

Detmold, 27 October 2026

Events to mark 9 November

Dear members,

Friends of the GfCJZ,

9 November marks the commemoration of the November pogroms. On the night of 9–10 November, the Nazis organised violent attacks against Jewish people across the Reich. Synagogues were set alight, Jewish shops and homes were destroyed, people were murdered, abused and, by the thousands, arrested and deported to concentration camps. The pogroms marked a decisive escalation in the anti-Semitic persecution carried out under Nazi terror.

In the face of the current drastic rise in anti-Semitism, the marginalisation and threats to Jewish life, the commemoration of 9 November urges us to stand firm against anti-Semitism, to show solidarity with Jewish people and to protect Jewish life in Germany.

Over the coming weeks, various events will be held to commemorate the many victims of the November pogrom of 1938 and to remember the immeasurable suffering inflicted upon them and their families.

We would like to draw your attention to a number of events organised by local authorities in the Lippe region:

Bad Salzuflen

Monday, November 09, 2026, 18:00

Commemoration ceremony for the victims of the Holocaust

Wreath-laying ceremony at the Old Synagogue on Mauerstraße; address by Mayor Dirk Tolkemitt and a talk by historian Pia Güllner on the events of Kristallnacht in Bad Salzuflen.

Musical accompaniment by a clarinetist.

Followed by: a talk by Dr Jan Christian Pinsch entitled 'Why is the culture of remembrance important, particularly now?' at the Catholic parish hall, Grabenstraße 14, Bad Salzuflen

Town of Bad Salzuflen and Bad Salzuflen Council

Detmold

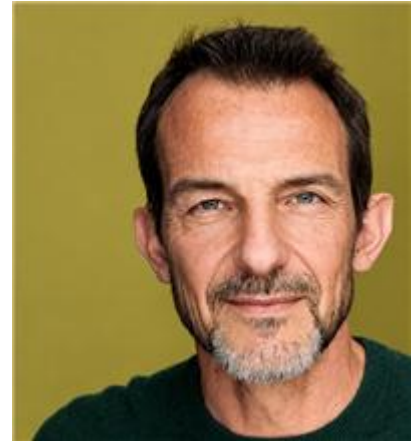
Monday, November 02, 2026, 19:30 and Tuesday, November 03, 2026, 19:30

Village Stories

A reading with Hans-Werner Meyer

Actor Hans-Werner Meyer reads from the novel *Who the Fuck Is Kafka* (published in 2015) by Lizzie Doron.

What happens when two people meet whose life stories could hardly be more different – and yet these two people have so much in common.



In her docu-novel *Who the Fuck Is Kafka*, the Israeli-Jewish writer Lizzie Doron recounts her friendship with Nadim, a Palestinian Muslim man. They meet at a peace conference in Rome. She carries the Holocaust in her personal baggage; he carries a history of displacement and discrimination dating back to the 1948 war. And yet, amidst everyday life and history, personal closeness and political boundaries, a multi-layered portrait emerges of two people who listen to one another – and in doing so question their own perceptions of the world. She will write down the story of his family, and he will film hers. An often agonising process of constant ups and downs begins, offering deep insights into the Israeli-Palestinian dilemma.

With warmth, humour and great openness, Lizzie Doron tackles questions of origin, identity, memory and the personal stories behind a political conflict.

Literaturbüro OWL in Detmold e.V., in cooperation with the LWL Museum Hellerlecht Detmold and the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe e.V.

LWL-Museum Hellerlecht Detmold

Monday, November 09, 2026, 17:30

Central Commemoration Ceremony: 'Remembering and Commemorating 9 November 1938'

The City of Detmold, the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe e. V., and the Protestant and Catholic Youth Organisations of Lippe invite you to a central commemorative event on Monday, 9 November, to mark the anniversary of Kristallnacht on 9 November 1938.

Together, they will commemorate the crimes of the Nazi regime and honour the memory of the Jewish people who were persecuted, deprived of their rights and murdered.

The commemoration ceremony begins at 5.30 pm at the site of the New Synagogue on Lortzingstraße, which was destroyed in 1938. Following a welcome address by Mayor Frank Hilker, Alla Epstein, Chair of the Board of the Jewish Community of Herford-Detmold, will speak about the significance of 9 November. An interfaith reflection led by the Protestant Youth, together with the laying of wreaths by the Protestant and Catholic Youth groups, will provide a shared framework for remembrance at the event.

