

Rabbi Simon Lewis Stratford

2405 Highpoint View Ct #303
Frederick, MD 21702
www.rabbisimonstratford.com

(847) 624-4436
stratford.simon@gmail.com
Pronouns: He/His/Him

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Pulpit Experience – Congregation Kol Ami of Frederick (Frederick, MD) 2017 – Present

- Revitalized synagogue committee structure and increased volunteerism.
- Aided in the organization and implementation of fundraising efforts.
- Outreach and engagement of twenty new member families in two years.
- Planned and implemented a three-year post-Bnai Mitzvah confirmation curriculum.
- Created and facilitated a community wide interfaith Seder and young professional's interfaith event series.
- Member of Frederick County Hospice, Spiritual Care Advisory Board.

Additional Pulpit Experience:

- Baltimore Hebrew Congregation (Baltimore, MD) Guest Clergy, 2019-2020
- Adventure Judaism (Boulder, CO) Seasonal 2014 – 2015
- University of Oklahoma Hillel (Norman, OK) High Holy Days, 2015
- Temple B'nai Israel (Hattiesburg, MS) Bi-weekly, 2014 – 2015
- Temple Bat Yam (South Lake Tahoe, CA) Summer, 2014
- Beth Isaac Synagogue (Trenton, MI) Monthly, 2013 – 2014
- Congregation Beth Am (Buffalo Grove, IL) Summer, 2013

HUC-JIR National Office of Recruitment & Admissions (Cincinnati, OH) August, 2015 – 2017

- Supervise the operations and manage duties of student interns.
- Plan and facilitate a series of leadership retreats for teens and college students – Publicize, recruit, orchestrate, educate, and lead worship.
- Responsible for bringing over 300 students annually to campus for Shabbat weekend retreats.
- Plan and facilitate numerous outreach and recruitment initiatives across the country.
- Represent HUC-JIR and assist with recruiting and teaching efforts at URJ Biennials, NFTY Conventions and other events.

FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

TJF RABBINIC FELLOWSHIP, The Jewish Foundation (Cincinnati, OH)

- Jewish Family Services of Cincinnati 2015 - 2016
 - Intern to the Chief Executive Officer
 - Developed and implemented projects aimed to evaluate, restructure, and further enhance services provided by Jewish Family Services.
 - Spiritual Care & Engagement 2016 - 2017
 - Cultivated a welcoming, inclusive, and safe environment for adult learning
 - Facilitated one-on-one spiritual counseling.
- Jewish Culture Coordinator, Mayerson JCC (Cincinnati, OH) Summer 2014
 - Created a systemized approach to incorporate Judaism into all areas of camp life.
- Adjunct Professor, Univ. of Cincinnati Department of Judaic Studies, (Cincinnati, OH) 2013 – 2014
 - Developed pedagogical skills in a university setting.

Lester & Jewell Morris Hillel Jewish Student Center, East Lansing, MI 2011 – 2012

- Coordinated Shabbat evening services for conservative community.
- Facilitated Shabbat evening services for Reform community.
- Created innovative and engaging Jewish learning opportunities for students.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

HUC-JIR

- Represent student body on rabbinical admissions interview committee (2015).
- Lead Passover Seders for Jewish communities in Belarus in conjunction with World Union for Progressive Judaism and raised over \$3,000 to support costs of travel (2014).
- Student Ambassador of the Department of Admissions and Recruitment in Jerusalem (2013-2014).

Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity

- Rabbinic Consultant 2016 – Present
 - Serve as a liaison between international fraternity associates and Reform Judaism.
 - Facilitating creation of Reform Jewish clergy alumni of AEPi network.
 - Planned and facilitated educational Jewish programming for national and international events.
- Chapter Leadership 2008 - 2012
 - Fraternity Pledge Class President, Recruitment Chair, House Committee, Member.

Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago

Summer, 2011

- CJE Senior Life Intern, Department of Religious Life
 - Aid in leading direct services and program at skilled nursing geriatric care facility.
 - Work alongside life enrichment services staff to develop Jewish education programs and resources for residents.

Olin Sang Ruby Union Institute (Oconomowoc, WI)

Summer, 2007 – 2010

- In-tent counselor for young men grades 7th – 9th in a unit specializing in outdoors/wilderness

EDUCATION

Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion (Cincinnati, OH)

Rabbinic Ordination

May, 2017

Thesis: “The Role of American Reform Judaism in the Modern

American Environmentalist Movement” Advisor: Gary P. Zola, PhD

Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters

May, 2016

Clinical Pastoral Education, 2.5 units completed (1,000 clinical hours)

College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy, Annapolis, MD

2018 - Present

Association of Clinical Pastoral Education, Cincinnati, OH

2015 – 2017

Torah Trek Wilderness Guide, (Los Angeles, CA)

2016 – 2017

Successful completion and certification in Jewish spiritual practice in nature, through the study of the intersections between Judaism, spirituality, and the natural world.

Michigan State University (East Lansing, MI)

2008 - 2012

B.A. in Social Work with Honors, Jewish Studies Specialization

Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Study Abroad Experience

Spring, 2011

References made available upon request.