip-Hop Curriculum Matt Bar Chai Mitzvah has come out with an innovative program combining relevant text study-based discussions and social action with creative activities that culminate in a class rap video edited by Matt Bar, the Bible Rapper. It's easy to implement for both hip and less hip educators! The Chai Mitzvah program includes learning, social action, and ritual. Teen program materials include texts to spark discussions, suggestions for increasing meaning in ritual observances, and examples of volunteer opportunities for each topic that can inspire the group towards creative ideas for social action. There are also links to additional information on each topic. Activities are varied, to accommodate groups of different levels and interests. Choose the discussion questions and activities that best suit your group.	Sycamores 1
1:30-3:00pm	Pool Open	Pool
3:00-4:15pm	My Story in the Media: How Does it Portray Me and My Community Abby Stein In the past few years the general media has been fascinated by the stories of transgender people, from serious newspapers and Hollywood studios, to tabloids and gossip sites. At the same time, the interest in "OTD" ("Off the Derech," or formerly Orthodox) people -- people leaving isolated Jewish communities has risen as well. How does it feel to have both of these stories at once? Since Abby Stein came out in 2015, she has had media appearances in the news and media such as New York Times, NY Post, and CNN, FoxNews, HuffPost, Vogue, ShowTime, and many more.	Sycamores 1

3:00-4:15pm	Attaining a Heart of Wisdom Gary Zimmerman Together we will explore the meanings of age and aging within the context of Jewish knowledge and wisdom. We will attempt to understand the meaning(s) of Psalm 90:12 and what it might mean for us to "number our days so that we might attain a heart of wisdom. We will look at brief texts (biblical, rabbinic, Hasidic) and consider how they can help us in learning, teaching and sharing our stories as we approach our later years.	Bisno 1
3:00-4:15pm	Three Jewish Heretics Adam Chalom Even in a tradition that values questioning, some questioners go too far. Second century Rabbi Elisha ben Avuya challenged divine justice, and became "Aher," the other. 19th century feminist Ernestine Rose stood up against her own arranged marriage, and then for the abolition of slavery, for women's rights, and for free thought. Israeli poet Yehuda Amichai beautifully articulated his own playful challenges to Jewish tradition and theology. In what ways are modern Jews traditional, and in what ways are we heretics?	Bisno 2
3:00-4:15pm	Davening Like an Actor David Kaplinsky Walking into a synagogue and trying to understanding the Jewish prayer-book-- compiled from thousands of different sources throughout our Jewish tradition-- can feel a bit like trying to understand Shakespeare by reading it cold. And while we know that Jews have opportunities to pray every day, it can be difficult to maintain meaning in that practice without knowing exactly what we are saying and DOING! This session then will use action-analysis methods created for Shakespearean actors to illuminate not just what the prayers mean, but what ACTIONS we are taking when we speak and sing those words. To Praise, Bless, Prove, Thank, Question, Test, Request, Humble, Remind, Accuse, Reference: these and more are all action verbs that we can identify in Tefillah, and by doing so, activate our davening in a way we never have before.	Bisno 3
3:00-4:15pm	Li'I Limmud Programming specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Dance Pavilion
4:30-5:45pm	New Approach to working with Anti-Semites: From Stolen Wells to Abolitionism Asher Lopatin In today's world many Jews find themselves eager to join forces - on the Right or on the Left - which are fighting for a cause they believe in, or against a cause they find deeply troubling. The problem is, that some of the leaders of these forces are tinged with anti-Semitism and/or anti-Zionism. Are there models within our tradition for moving forward?	Bisno 1
4:30-5:45pm	Pirkei Avot, Is It Still Relavant Today? Neil Brill A reading and discussion of some of the Talmudic concepts taught by the Rabbis of the period and how we might apply those moral exhortations to our lives in contemporary times.	Bisno 2

