

# *B E I T S A S S O N*

## THE SEPHARDIC CONGREGATION OF NEWTON

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### Message from the *Beit Sasson*'s Executive Committee

September 1, 2024

Dear Friends,

*Beit Sasson* today has great momentum. We have had an extraordinary year of reaching many milestones: our Membership is growing, our security infrastructure was significantly enhanced, the new Beit Midrash/Library on the second floor is in the process of being built, as well as new offices and spaces being created on the second and third floor. The creative arrangement with our sister congregation Shaarei Tefillah, where we hold daily evening services jointly continues to be strong. This is the result of a collective effort of many committees and individuals. We are indebted for their hard work and diligence:

Rabbi Oren Simhi, will start his third year as our Rabbi. We are fortunate to have him. Rabbi Simhi, *posek* extraordinaire, has been an exceptional match, and an all-time favorite with the young and not so young at *Beit Sasson*. He has been instrumental in developing programs for our children, including the Family Learning Program on Motzaei Shabbat, and the Shahrit Teen Minyan.

Security infrastructure: using grants from the Department of Homeland Security and CJP, we have significantly enhanced our security infrastructure. We have installed a fence around *Beit Sasson*, replaced all the exterior doors and most of the interior ones and fitted them with secure locks. We have also implemented a secure room. We are grateful to Ruthy Philosophe and Nir Maimon for their tireless efforts in managing the security infrastructure.

Support for Israel: after the devastating events of October 7<sup>th</sup>, the *Beit Sasson* community quickly mobilized and raised and distributed more than \$56,000.

**5784 High Holy Day Services**: we are delighted to invite you and your family to join us for the High Holy Day Services. Rosh Hashanah begins on Wednesday evening October 2nd. Yom Kippur begins on Friday evening October 11th. The complete High Holy Day schedule is enclosed. In keeping with Sephardic tradition, everyone, member or otherwise, is always welcome to worship at *Beit Sasson*. Since space is limited, we highly encourage people to become members and to buy seats for the High Holy Days; purchasing is the only way to guarantee a seat. Please note that we have kept the High Holy Day Seats and Membership dues low to encourage wider participation. Please go to [www.sephardic-newton.org](http://www.sephardic-newton.org) to conveniently make Seat Reservations, fill up Membership forms, and to make payments/donations.

We wish you and your family a sincere and heartfelt Shana Tova.

Sincerely,

The *Beit Sasson* Executive Committee

Eilon Amir, Estelle Cohen, Ruthy Philosophe, haim Senior, David Setboun, and Simon Levy