



Alexander R. Weissman

Originally from the Philadelphia, Pa. area, Alex graduated *magna cum laude* with highest thesis honors from Tufts University where he received the Multicultural Service Award and the Ted Shapiro Award for Best Thesis in American Studies. Here at RRC, Alex received the *Tikkun Olam* Award, the Joseph L. and Ann W. Pinkenson Prize in Rabbinics, the Lillian Fern Memorial Award for Outstanding Student Contributions to the RRC Community, and served as the president of the Reconstructionist Student Association. Alex is a grateful recipient of a John Bliss stipend, which allowed him to complete a unit of Clinical Pastoral Education at Hebrew SeniorLife.

Alex has served *Avodah*: The Jewish Service Corps, JOIN for Justice, Hillel at Brandeis, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, Temple Shalom of Newton, Jewish Family & Children Services and Wissahickon Hospice, POWER/Congregation Rodeph Shalom, and others. He was a summer fellow with T’ruah and the Student Life Intern and Beit Midrash Intern at RRC.

Alex gives thanks to the Holy Blessing One for drawing near so many loving and supporting people in his life, first and foremost, his teachers and mentors at RRC for their wisdom, support, and generosity; to his spiritual director, Rabbi Yael Levy, ‘95, for always bringing him back to God and compassion; to his Clinical Pastoral Education supervisor Rabbi Beth Naditch, for inviting in all the parts; to Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, ‘90, for first seeing the spark and letting it grow; to his family, for starting it all; and to Adam, whose love is like the snow.



God is with you in all that you do.
(Genesis 21:22)

Or maybe since prayer is compassion, any time that one wants, they may keep praying.
(*B. Berakhot* 26a)

Be careful about the authorities, as they approach a person only for their own need. They seem like good friends in good times, but they don’t stay for a person in a time of trouble.
(*M. Avot* 2:3)

- A text to be with.
- A text to love with.
- A text to resist with.
- God invites us to them all.