

## Temple Board Member

### Paul Kuc

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Hi, all . . . yes, I'm the person everyone always asks, "Did you bike here?" I often do, but not often enough. I've raced bicycles since I was 15 and just keep getting slower! I've been a member of Sinai since 2007. I was out for a training ride and discovered of all the synagogues, Rabbi Shapiro was the most welcoming and a cyclist as well. When I heard Cantor Emily sing at my first service, the deal was done. Through my teens I worked in many restaurants, bike shops, hospitals and factories. I then did social work with the Puerto Rican community and taught Head Start at Monson Developmental Center. I became the first director of the Child and Adolescent Day Treatment Program at Valley Human Services in Ware and have been doing this for the past 45 years. The program is known as the Recreation Program and serves children 8 to 19 with a serious mental health diagnosis in five area towns. As part of my job, I get to hike, boat, camp, bike, travel, attend all sorts of cultural events, and play sports. For fun on my own, besides biking, I like to read and listen to music.. I've always felt comfortable, welcome and "at home" at Sinai. I feel a strong commitment to many of the ancient traditions, beliefs and values of Judaism, but also to the promise of the Reform movement. I am excited to be part of 'keeping the Faith' and helping it grow. We all share in a huge responsibility to one another, to the world and to Creation. Pedal on!