This is followed by a silent procession to the Exterstraße memorial. There, trainees from the city administration pay tribute to the Jewish victims of persecution from Detmold. A wreath-laying ceremony by the City of Detmold brings the commemoration at this site to a close.

At 7.00 pm, the event will continue at Detmold Town Hall, Marktplatz 5. Under the title 'Survivors of Persecution and Their Children – Art and Music Live On', members of the Detmold State Theatre ensemble will put on a performance (details below in the overview). The commemorative event offers an opportunity to pause and reflect together, to keep the memory of the victims alive and to take a stand against anti-Semitism and exclusion. Anyone interested is warmly invited to attend.

Further information can be found in the [Flyer](#)

Stadt Detmold, GfCJZ Lippe

Monday, November 09, 2026, 19:00

Survivors of persecution and their children – art and music live on

Performance by members of the Detmold State Theatre ensemble

The first 15 minutes are dedicated to the actors of the Landestheater Detmold. They will present a short excerpt from the play 'Muttersprache Mameloschn'. The latter word has the same meaning, but is the Yiddish spelling. The play was written by the German playwright Sasha Marianna Salzmann.

The play centres on three generations of Jewish women living in Germany: the grandmother, the mother and her daughter. All three women have experienced similar traumas, and the play explores how each of them copes with them. It is an intelligent play offering a very profound exploration of the three generations, particularly as the grandmother is a concentration camp survivor.

The second performance will take place in a 35- to 45-minute segment. The three opera singers are Emily Dorn, Franziska Pfalzgraf and Stephen Chambers.

It will be an uplifting Broadway-style musical programme that demonstrates, in an optimistic and creative way, how life goes on – both for those who have suffered personally and for their children, who help to carry on the creative spirit as before. Survivors of trauma are often perceived as people who are working through their grief and adopting a victim mentality. The musical performances – whether by composers or singers, actors or playwrights – clearly demonstrate a zest for life and creativity that goes far beyond what most people in the world are capable of achieving.

Detmold State Theatre in collaboration with the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe e.V.

Rathaus Detmold, Marktplatz 5

Tuesday, November 17, 2026, 19:30

Frieda and Willi Obermeier

A Jewish family from Lippe

Lecture by retired Reverend Martin Hankemeier



Willi Obermeier (born 1894) married Frieda, who was not Jewish. They both thought they would lead a perfectly normal, happy life with their children. But then the Nazi era began. As early as 1923, the first Nazi group in the Lippe region was formed in Lage and made its presence felt with marches and defamatory songs, accompanied by loud shouting. Stones were thrown, and Frieda was harassed as a 'Jewish woman' even before Hitler seized power.

Martin Hankemeier's lecture provides many details about the pre-war, wartime and post-war periods.

Association for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe e.V.

Haus Münsterberg, Hornsche Straße 38

Herford

Wednesday, November 04, 2026, 19:30

How could this have happened? Germany 1933 to 1945

Commemorating Kristallnacht

As part of the commemoration of Kristallnacht on 9 November, we warmly invite you to an event featuring Götz Aly.

The talk, entitled 'How could this have happened? Germany 1933 to 1945', focuses on the author's new book. On 4 November 2026 at 7.30 pm, Götz Aly will present his latest book at the Elsbachhaus (Goebenstraße 3–7, 32052 Herford). The lecture will be followed by a moderated discussion with the author. The event is organised by the Kuratorium Erinnern – Forschen – Gedenken e.V. in cooperation with the Adult Education Department of the Herford, Lübbecke, Minden and Vlotho Church District Association, the Herford District Adult Education Centre and the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation Herford e.V. Admission is free.

Götz Aly is one of the best-known authors on the history of National Socialism and the Holocaust. In his new book, he poses the central question: How could this have happened? In the midst of a severe crisis, the NSDAP was elected as by far the strongest party in 1932.

It was soon able to seize power and build on growing public support. Hitler needed the war; the people feared it. Yet, in the end, 18 million German soldiers terrorised Europe. How did this come about? Why did hundreds of thousands take part in unprecedented mass murders?

