

Hello we are...  
*Will & Chelsea*



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



## Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our dream has always been to have a family together and have known for awhile now that adoption could be part of our story! We have experienced the pain of infertility, however have joy in knowing God has called us to be adoptive parents. We will provide a safe and loving environment and guide our children to be the best people they can be. We will encourage our child to follow their dreams and teach them to glorify God in all we do as a family.

We met in high school and have been together for more than 12 years. Through the years, we have grown together as a couple in every aspect. We have celebrated successes and leaned on each other when needed. We are fiercely loyal and believe our marriage is for life!

We value our relationships and like to think we have a small but mighty family! Our family of grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins are extremely supportive of us and vice versa. Together, we will ensure our family is connected and will surround our child with unconditional love, security, and a fun environment. We hope he/she will talk to us about anything and feel the security in the love we have for them.

For you, we hope you feel at peace with your decision to make an adoption plan for your child. We think you are brave and selfless! If you select us, please know your child is loved and wanted greatly and we never want you to feel forgotten. You will always be a part of your child's story and your child will always be our number one priority.

Blessings,

*Will & Chelsea*



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

515.225.6351 / 877.628.1415 [GracefulAdoptions.com](http://GracefulAdoptions.com)



## Our values and beliefs as parents...



**Faith** - We both were raised in Christian homes and live our daily lives in the hope that we are following His example. We know that He guides us and is always there when we need Him. We hope to teach our child Biblical values and to know Jesus. We want our child to come to faith on their own and have a personal relationship with God.



**Compassion and Kindness** - We believe we should always treat others the way we want to be treated. There is no way to know other people's stories or personal struggles, showing compassion and kindness may make a positive impact on their lives. We are considerate to each other and make an effort to say encouraging things to each other and to other people. When we meet other people, we show them we care and are genuinely interested in their life. We will teach our child to help and love other people.



**Family** - We were both raised in families that value time together. We spend every birthday, holiday and even Sundays together, and never take each other for granted. We both have felt welcome from the first moment we met each other's families and know any child will be completely accepted and loved by everyone in our family! We will build our own family traditions, as well as continue to spend time with grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins as often as possible. We will ensure our child always feels close, loved and accepted by our families!

**Integrity** - To us, integrity means taking responsibility for actions, admitting mistakes, and striving to always do the right thing. We show integrity in our professional careers and at home, and believe it has helped us overcome adversity in our lives. We will teach our child to keep their word and commitments. We believe this will help prepare our child for life's ups and downs in a positive manner.



**Exploration** - Chelsea was introduced to travel at a young age and she has shared her passion with Will. Our travel adventures started in college when we both went to school in the Netherlands for a semester. We have continued to explore new places, including; Europe, multiple national parks, and Mexico. We will introduce our child to all kinds of new experiences, places and cultures and hope to share our passion for discovery with him/her. We believe this will provide our child a broader view on life and help them better understand others.

**Education** - We are both college educated and believe education is super important! Our child will attend public school so they will interact with people from a variety of backgrounds. We will encourage our child to go to college, but ultimately we want our child to make the right decision for them. We believe education takes place inside and outside the classroom and we will show our child different hands-on experiences.

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# Our home...

Our neighborhood is a great place to raise a family. Frequently, children are seen playing in front yards and all the parents look out for each other's kids. There is an elementary school a couple blocks down our street. There is a fun zoo, botanical gardens, a science museum, art center, parks and swimming pools nearby.

We have a fenced in backyard, perfect for playing! We also have a vegetable garden in the summer that we are excited to have our child learn about. When we were kids we both enjoyed helping our parents and grandparents in the garden. One day our child will have a piece of the garden they can call their own and plant whatever they want.



In the summer we spend a lot of time in our backyard. Our back porch has lights surrounding it which provides a great atmosphere and our fire pit has a big comfy couch. The sun hits our backyard in the evening where we like to sit to simply enjoy each other's company. It's our time together that we never take for granted. Our dog, Lady, really likes it too!

The inside of our home is as inviting as the outside. Our main floor is an open concept which makes it easy for entertaining. The walls are painted a soothing gray and Chelsea likes farmhouse chic style, so our family heirlooms fit perfectly in the space. In the winter we eat in the kitchen and enjoy the fireplace in the living room. We might break out a game, but mostly we love to watch movies, sports or TV shows together. During the week after we get home from work, we make supper together and talk about our days. We enjoy baking too so there are always brownies or cookies on hand. We also take our dog for a walk or to the dog park. On weekends, we like to explore new places or try a new place to eat.

