

Hello we are...

Jessie & Mandi



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Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our greatest dream is to be parents. I can remember being a little girl and all I ever wanted to be when I grew up was a mommy! When we had been married for about 7 months we thought we were pregnant. At the time we had no idea it would be next to impossible to conceive.

We have been together for over 11 years and since the early years of our relationship we knew we wanted to adopt. We have always felt drawn to adoption. You see, my biological father left my mother when I was 15 months old. Later my mom got married and I was raised by my “step” dad. I say “step” because he was my dad and an amazing dad at that! He showed me what it looked like to love someone unrestrained - someone who didn’t have your blood or your eyes or your nose or anything else. Someone God put in your life. I am so thankful for his love and the life I have had because of him. He’s why I know that I can love with the same relentless, unconditional love he showed me.

We have been blessed so much. We have a love that is strong and has withstood the struggles life has already thrown our way. We are a passionate, kind, and a little goofy couple. Jessie has a fantastic job that allows us financial security and stability. More importantly, it means Mandi can be a stay home mom. But we are missing a tiny piece - a child to share it all! We look forward to having a child to love, to teach, to support and to encourage. To pour every ounce of ourselves into.

Adoption is beautiful! But we know that for us to be parents, a mother has to make an adoption plan. Words cannot describe the admiration and respect we have for any mother who makes that decision. The strength it takes to prioritize what a mother wants for her child before her own needs is truly inspiring.

If you select us as the adoptive parents for your child, our hope is that you have peace. Peace knowing that we will love and care for your child with every fiber of our being. Peace knowing your child will be treasured and given every possible opportunity they desire or need. Peace knowing that nothing is out of reach for your child’s future. Peace knowing that you will be proud of the person they will become.

Blessings,

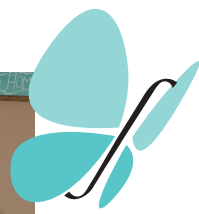
Mandi & Jessie

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We focus on what matters to make every adoption a beautiful experience.

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Our values and beliefs as parents...



Loving others is our top priority. We believe that love is the most powerful choice you can make. Loving others regardless of the difference in their beliefs, opinions, looks, or attitudes. Love is always the best.

Every year we participate in Operation Christmas Child shoebox which is an international relief program sponsored by Samaritan's Purse which provides gifts to children in need. The objective of the box of gifts is to offer hope and love to children. We look forward to including our child in this gift to teach love and the importance of giving to all people.



Faith. We base most of our decisions on what we believe God would favor most. Jessie was a Youth Pastor for 3 years giving his time to lead the lessons with pre-teens and teenagers. This time gave him a real sense of the hearts and minds of teens, a valued lesson for anyone! From an early age, we will teach our child about God and prayer with the hopes that they may have their own relationship and form their own beliefs.

Education. We believe education and ongoing learning is important throughout life. We look forward to teaching our child at every possible opportunity - from simple tasks like going to the mailbox to reading at nap and bedtime. We will provide our child with as many avenues to reach their dreams, including private school. And as soon as our child is born we will start a college savings program to ensure that if our child wants to attend college or university, money will not be a factor when choosing a school.



Travel. There is so much to discover and enjoy in this world and we want to see it all. We like small road trips that are 2-3 hours away and we really like bigger trips, such as going to the beach each year with Mandi's family where we enjoy relaxation and fun for 8-10 days. We also visited Tennessee, Florida, Illinois, Georgia, and North Carolina. One of our favorite memories is from the trip to Chicago, IL. It was a mission trip to care for homeless children and those in the foster care system. During the time there we threw a block party to show you can have fun even during the hardest times. We can't wait to see new things and reintroduce old favorites, but to see them through the eyes of our child.



Fun. We believe "fun" is a state of mind and you can make anything fun. Even a rainy or sick day can be fun with the right people, and we are those people. We try to make everything fun, Jessie, especially, is fun no matter what is going on. He makes the most menial of tasks fun just with his wild and silly personality! One Christmas, Jessie bought me a snow globe and made me find it by playing "hot and cold". When I finally found it, it was in a massive box the size of a suitcase and as I opened it layer after layer all I found was tons of newspaper. At the bottom there was a note that read, "GOT YAH!" I turned around with a huge smile on my face to give him a hard time, there was the gift sitting in my chair.

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Our home...