4:30-5:45pm	How Leonard Bernstein Used the Music of Slichot Services to Create West Side Story Carl Sayres In creating West Side Story, Leonard Bernstein transformed Romeo and Juliet, Shakespeare's story about chance and fate into a story about choice and T'shuvah. In this presentation, Carl will show you how Leonard Bernstein used the musical modes of the S'lichot service (part of the High Holiday liturgy) to not only write the music but also to infuse the score with Jewish concepts of S'lichot and T'shuvah, forgiveness and repentance.	Chapel
4:30-5:45pm	Li'l Limmud Programming specifically for Limmudniks 12 and under.	Dance Pavilion
5:45-6:00pm	Mincha	Chapel
6:00-7:00pm	Dinner	Beber Dining Hall
7:00-9:00pm	Film Screening and Discussion: <i>Ben-Gurion, Epilogue</i> This film brings to life a lost interview with one of modern history's greatest leaders, David Ben-Gurion. It is 1968, he is 82 and lives in the Negev desert. Ben-Gurion's introspective soul-searching provides a surprising vision for the crucial decisions Israel needs to make today. At a time of global leadership crisis, the film also brings thought-provoking insights about the role of leaders in today's complex world. Viewing has been made possible by American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU)	Chapel
7:30-9:00pm	"Now It's On To Chicago!": 1968 Fifty Years Later Jonathan Wolf Fifty years ago this week, in what was called a "police riot", Chicago officers savagely beat young demonstrators at the Democratic National Convention. A few days earlier, Soviet tanks invaded Czechoslovakia. A recent series of CNN documentaries termed 1968 "The Year that Changed America." Did it? How and why? In what ways do our nation, and American Jewish life, still resonate with and reflect that impact? We will take a trip back to the era of Hippies, Revolutionaries, 'Paris Spring', the assassinations of MLK & RFK, burning bras and draft cards, Gene McCarthy For President, "2001:", "Sympathy for the Devil", LSD, and the Poor People's Campaign. What did the protesters and the dropouts seek, and did/does Jewish tradition endorse those ideals, oppose them, or a bit of each?	Bisno 1
9:00-9:15pm	Ma'ariv	Chapel
9:00-11:00pm	Campfire and Jam Session	Fire Pit

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8:00-9:00am	Breakfast	Beber Dining Hall
9:00-11:00am	Social Justice Chicago: An Open Discussion Jonathan Wolf Jonathan Wolf leads a discussion on social justice organizations and opportunities in and around Chicago.	Bisno 1
9:00-11:00am	Putting the “We” in Midwest: The Future of Limmud Chicago + Midwest The Limmud Chicago + MW Steering Team An open discussion and reflection session on Limmud Chicago + Midwest and how to take Limmud back to our communities and make it sustainable for the future.	Bisno 2
11:00-12:00pm	Farewells and Final Checkout	

Presenters

All our presenters are volunteers and participants.

Matt Bar

Matt Bar is Founder and Executive Director of Bible Raps, a nonprofit born from his desire to engage his Hebrew school classes on a deeper and more contemporary level. Bible Raps launched from his participation in the Presentense Institute during the summer of 2007. Matt continued to further his Jewish education during his 2008 year of study at The Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem. Since its inception, Bible Raps has reached over 100,000 young Jews with Torah-rich performances in schools, Hillels, conferences and camps across the U.S. and abroad. Their teaching materials are being used in countless classrooms and teachers are currently being trained to be certified Bible Raps educators. In addition, over 25,000 Torah songs have been sold. In 2011, Matt was named by The New York Jewish Week in their '36 Under 36' list of talented young Jews to watch. Matt was an Upstart Fellow 2012-14 and toured 30 synagogues 10 summer camps in 2018 alone. New programs such as the just launched Chai Mitzvah sponsored Mussar Hip Hop curriculum are currently being deployed by Matt and his squad.

Jonathan Bressler

Jonathan Bressler is a graduate student and researcher getting his MS in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences at the University of Illinois-Chicago, doing research on the water lead levels of rural, private well-supplied homes. He has spent time at the Conservative Yeshiva, Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies, and Hadar. He lives in the Lakeview area of Chicago and is often on a bicycle and singing, while also yearning for some mountains to appear in the distance and a kosher bakery more locally.

Neil Brill

Neil Brill spent 25 years as a Jewish Educator, Hebrew School Principal, and school board member within the Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago. He is currently employed (15th year) at the Jewish Child & Family Services Therapeutic Day School Yeshiva Program as Rabbi and Jewish Studies Teacher.