- Both non-smokers

### Hobbies:

#### Adoptive Mother:

Photography, gardening, baking, reading, spending time with friends and family, knitting, cross stitching, walking, swimming, biking

#### Adoptive Father:

Basketball, reading, biking, walking, camping, working on house projects, building models, hanging out with friends, bonfires

### Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Chiropractic Assistant / Travel Agent

Adoptive Father: Application Engineer

### Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Master's Degree

Chelsea will be a stay at home mom and is looking forward to having one-on-one time with our child. We can't wait to hear the pitter patter of little feet and his/her laughter in the house. We will love to watch them explore and learn things. We know he/she will bring excitement to our lives that we never knew was possible. Chelsea is excited for them to help her in the kitchen, especially baking cookies. Will looks forward to showing our child how things work and how to fix things, just like his dad did with him. We will enjoy our evenings together going for walks or playing at the park down the street.

The nursery is almost complete! We have remodeled the whole room to be a very calming space. We have a white crib for our little one. It will be decorated with some family possessions, including a quilt made by Chelsea's aunt. We also purchased the most comfortable glider to rock him/her to sleep and enjoy cuddle time.

Our most treasured memories of our home is the time that we share with others that visit. Lots of laughs are to be had when we get together with friends and family. We can't wait for our child to make those get-togethers even better!



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# Our family...

It seems as if we've grown up together. We went through school together, but started spending time together our senior year of high school. We were in a physics class together and Will started talking to Chelsea about our class. Chelsea liked Will because he is smart, funny and cute, and Will liked Chelsea because she was outgoing, sweet and pretty. We started out as friends, and officially started dating more than 12 years ago. On our first date we went to see a terrible Christmas movie, which we watch almost every year now. Our first kiss literally knocked Chelsea off her feet...she slipped and fell on the ice afterwards. The rest is history!

We dated through college even though we went to separate colleges two hours away from one another, except for the semester we studied abroad together in the Netherlands. This was a very special time for us. We traveled through Europe and learned how to flourish in stressful situations. We learned to communicate and work together as a team. We had so much fun there, it's our hope our child can do the same one day. Will surprised Chelsea with a proposal while we were there. He had a mutual friend meet Chelsea after class, gave her flowers and a card with a train ticket in it. Chelsea had just a few minutes to bike from her room to the train station to meet the train which took her to a beautiful beach area. Will met her on the beach there, said some sweet things, and got down on one knee to ask for her hand in marriage. It was perfect!



Chelsea is compassionate, loving, kind, outgoing, yet also stubborn at times. She is made to be a mom and thoroughly enjoys taking care of our niece and nephew. Will is thoughtful, hardworking, and always strives for positive outcomes. As a couple, we are the epitome of yin and yang. Anything Chelsea isn't, Will is and vice versa. We work well together, are fiercely loyal, and are always there when we need each other. When one of us is weak, the other is strong.

We enjoy any activity as long as we are together. We like to go out to dinner, on evening walks with our dog, and to explore the city's bike trails. Family sitcoms are our favorite TV shows and we enjoy doing home improvement projects or furniture re-dos. Cooking together is usually a nightly routine that we tend to enjoy too. We look forward to changing our activities to include our child!

We particularly look forward to celebrating holidays with our child. We visit a Christmas tree farm to cut down a real tree for the holiday. We decorate it together and listen to Christmas music. On Christmas Eve we have dinner, perform our own Christmas church service, open gifts and have lots of food with our family. Christmas morning we open gifts, eat braided bread and play with our niece and nephew's new toys. On Christmas day we do a white elephant gift exchange which can get crazy! You can either get a really good gift or a really lame one, it's quite fun with all the aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents together.

One tradition we hope to start is to celebrate Sinterklaas Day. It's a Dutch tradition where Sinterklaas (Dutch Santa) comes to visit the children and put chocolates and fruit in a wooden shoe! It comes before Christmas, so it extends the holiday a little longer. We also want to make sure we make time to take fun vacations together as a family. It's important to us to make those family memories together and bond as a family.



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