The town we live in is like Mayberry from the old Andy Griffith show. Everyone knows everyone and really cares about their neighbors. There are tons of young families with children who play ball and who play in splash pools and sprinklers all summer long. There is an awesome park walking distance from our house. We have a really incredible zoo that we love to visit and explore. But our very favorite place to visit is the aquarium. It's one of the World's most advanced, designed to take you around the globe, visiting each continent, every ocean and hundreds of waterways in between. We make a whole day of it!

Our home is warm and cozy. We have vaulted ceilings in the living room and the walls are painted a beautiful tan color. Our furniture is for living, sticky little fingers and active feet are welcome. Our couch is grey with cream and blue pillows perfect for making forts. I love to decorate so it is always getting a facelift, but the idea is the same. Make people feel welcome!

Our home is a place where our friends and family never want to leave. We hear the same thing over and over, "we just love being here." We entertain weekly, usually eating dinner at the dining room table then moving into the living room to play games, drink coffee and eat dessert.

I'm a stay-at-home wife and Jessie works 4 days a week, so every week has a long "holiday-like" weekend. We love the mornings on weekends. We wake up to a fresh day and are never in a hurry to get anywhere. There are new things to explore and tasks ahead of us. We love our time together no matter what we do. We run errands, go shopping, spend time with family, have dinner at our friends' homes or they come to ours. We go for bike rides around the neighborhood and work on a project around the house. Weekends are always relaxing!

I usually cook dinner; Jessie's a "comfort food" kinda guy. Homemade pork chops, mac n cheese, green beans and corn are his favorite. Mine is grilled chicken or grilled salmon with dill and lemon butter, and wild rice. We love to grill anything - which we do 2-4 times a week. I look forward to playing with our child in the backyard while watching daddy grill. Our 3/4 acre yard has plenty of room to play and discover. We look forward to pushing our child on the swing, watching them zoom down the slide and playing make believe in the playhouse.

We love being home. We had our house built so we put a lot of love into it. From the time we had the framers here, the nursery was set aside as some place special, for the child God will allow in our life. Mandi's parents gave us all the nursery furniture as a gift. It has a lot of vintage style accents. There are 2 blankets that have been passed down; one was Jessie's and it has primary colors and bears, Mandi's has pastels and Carebears. We also have a picture given from my aunt that reads "when you wish upon a star." We love it because we have been wishing for a child!



A little more about us...

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Decorating/Interior Design, Party Coordinating, Cooking, Scrapbooking, Reading, Yoga, Bicycling

Adoptive Father:

Frisbee Golf, Basketball, Softball, Bicycling, Carpentry and Outdoor landscaping, Guitar, Piano.

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Stay at Home Wife

Adoptive Father: Amazon Fulfillment Center

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Professional / Vocational

Adoptive Father: Professional / Vocational



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Our family...

We met at church through Jessie's older brother, Chris. A year after meeting we went on our first date - dinner and a movie. On the way home it absolutely poured. In fact, it rained so hard we had to drive 15 mph all the way home just so we could see. When we got home all the lights were out in our city - something that hadn't happened in years. True to the gentleman Jessie is, we went our separate ways and instead stayed up all night talking on the phone learning about each other. The foundation of our relationship was being built.

We dated 5 years before Jessie proposed. For the special night Jessie planned a huge dinner with our families on an antique dinner train.

But Jessie got so excited and emotional that he couldn't wait, three days before the planned event he got down on one knee in my parents' living room, right in front of both of our parents, and proposed.

We've been together 11 years and complement each other well. Mandi is compassionate, has a giving heart, a welcoming spirit, and is dedicated and loving. Jessie is hard-working, kind, funny, a great leader, passionate, loves deeply, is trust worthy, and always willing to help. We are both super passionate and charismatic. We love to spoil each other and will love to spoil (in a good way) our child.

But it won't be just us spoiling our child, our parents and extended family can't wait to welcome a new addition to the family. Our parents are so excited and supportive! Besides buying the nursery furniture they have done lots of research on bonding with an adopted child. They have asked tons of questions so they will be fully informed on how to be the best family possible to our child. Jessie's parents are both 1 of 9 children, so when we get together for birthdays and holidays there are so many people! We have a blast when we are with them, laughing and playing games.

Holidays are very special in our family. Every Thanksgiving is held at our home. We started it years ago and love it. We make the turkey and dressing, everyone else brings their favorite dish. We all sit at the table together and each person shares what they are thankful for. It's a tradition we love and it reminds us of the true meaning of the holiday. Another tradition we love is spending time in January at Mandi's sister's lake house. She has 7 children so there is always something to do. Our child will have lots of cousins to play with and so many people to love them unconditionally!



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