Adam Chalom

Adam Chalom has served as the rabbi of Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation since 2004, and is also the Dean for North America of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism. Rabbi Chalom earned a B.A. cum laude in Judaic Studies from Yale University; a Master's Degree in Hebrew and Jewish Cultural Studies at the University of Michigan; his rabbinic ordination from the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism (IISHJ), and his PhD at the University of Michigan with a dissertation on "modern midrash." Rabbi Chalom also serves on the Executive Committee of the Association of Humanistic Rabbis; is on the editorial board of the quarterly journal Humanistic Judaism; and has edited and contributed to several published volumes, most recently the entry on "Humanistic Judaism" in The Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception.

Lynda Drescher

Lynda Hope Drescher is a Cantor at Har Shalom Congregation in Northbrook. She is past President of the Southeast Lake County Clergy Association, Member of the ACC (American Conference of Cantors), Reform Cantors of Chicago and past President of the Chicago

Milwaukee Association for Synagogue Musicians. She served on the URJ Commission on Synagogue Music in New York. Cantor Dresner has been a professional singer for over 40 years. She performed in numerous cantorial concerts throughout the United States. She was trained at Condell Medical Center as a chaplain, received her meditation training from Institute for Jewish Spirituality and is a Grief Recovery Specialist.

Ilana Emmett

Ilana Emmett is a PhD candidate in Screen Cultures at Northwestern University. She is working on a dissertation focusing on the aesthetics of American daytime soap operas on radio and television. Her areas of interest include sound studies, religion and media, teen television, and disability studies. She has a BA from the University of Chicago and an MA from the University of Warwick. She is on the leadership team of the Rose Crown Minyan at Anshe Emet Synagogue and has been a Limmud participant and volunteer since 2011.

Jodi Eisenstadt

Jodi Eisenstadt, Esq., SPHR, President, Eisen Alliance, LLC, is passionate about making the workplace work better. Since 2000, she has conducted numerous workplace investigations, coached abrasive leaders, and developed and facilitated training programs to improve workplace communication and productivity. Jodi is a member of The Boss Whispering Institute, which is dedicated to research and training in the field of coaching abrasive leaders. She is a Senior Professional in Human Resources, a certified mediator from the Center for Conflict Resolution in Chicago, and a member of the Illinois bar. Prior to consulting, Jodi practiced employment law in-house for the Chicago Transit Authority and was an associate in major national law firms. She earned her JD from Stanford Law School, and BA, magna cum laude, from Duke University.

Suzanne Griffel

Suzanne Griffel has had the privilege of living in the city of Chicago for 28 years, during which she has pursued a varied rabbinic career, including Hillel at the University of Chicago, Congregation Or Chadash, and chaplaincy at JourneyCare hospice. She is currently the rabbi of Sinai Temple in Michigan City, Indiana and, among other pursuits, an active volunteer with ONE Northside and the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (JCUA).

Esther Hugenholtz

Esther Hugenholtz (1978), holds an M.Sc. in Cultural Anthropology and Sociology of non-Western Societies from the University of Amsterdam. She studied at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, Israel and was an E. Levinas Fellow at Paideia, the European Institute of Jewish Studies in Stockholm, Sweden. Esther completed the first two years of her rabbinical training at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies. She completed the remaining three years of her rabbinical training at Leo Baeck College in London, UK and was ordained a rabbi with this seminary in 2013. Esther serves as the Rabbi for Congregation Agudas Achim, Iowa City, Iowa. Esther considers it her mission to strengthen and grow the Jewish community, as well as bring a joyful, socially relevant and spiritually compelling Judaism to today's world.

David Kaplinsky

David Kaplinsky is a professional actor, b'nei mitzvah tutor, and steering team member of Limmud Chicago and Windy City Minyan. Over the course of his four year career in the city, he has performed Shakespeare, musicals, and new plays with a variety of companies. He also had a guest starring role on NBC's *Chicago Justice*. David studied acting at The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Acting Studio Chicago, and The Globe Theatre in London. He has also studied Jewish texts at the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. DavidKaplinsky.com.