The answer is complex. The NSDAP promised the Germans advancement and prosperity. At the same time, it kept people constantly on the move: no respite, no time to reflect. This is how the path led to war. As belief in victory waned, the 'community of the people' turned into a 'community of crime'. Everyone could have known what guilt the Germans were incurring. At the same time, fear of what would happen after a defeat was deliberately stoked.

In a gripping account, Götz Aly describes the methods of control used by the Nazi rulers to transform millions of Germans into compliant enforcers or war-numbed accomplices – methods, not a few of which seem alarmingly relevant today.

Register at kontakt@gcjz-herford.de

Partners:

VHS in the Herford district

Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation Herford e.V.

Elsbachhaus, Herford

Wednesday, November 11, 2026, 18:30

Rethinking Remembrance

How the remembrance of the Holocaust must change

Susanne Siegert

Our culture of remembrance must change. In this book, Susanne Siegert explains how and why. She argues for a new, pluralistic approach to remembrance, with a focus on the responsibility of the descendants of the perpetrators' generation, rather than our 'rehearsed' collective reflection centred on the victims. It deals with lesser-known Nazi crimes, lesser-known places and previously neglected groups of victims. At the same time, this book demonstrates how important a more active, diverse culture of remembrance is in reaching future generations, even without direct eyewitness accounts.

Free admission

Limited places: registration required at anmeldung@gegenrechts.info

Organisers: NRWeltoffen specialist unit in the Herford district and the 'Erinnern Forschen Gedenken' Board of Trustees, in cooperation with the Jewish Community of Herford-Detmold and the Herford District Adult Education Centre (VHS)

Synagoge Herford, Komturstr. 21

Further information on the events organised by the GCJZ Herford can be found in the programme [Spätherbst 2026](#).

Lage

Monday, November 23, 2026, 19:30

Frieda and Willi Obermeier

A Jewish family from Lippe

Lecture by retired pastor Martin Hankemeier

Willi Obermeier (born 1894) married Frieda, who was not Jewish. They both thought they would lead a perfectly normal, happy life with their children. But then came the Nazi era. As early as 1923, the first Nazi group in the Lippe region was formed in Lage and made its presence felt with marches and defamatory songs, accompanied by loud shouting. Stones were thrown, and Frieda was harassed as a 'Jewish woman' even before Hitler seized power.

Martin Hankemeier's lecture provides many details about the pre-war, wartime and post-war periods.

Lage, Alte Schmiede, Hardisser Str. 2a

Lemgo

Monday, November 09, 2026, 18:00

"Remembering" – A memorial service for the victims of the Holocaust on 9 November 1938

On Monday, 9 November 2026, the Old Hanseatic City of Lemgo and the '9 November Working Group' invite you to a commemorative service marking the 1938 Reichspogromnacht. Together with the Stolpersteine and Frenkel-Haus Association, the Lemgo City Council of Church Parishes, the Turkish Islamic Community of Lemgo, secondary schools, the Volunteer Fire Brigade, the Detmold-Lemgo Adult Education Centre, the Society for Christian-Jewish Cooperation in Lippe and the Eben Ezer Foundation, a joint commemoration will be held for the victims of the

6.00 pm: Commemorative service on the market square. Pupils from the Heinrich Drake School will hand out lanterns. Following a welcome from the '9 November' working group and a speech by Mayor Markus Baier, there will be speeches by pupils from Lemgo Secondary School, the Marianne Weber Grammar School and apprentices employed by the City of Lemgo. The event will be accompanied by music from the Lemgo Music School and brass players from the Engelbert-Kaempfer-Gymnasium. After a 'moment of silence', the event will continue

6.40 pm: The memorial service continues with the TreffChor choir from the Karla-Raveh Comprehensive School and the women's choir from the Lemgo Music School; a address by

Reverend Matthias Altevogt (Stadtkonvent) with intercessory prayers led by pupils from the Karla-Raveh Comprehensive School; a joint rendition of 'Hineh ma tov'.

Further information can be found in the Programm [Flyer](#)

The town of Lemgo and the '9 November Lemgo' working group

Best regards

Kristina Panchyrz and Philipp Wagner

(Management)