

Hello we are...

*Diana & Josh*



*Graceful*  
**adoptions**<sup>TM</sup>



## Our Hopes and Dreams...

Thank you for considering us to adopt your child. We could only imagine that this experience is not easy for you, and we pray that God gives you peace and strength through this time. If you choose us as parents, our promise is to love your child unconditionally and provide a home that is happy and safe. We have known a number of adopted children during our time in youth ministry, and one thing that stands out is the importance of these young people understanding their identity and great value as a person. And that is our desire for any child that we adopt: to know he or she is truly loved and of great value to us and to God.

We have always deeply desired to have children and are grateful to have that opportunity through adoption. We have been unable to have children biologically, but through the adoption of our daughter, Hannah, we have experienced the great joy it is to be parents. And we would be so honored if you chose us for that privilege with your child.

We will offer a child unconditional love and acceptance. With that love comes a great responsibility to provide a safe, stable, and caring home. We want healthy relationships with friends and family for our child, and a good education. We want most of all for the child to understand the great love, hope and forgiveness that God offers to each one of us.

We look forward to all the little things and moments of being a parent and loving a child. We look forward to the funny and sweet things a child will say, and the moments when you know the child understands he or she is loved and responds back with love. And we look forward to seeing that child's personality come out and the unique person he or she is.

We believe there is no greater responsibility on this earth than to love and provide for the children in our care as parents. We are committed to doing whatever it takes to make sure that is what we will do.

Blessings,

*Diana & Josh*

  
Graceful  
adoptions™

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

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## Our values and beliefs as parents...



**Love** - Without love, all the other values in our life lose their meaning. When we love, we reflect the character of God and His love toward us. We strive to love by putting others first and seeking the highest good for others. We attempt to love through action, which goes beyond just a feeling. We also seek to forgive others when we are hurt and ask for forgiveness when we mess up. We will share this value with our child by displaying selflessness and forgiveness to our child the best we can. We hope love will be clearly understood. We will also teach this value through talking and by reading stories that explain what real love looks like.



**Honesty** - Truthfulness is vital to have a strong character. We will seek to have integrity in our lives as an example to our child by telling the truth and avoiding deceptive words or actions that would set a bad example. We will take the time to teach our child about the importance of honesty and to correct our child when he or she tells a lie. We will also build a relationship in which our child feels safe to tell us when he or she does something wrong. Our child will know he or she is still accepted and loved even when a mistake is made.

**Faith** - Faith in God is vital to have a relationship with Him. We will seek to demonstrate our faith in God to our child by trusting Him in the good times and bad, and seeking to act in a way toward our child and others that is sincere and not hypocritical. We will share this value with our child by teaching him or her about God, and by helping our child understand that faith is not blind; it is trusting in something and someone you know to be true.



**Humility** - Humility allows us to have a proper understanding of who we are in relation to others and to God. On the other hand, pride can be a hurtful thing that blurs our perspective and ruins relationships. We will put others first and be careful that our words do not communicate a prideful view of ourselves. We will seek to respect other people of all backgrounds and walks of life, and remember the great value they have. We will also be honest about our failures and mistakes and seek forgiveness when we are wrong. We will teach our child to avoid always being self-focused and to remember to share with other children and to be a real friend who serves others rather than demanding something from them. We will teach him or her about having a healthy understanding of who we are in relation to God, and that our value comes from our identity in Him - not from what we do or achieve. We will certainly cheer our child on when he or she achieves success, but we want to be careful that those achievements are not the foundation for his or her value as a person.



**Hard work** - A strong work ethic allows us to reach our fullest potential and achieve big things. We will strive to work hard at home and through our jobs. We will work to do things the right way and follow through when we start something. We will also try our best to live in a balanced way by taking time to spend with family and friends and not making work an all-consuming thing. We will teach this value to our child in the simple things like picking up toys and cleaning his or her room. We will encourage our child to finish a task or job he or she undertakes and not to give up. We will help our child understand the positive results of hard work that pay off in the end.

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# Our home...

Our neighborhood is a safe place and an inviting environment. Our neighbors are kind people who have children and grandchildren. The homes are nice, but not elaborate. Traffic is light because we are well off the main road. Our neighborhood is great for taking walks and seeing people and pets as we go. Children play together and enjoy being outdoors playing sports in the summer and sledding if we get snow in the winter.