Asher Lopatin

Asher Lopatin is the most recent past president of the Modern-Orthodox Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School (YCT), and the new Rabbi at Kehillat Etz Chayim in Detroit, with additional plans to create the National Detroit Center for Civil Discourse. Prior to assuming the presidency of YCT in 2013, he served as Rabbi of Chicago's own Anshe Sholom B'nai Israel Congregation for eighteen years. Rabbi Lopatin received ordination from Rav Ahron Soloveichik and Yeshivas Brisk in Chicago, and from Yeshiva University, as a Wexner Graduate Fellow. A Rhodes Scholar with a Masters in Philosophy in Medieval Arabic Thought from Oxford University, Rabbi Lopatin has written chapters for over 20 books as well as numerous articles. He is a member of The Council on Foreign Relations and has been listed in Newsweek's "Top 50 Rabbis."

Naomi Malka

Naomi Malka has been the director of the Adas Israel Community Mikvah in Washington, DC since 2006. She trained as a Mikvah Guide at Mayyim Hayyim in Newton, MA and is a founding member of their Rising Tide New Mikvah Network. She earned a masters in Jewish Music from the Jewish Theological Seminary in 2000 and a BA in Sociology from UCLA in 1991. In spring 2010, Naomi served as the ritual consultant for DCJCC Theater J's production of the Israeli play "Mikveh." She is a frequent lecturer and writer on the subject of Mikvah. Naomi is also the founder of Tevila b'Teva/Immersion in Nature, a program that introduces outdoor immersion to Jewish summer camps and outdoor programs. Naomi created an award-winning program called "Bodies of Water," funded by the Tikkun Olam Women's Foundation, to introduce kids ages 10+ to Mikvah as a tool for positive body image and healthy decision making from a Jewish perspective.

Eden Pearlstein

Eden Pearlstein is an acclaimed Hip Hop Artist and Jewish Educator. Over the last 15 years, Eden has recorded and released 10 albums of original music on 3 different record labels, collaborating with some of the most cutting-edge Jewish musicians in the New York downtown scene and performing for thousands on multiple continents. Whether appearing solo as ePRHYME or with his musical midrash project Darshan, Eden's "rapid-fire word salads are a humanist vision of...religious consciousness fused with social action, and an uncompromising and unimpressed blend of urban forms and neo-Hasidic spirituality" (The Forward). Eden's work as an educator primarily focuses on subjects related to Hasidism, Kabbalah, Prayer, Poetry, Spiritual Practice and Self-Expression. Eden holds 2 Master's Degrees from JTS — one in Jewish Thought and Philosophy and the other in Experiential Education.

Carl Sayres

Carl Sayres is a composer of new Jewish liturgical music and is passionate about traditional Eastern European nusach and davening. Carl loves sharing this passion with individuals, groups and congregations. He strives to involve congregations in innovative davening experiences such as his T'filat Halev program, an intimate and participatory Yom Kippur service, which includes many of his own compositions. Carl has also created "Avraham"- a musical d'var Torah for Parshat Lech Lecha set to the opening from Hamilton, and four Purim Maariv services with the entire Maariv text set to the music of Les Miserables, Grease, West Side Story, and the Beatles. Carl's original compositions include the "Millennial V'shomru" which was selected for inclusion in the 2016 Shashelet Festival.

Robyn Schneider

Robyn was born in Missouri and grew up in Arizona and Iowa. She attended Brandeis University where she earned a degree in Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies with a double-minor in International Studies and Peace & Conflict Studies. After working and living in D.C. and Israel post-graduation, she pursued a double-masters degree in Jewish Communal Service from Hebrew Union College and an MBA from the University of Southern California. She has been working in development for almost 15 years and likes to say she puts the FUN in fundraising. She currently serves as the Great Lakes Regional Director for American Associates, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev (AABGU) which allows her to combine her passions for Israel and creating meaningful connections to tzedakah. Robyn enjoys having many different roles in local and national organizations as well as spending time with her fur baby, Enora, especially outdoors. Words cannot express her excitement and pride to be co-chairing this inaugural Limmud + MW 2018 retreat.

