

Hello we are...
Dan, Stacy and Micah





Our Hopes and Dreams...

Thank you for taking the time to learn a little more about us by reading this letter. We are so excited about our journey to adopt our second child, a journey we wouldn't be able to make without parents like you. We truly admire you!

We always knew we wanted two children, even back when we were dating, but we never imagined the route we'd take to get there. After several years of trying to get pregnant and two failed IVFs, we realized that God's plan for our family was bigger than we could fathom. Micah is such a joy and we still marvel at the miracle of having him as our son! Now that Micah is almost five and asking for a little sister or brother, we know it's time for us to share our love with another beautiful baby.

A few days ago at lunch, Micah asked me, "How will the new baby get to the hospital?" I answered, "She'll come in her Birth Mommy's belly!" He asked, "Are you the Birth Mommy?" and I told him, "No, the Birth Mommy is a very special woman. Your Birth Mommy loves you so much even though she's in Korea, just like your Foster Mommy and Daddy in Korea love you so much. And the new baby's Birth Mommy will love them very much, too." Micah grinned at me and said, "I know they love me, Mommy. I love them too!"

Sometimes I just stop and wonder at how beautiful it is to see things from a child's perspective. He might only be a tiny little boy, but he really has it figured out. We are so thankful for Birth Moms and Dads - for YOU. Even though we don't know the exact circumstances surrounding your decision to make an adoption plan for your child, we know that you are motivated by love, a love that is selfless and generous. We want to thank you for the life you are giving your child and the family you'll be giving us if you choose us. We are so honored that you would consider us for this amazing blessing!

We have shared Micah's story with him since the day he was placed in our arms, just as we will share our new baby's story with them. Adoption is a beautiful way to create a family and our children will know without a doubt that they have the love of not just the Mommy and Daddy they see every day, but also the Mommy and Daddy who gave them the gift of life.

God bless you,

Dan, Stacy and Micah


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Our values and beliefs as parents...

We both grew up in strong families full of love and support. Our parents were there for us every step of the way, from kissing boo-boos, to watching us run in track meets, to driving or flying to our college to be there for important milestones, or to help us through difficult times. Our parents are still here for us to offer support and advice, even though we are grown now and have a child of our own!

This background has firmly shaped who we are and our beliefs about how to raise a family. We believe that unconditional love is the most important ingredient in raising children. We promise to show that love to our children so powerfully that they never doubt how important they are to us. With hugs, kisses, smiles and constant conversation, our children will know how much they are valued and that they are safe and loved in our home. We promise to lovingly and consistently provide guidance and correction for the purpose of helping our children grow into healthy, responsible adults. We promise to talk with them about right and wrong and encourage them along the way to learn how to make their own decisions when they are old enough. We promise to surround our children with other family and friends who love them as much as we do, so that they will experience and benefit from a whole community of love. We promise to always be open and honest with them about their adoptions on a developmentally appropriate level, so that they can always know how much their birth parents love them and how courageous and selfless they are.

We believe that children naturally want to learn, and if you nurture their curiosity and talk with them about things that interest them, you set the foundation for their success throughout their entire education. Every child has different strengths and weaknesses, and when you focus on developing their strengths, even the areas they struggle with will improve.



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A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers
- Family cats

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother:

Playing with our son Micah, reading, volleyball, hiking, volunteer work with our church, board games and cards

Adoptive Father:

Playing with our son Micah, reading, volleyball, hiking, woodworking, fishing, video games, volunteer work with our church

Family:

Playing games, going to the park, reading together, visiting state parks and the zoo, visiting family, long rides in the country, church, volleyball, cookouts, being with friends

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Library Media Specialist

Adoptive Father: Computer Software Quality Assurance Analyst

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: 2 Master's Degrees

Adoptive Father: Computer Networking Certification

Our home...

Our home is full of laughter, love and singing, though much of the singing is off key! There are pictures of our family all around the house and our refrigerator is plastered with pictures of all our friends' children and Micah's coloring.

As a Christian family, we try to seek God's direction for our lives and show His love to others. We believe our children are a gift from God, through the miracle of adoption, and we strive to constantly shower them with love and nurturing so they can be happy, healthy and know that they are unique, wonderful people who are abundantly loved by everyone around them.

We live in a nice neighborhood, and we are blessed with friendships with many of the families who live nearby. It's not unusual for Stacy to run down to a neighbor's house to borrow a cup of sugar and we all enjoy delivering Christmas cookies by the plateful to our neighborhood friends. We play ball outside in the yard, ride bikes up and down the sidewalks, and enjoy seeing squirrels and rabbits in the yard. There is a beautiful park with walking paths and a brand new playground just around the corner from our home. We visit there often just to play and we have really enjoyed many of the community events hosted there. Just in the past few weeks we have had a tractor show, an outside movie and game night, and a music festival at the park.

We really enjoy having people over for get-togethers, and all our friends and family know they are welcome to come by any time, even if the living room has toys and books strung out all over the floor! Many of our friends tell us that they just feel comfortable at our house and we have always really wanted to make people feel welcome.

Love really does make our house a home.

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Our family...

Our family is full of love.

We met in college in 1996 in the cafeteria. Little did we know that this chance meeting through friends would lead us both to our best friend. We have been married for eleven years and we look forward to many, many more! Our family thrives on honesty, commitment, love and laughter, and we always try to see the best in every situation.

When we started our own family with Micah's adoption, we knew there were certain ideas and traditions we wanted to incorporate from our upbringings. Many are day-to-day things: good manners, praying before meals and bed, being involved in church, playing silly word games in the car, visiting grandparents often, giving big hugs and kisses before bed every night. Others are associated with special times of the year: reading the Christmas Story together on Christmas Eve after attending the candle light service, eating Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners with the entire extended family, having a family Easter egg hunt and lunch each year. Others are traditions we have come up with on our own! Each year, we celebrate "Got'cha Day" with just Micah and us to remember the day we "got him" - the day he came home to us from South Korea. We will definitely do this for our new baby, too.

We have random "unbirthday" parties by wrapping up toys and books we already have, baking a cake, and pretending it's someone's birthday just so we can have a party. We tell bedtime stories every single night, often making them up completely on the spot! We pretend to take trips to the moon and chase the moon beasts (also known as our three cats) away from our precious store of cheese. We sing silly songs about everything from brushing our teeth to driving over the train tracks. We just try to find the magic in everyday life and make every moment as fun and meaningful as it can be!

Family is such a vital part of our lives. We moved back to Stacy's home town before we started our family because much of her family lives in the same town and we wanted our children to experience the love of a big family. Our families have always been the place where we can completely be ourselves and know that we are loved and accepted, no matter what.

With eighteen aunts and uncles and too many cousins to count, family get together at our house for Christmas and Easter pack the rooms with laughter, hugs and stories. Even when Stacy was growing up, she knew that her family was special because of the way they always took care of each other. She and her cousins were together constantly and they are truly more like brothers and sisters than cousins.

That closeness is one of the reasons we moved back to Stacy's hometown. It's a joy to watch Micah experience their unconditional love and we can't wait to introduce our next child to our awesome family!



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