



## International, multi-faith Summer Institute on Theology and Disability in Raleigh includes Sessions led by Rabbis and Jewish Scholars

The Ninth Summer Institute on Theology and Disability is taking place in Raleigh, June 11-14, hosted at Edenton St. United Methodist Church with the assistance of Duke Divinity School. It includes sessions led by Jewish, Muslim and Christian leaders. On Monday, the “Community Day,” the first day of the Institute, **Rabbi Ruti Regan** is leading an afternoon workshop entitled “*Disability Informed Jewish Leadership*,” geared toward leaders in any role in the Jewish community. A panel that afternoon on “Creative Voices in North Carolina” includes a representative from the Levin Center. On Tuesday afternoon, Rabbi Regan is leading another workshop entitled “*Loving Leviticus*,” re-exploring the passages in Leviticus that have often been used to restrict people with disabilities from leadership. On Wednesday morning, **Rabbi Julia Watts Belser**, a leading scholar in Jewish studies and disability studies at Georgetown University, and one of the Summer Institute Faculty, is participating on a multi-faith panel exploring current issues and trends at the multiple intersections of disability and faith. Then, on Wednesday, she is giving a plenary lecture entitled *Jacob and the Angel: Reimagining Jewish Story through Disability Arts*.

The Institute features seven plenary sessions, thirty-five+ workshops, a three-day afternoon symposium on mental illness and faith, and multiple opportunities to network with leading scholars, leaders of inclusive faith supports, professionals, people with disabilities and family members. For complete information on the program, go to <http://faithanddisability.org/2018-institute/>. To register for the Community Day or for Summer Institute on Theology and Disability, click on the “To Register” link at [www.sitd2018.org](http://www.sitd2018.org) or [HERE](#). Scholarships are available for students.