Wendy Schwartz

Wendy was born and raised in Chicagoland. Along with her degree in Education, she has many years of Jewish day camp experience, and has taught kindergarten, elementary school and Hebrew School for many years. At the age of 29, Wendy was diagnosed with ovarian cancer with a recurrence in 2007. Since finishing treatment, she has done much research on how to live a healthier life and volunteered for many organizations in the cancer community. Wendy enjoys yoga, writing, spending time in nature, meeting new people and teaching in the Jewish community. She is very proud to be a part of Limmud + MW 2018 and just celebrated 10 years out of cancer treatment.

Anita Silvert

Anita Silvert is the Director of Enrollment for Spertus Institute of Jewish Learning and Leadership. In that role, she is responsible for recruiting students for the graduate and certificate programs Spertus offers. Prior to that, she was the national Director of Outreach for an adult Jewish Learning initiative called Chai Mitzvah, and was an Adult Jewish Educator in the Pritzker Center for Jewish Education at the Chicago JCC. Silvert has taught for the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, and Solomon Schechter Day School. Silvert was a founding volunteer for Limmud Chicago, and has taught at Limmuds all over, including England, Colorado, New Orleans, and Chicago. Blending her passions for theater and Jewish living, Silvert is certified in Bibliodrama, a technique of Bible study that uses role-playing and improvisation to develop Biblical insight and commentary. She has been a Scholar-in-Residence at congregations, women's organizations and retreats throughout the Midwest. She was also the Theater Director for Olin Sang Union Ruby Institute Camp. Silvert received her BA in Voice from University of Iowa, and her MA in Jewish Education from Spertus. A third generation Chicagoan, she now lives in Northbrook with her husband Don, and whichever of their three adult children that happen by.

Abby Stein

Abby Stein is an educator, writer, speaker, and trans-activist. She was born and raised in a Hasidic family in NYC, and is a descendant of the Baal Shem Tov, founder of Hasidic Judaism. In that world, Abby attended Yeshiva and became a rabbi in 2011. She left the Hasidic world the following year, and came out as a trans-woman in 2015. Her story has been covered in publications such as the New York Times, New York Post, WSJ, New York Magazine. In 2016 Abby was named by The Jewish Week as one of their "36 Under 36" emerging Jewish leaders.

Shoshana Elkin Waskow

Shoshana Elkin Waskow was a founding member of Limmud Chicago and Co-Chair in 2012. She also served on the Limmud International Steering Committee. In "real life," Shoshana is a pediatrician and an active member of several local DIY Jewish communities and organizations including the Progressive Chevra Kaddisha. She lives in Evanston with her husband and their teenagers. She loves Jewish learning and is known to drag family members and friends across cities, continents, and oceans to join her in learning.

Jonathan Wolf

Jonathan Wolf is executive director of YASHAR; The Institute for Jewish Activism. He helped start Limmud NY & Limmud Chicago and has taught at Limmud, NewCAJE, and numerous other conferences, campuses, institutes, and synagogues around North America. He served as Jewish community liaison to Cesar Chavez & the United Farmworkers and as national chair of Orthodox Jews for Obama, and created & ran the Community Action Dept. of Lincoln Square Synagogue. Jonathan has been a founder & leader of numerous activist Jewish organizations including Jewish Vegetarians, AJWS, Meimad N. America, Beyond Shelter Coalition, L'OLAM: the Jewish Environmental Network, NACOEJ, the West Side Center for Jewish Life, and feminist-Orthodox 'Partnership' minyanim.

Gary Zimmerman

Gary had the honor and pleasure of creating and teaching courses on Wiesel's thought and influence at The University of Chicago as well as at University based Elderhostel weeks. Beginning as a synagogue youth group member, and dozens of times over the past 40 years, Gary attended Elie Wiesel's lectures and discussions at conferences and synagogues. Wiesel's life and thought have deeply influenced Gary's intellectual and spiritual development. He is interested in the intersection of psychology and religion (particularly Judaism) and has studied, taught and worked in the field of adulthood development and aging for the past 25 years.

**To everyone who has made
Limmud Chicago + Midwest 2018 happen:**

Thank You!

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