## **December 2018 Message from President Howie Hirsch**

Most of the time, I use this forum to look forward and see what is ahead of us and what we can do to prepare for what is yet to come. I am going to talk this time about the recent past. We just celebrated the American holiday of Thanksgiving and I wanted to take the time to be GRATEFUL for all that I have in this world.

I start with a loving wife, wonderful children and a wonderful extended family. I have work that makes me feel like I am making a difference in this connected world. I am surrounded by my temple friends and I am thankful for all that everyone does here to keep our synagogue alive. I have hobbies that keep me interested in constant learning. Most recently, my daughter Allison had her first child, Abigail Elaine Thurber. Abigail is my second granddaughter, and we are truly blessed.

I thank every one of you from the bottom of my heart and I am blessed to have you in my life. In closing, one of my favorite sayings, to paraphrase Ben Zoma from Pirke Avot:

Who is wise? The ones who learn from all people. Who is rich? The ones who are happy with what they have. Who is honored? The ones who honor others. May you all be rich, wise and honored.

Love, Howie

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