

# Meet the Members

by Todd Wilkof

## The Farkas Family



**BJC:** What attracted you to Beth Jacob Congregation?

**Tamar:** *I find that the prayers are inspiring, the speeches are interesting, the children's groups are great. What more can I say, BJC has everything I'm looking for in a shul. Oh yeah, and a great kiddush!*

**Adami:** *I love the welcoming environment of the shul and the smiles on people's faces. The genuineness of every individual's desire to connect with G\_d on a deep level. Each person does it in their own way and our mutual desire to connect with G\_d and to each other as a community is awesome.*

**BJC:** Tell us about yourselves.

**Tamar:** *I grew up in Teaneck, New Jersey and after yeshiva high school, spent a year learning in Israel before going to Stern College of Yeshiva University. I then went to graduate school for occupational therapy and I now work as an occupational therapist in a rehab and nursing facility on 'Pill Hill' in between chauffeuring my children to the Gan.*

**Adami:** *I grew up in Staten Island, New York and went to yeshiva day school and high school in Brooklyn. After college in icy Binghamton, New York, Tamar and I got married and moved to Stony Brook, New York (in Long Island) where I went to medical school and Tamar went to graduate school for occupational therapy. We then moved to Highland Park, New Jersey where I began a residency in surgery and here we are in Oakland, where I'm doing a radiology residency at UCSF.*

**BJC:** How did you two meet?

**Tamar and Adami:** *We were set up by a mutual friend while we were both finishing college. We were young and stupid...just kidding, we thank God every day for sending us this mutual friend (who Adami happened to grow up next door to and who then became Tamar's best friend in high school).*

**BJC:** Tell us about your children.

**Tamar and Adami:** *Oh, where to start.... Elisha is our big boy. He's four and half years old and loves the Gan and playing with his friends. He enjoys being the older brother and is really learning to take care of his younger siblings. Kira is our big girl. She's three years old and loves picking on her older brother and staying up "soooooo late." Yonah is our baby, or "littler" as his older siblings call him. Thank God, our children are learning and growing in every way and we too, are continually learning from them.*

**BJC:** What are your interests and hobbies?

**Tamar:** *It's hard to make time for hobbies these days, but I like taking walks with my children and I'm a regular at the library. My new hobby is exploring northern California and working on shul and school functions.*

**Adami:** *I like playing basketball and (trying) to stay in shape. Most of all, I like having some time now to play with my children and be involved with our community.*

**BJC:** Tell us something about yourselves that most people don't know.

**Tamar:** *On Adami's first day of medical school, he forgot his lunch and I went to his lecture hall and dropped off a big brown bagged lunch with his name on it! Needless to say, he didn't forget his lunch after that.*

**Adami:** *I once began writing a novel and hope to continue one day while sitting on our future patio of our future home in Israel overlooking the Judean Hills!*

"Meet the Members" is a feature of the BJ Beat, intended to help the wonderful members of our community get to know each other (and place a name with a face!)