We love to go the local park. It is a beautiful place with a creek, walking trail and really nice children’s playground with all kinds of equipment, slides, swings, and teeter totters. It’s a great place for children to meet new friends and connect with people in our community. We also love to go to other parks in our area for hikes and to experience the outdoors. For kids, we have a fun bounce/trampoline place nearby and a church with a really nice indoor playground that’s open to the public. We also like going to the zoo and pet shops to see all of the animals and spend time together.

We have a good size backyard for a child to play and run around. We have a water table, toddler sized pool, tricycle and other games for playing in the backyard. We have a deck in our backyard that is great for eating outside and hanging out. Josh enjoys working in the yard and keeping it looking nice.

Our home is an inviting place for people to come and feel welcomed and relax. We spend time eating, talking, playing outside or sitting on our back deck. We have a BBQ and love to grill out for ourselves or when friends and family come over. The living space in our home is very open and comfortable. We have a piano that Josh likes to play. Kids enjoy the downstairs space where we have a place for movies, toys, and games.

We want our home to be a safe place where a child can always feel at ease and comfortable bringing over friends. We don’t want a child to feel like he or she “needs to get away.” We also try to make our home a place where we pray together and learn to have a relationship with God - not in a way where a child feels forced to believe, but allowing him or her to know the love of God in our child’s life personally.

The room we have for our child is very special. It’s right across the hallway from our bedroom and next to his or her sister’s, too. We could have used it for an office or some other reason for the last couple of years, but we’ve purposefully left it open, trusting that God will allow us to bring another child into our lives to love and to raise. It just did not feel right using that room for another purpose.

We will incorporate our child into every aspect of our life at home. We love to teach and help our child learn through experience. We will read books with the child, play games, listen to music, sing, be silly, have family movie night, and include the child in conversations or things we are doing, like cleaning or cooking. We feel one of the most important things we can do for our child is to be present in his or her life so he or she feels connected and safe.

- Both non-smokers

### Hobbies:

#### Adoptive Mother:

Volunteer in various capacities at church, including youth and women’s ministries, spending time with family, cooking, outdoor activities such as running, hiking, and skiing

#### Adoptive Father:

Serve as a volunteer assistant pastor and youth leader, spending time with family, playing sports especially golf, basketball, and tennis, outdoor activities such as hiking and skiing, playing piano, and watching sports

### Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Simulation Lab Nurse

Adoptive Father: Senior Director

### Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor’s Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor’s Degree



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# Our family...

We met after attending a young adult group at church. On that first night, Diana had a strong sense in her mind that she would one day marry Josh. Then she actually said out loud, "No I'm not!" A year and a half went by, and we were just friends. Then we got to know each other better, and for our first unofficial "date," we went hiking. Right after we got engaged, Diana had to leave town for a week-long mission trip to Mexico and actually planned most of our wedding from there! We have been married 11 years.

Our strengths are that we try to be real with each other and accept each other unconditionally. We forgive each other when we make mistakes, and try to love each other by serving one another and putting others first. We love to spend time together outdoors in a beautiful park hiking, on a mountain skiing, or walking on the beach. We also enjoy going out for international food of all types. A lot of our time together has also involved serving in ministry to teenagers, refugees, and other people.

The most important life event that made each us who we are was our decision to put our faith in Jesus. He is the one who gives us peace, forgiveness and hope. And His love is the example we hope to follow in loving others, including a child He allows us to bring into our home. Other major life events was our wedding that brought us together as a family, and the adoption our daughter, Hannah.

We have one child, Hannah Grace. We adopted Hannah at birth; she is now three years old. Adoption has been an incredible blessing to us, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to go through this process again, and God willing, bring another child into our family.

We have a very accepting and loving family and a close bond with our parents and siblings. We try to spend a lot of time with our family, especially around holidays. At Christmas time, we celebrate Polish traditions with Diana's family, including really good food such as perogies (dumplings) and golumpki (stuffed cabbage rolls), and a special time on Christmas Eve of giving a blessing to each member of the family. On Josh's side, we spend a week each year at the beach together with his parents and his sister, her husband and their three daughters. We really look forward to that trip every year. Our families thankfully get along well and enjoy being together. We look forward to continue the traditions we have with our families at Christmas and at the beach.

We also have a tradition of spending time together outdoors, and love going to get dessert, usually ice cream, together. Each week we go to church on Sunday and Wednesday. We have a relatively small church that is very warm and loving, so it's a great place for a child to feel accepted and welcome. We will definitely continue these traditions with our child as our family expands.

Our family is supportive of us adopting and is really looking forward to us bringing a new child into our family. They are praying for us and always there for us as we go through this process together.



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