

Do I Want to be a Part of the Legacy Society?

Written by Anne Gorenstein

It seems to me that every day I get mail from more than one place telling me how important I am to them and that I should give them my financial support. I respond by immediately putting their mail in my recycling bin. (I wonder how many packages of coffee filters made from recycled paper I supplied.) All these requests for money have made me think about the subject – what places are important enough for me to be willing to leave them some money? Here is the way I worked it out.

- ✓ I started by thinking about my personal philosophy – first of all, the money has to last as long as I do. Well, so far so good.
- ✓ Then I thought about my family. My grandparents did not have a lot, but I was always in their plans. The grandchildren are important. Their parents are taking care of themselves okay and I am concerned about what is happening in the world and how the grandchildren will fare. So I am including them in my plans.
- ✓ I hope that all our children and their children will search out the meaning of their Judaism, as I did, and that the kind of places I found will be there for them. Bingo!

I began my journey to understanding my religion and where I belonged just about thirty years ago. I had grown up going to an orthodox synagogue, began going to a conservative synagogue in my twenties, ignored religion in my thirties, and determined to find out my religious beliefs when I joined a small, friendly reform congregation in my forties. When I married for the second time, we joined a closer, larger and equally friendly reform congregation. On moving to Boynton Beach eleven years ago, we found our home at Temple Shaarei Shalom on our first night here, the day before our moving van was arriving at our new home.

The need to have Temple Shaarei Shalom here for others on their journey is important to me. I have answered my question: Do I want to be a part of the Legacy Society? I signed the Letter of Intent and sent it to the office.