



Alan Avery-Peck

1. What are your current roles at TI (BOD, Officer, Committees)?

In 2019-2020, I am in my first year as President of the congregation. Prior to this, in 2018-2019, I served as Executive Vice President, and before that, for 2 years, I was Vice-President for Religion and Israel Action. I have also been chair of our Ritual Committee, and I have six years' prior experience as a board member.

I am proud to have been involved in a number of important projects at Temple Israel. I was involved in Temple Israel's support of two Syrian refugee families that we helped build new lives in our community. I worked on our project of commissioning today's top Judaica artist to create new covers for our ten Torah scrolls. I chaired our Israel Engagement Task Force, which assessed congregants' views regarding Israel and Israel programming and which began a community conversation about how we can best hear diverse perspectives while maintaining our unshakable commitment to Israel. There are so many great things going on in our community, and being involved has in every instance been a personally rewarding experience.

2. How long have you been a member of TI?

My wife and I joined Temple Israel in 1993, after we relocated from New Orleans to Framingham. During the summer before we moved to this area, a Temple Israel member saw our New Orleans address on his child's class list and called to welcome us to the community and to invite us for Shabbat lunch. We understood immediately the kind of community this is and therefore have been proud members of Temple Israel for over 25 years.

3. What do you do for work and in your free time?

I am a professor of Jewish history and religion in the Department of Religious Studies at the College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester. Alongside my many Temple activities, including Shabbat services and our lively Shabbat afternoon Talmud class, I can generally be found working at home at my desk.

4. What excites you most about the future of TI?

We continually grow and develop to meet the needs of our members, old and new. At the same time, we are committed to the enduring values of the Conservative Movement, including attentiveness to the Jewish tradition and values that have sustained the Jewish people for millennia. I am excited to see us go from strength to strength as we support the spiritual and communal needs of so many wonderful individuals and families.