

JIM STRICKLAND MAYOR



November 14, 2022

Dear Baron Hirsch Synagogue Family,

Baron Hirsch plays a vital role in the Jewish community as well as the larger Memphis community. At the center of its effectiveness are David Fleishhacker, executive director over the last 20 years, his wife Chany Fleischhacker, and their children. The Fleishhackers have given countless hours to coordinating and leading many charitable projects that have touched so many lives in Memphis and our Jewish Community.

The annual Peanut Butter Jelly Project that helps stock the St. Mary's Soup Kitchen and the Chesed Passover Boxes for home bound individuals and seniors are just two examples. Last year's Chanukah celebration involved the whole congregation. Baron Hirsch collectively touched children in Israel through toy donations, children of Memphis' LeBonheur Children's Hospital through happy socks for their holiday, seniors at Plough Towers with Chanukah treats, and Battered Women's Shelter residents with much needed essentials.

Thanks to David and Chany, Baron Hirsch has been able to grow beyond its walls and its 400 plus family units to touch the lives of other Memphians. They will be missed, and I am personally proud to help honor all the contributions they have made to our hometown. David has personally invited me to attend many fine events at Baron Hirsch. I have enjoyed the time I spent there. I especially love the renovations David oversaw that turned out so well, like the beautiful new Cooper Chapel.

If you must leave our beloved City of Memphis, we will only let you do so to move to Israel to live out your dreams of life in the Holy Land. You will be sorely missed but your commitment and example will continue here and be a source of inspiration for Baron Hirsch always. We trust that each week you will send us a Shabbat greeting from Israel, and that with such you'll add GO GRIZZLIES, GO TIGERS, AND GO/GROW MEMPHIS! With warmth and congratulations on this proper recognition.

Sincerely

Jim Strickland

Mayor, City of Memphis