

June 2, 2021

Rabbi Alan Silverstein Ph.D Congregation Agudath Israel 20 Academy Road Caldwell, New Jersey 07006

Dear Rabbi Silverstein:

On behalf of USCJ, we want to wish you a hearty mazal tov on the celebration of 42 years of service as Senior Rabbi at Congregation Agudath Israel. We wish you continued health and happiness as you begin retirement. We also note the celebration coincides with the 100th anniversary of Congregation Agudath Israel and extend our best wishes to the entire community.

Your presence and service to the congregation over more than four decades has helped the Congregation Agudath Israel flourish as a true *kehillah kedoshah*, a sacred community. Under your leadership the congregation has grown and thrived, growing from 325 to over 850 households, making it New Jersey's largest Conservative congregation.

Your dedication to the Conservative movement and connection with USCJ have always been strong. We particularly appreciate your involvement with the "Hayom" initiative that resulted in a new strategic direction for USCJ, as well as your strong leadership as RA President from 1994-1996. We also applaud your service to the Movement and dedication to Israel, Jewish peoplehood, and religious pluralism that is reflected in your taking on influential leadership roles over these years, continuing today with your re-election as president of Mercaz Olami.

USCJ takes great pride in our partnership with Congregation Agudath Israel and looks forward to many years of continued collaboration. Your outstanding efforts have contributed to the reputation of your community and your work in its role in the future of *klal Yisrael* and the Conservative movement.

May you and your family at Congregation Agudath Israel continue to go from strength to strength.

Jacob Blumenthal

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CEO

Ned Gladstein International President