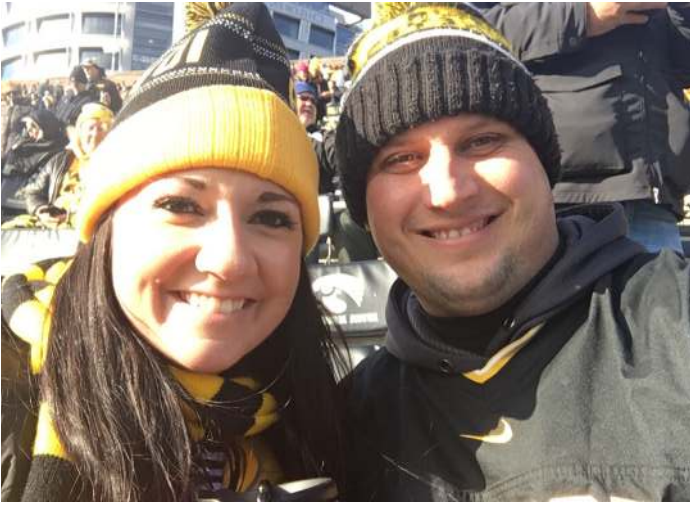


Hello we are...

*Brent & Whitney*



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



## Our Hopes and Dreams...

It has been our dream, since the day that we married, to expand our family to more than just the two of us. We've longed to be able to share the love that we have for one another with a child. We dream of a future to include a child in our loving and kind family. We hope to raise a happy, healthy child that will prosper from our love and guidance.

While we didn't know it at the time, God was already laying the foundation for our future family. You see, Whitney's mother and uncle were both adopted. We've grown up knowing the blessing adoption brought to our family. Adoption has always been a normal way to add to our extended family.

As we see where we are now, and look back at the path we traveled to get here, we are so thankful. This journey has strengthened us, and most of all prepared our hearts for this exact moment. We look forward to our future - knowing that God already picked out our child for us. And, we know our child's grandmother and great uncle will have a special and unique bond with our child.

We have built a stable home filled with unconditional love and growth. We strive to continually better ourselves and look forward to discovering our child's gifts and aspirations. We will provide a space where our child knows how much they are loved and cherished. We look forward to playing with our child, reading stories, rocking them to sleep, and discovering their personalities.

Both sets of our parents are still married, providing good leadership to us, and our siblings families' to which we are close. Our family is full of acceptance and respect for one another - something that we know not to take for granted! We have a large extended family waiting to shower our child with all the love and attention they can surround them with. We're very excited for our child to grow and prosper in this environment.

For any mother who makes an adoption plan for their child, we recognize what an incredibly selfless decision you are making. Our family has already been blessed by adoption through our mother's and uncle's adoption into our family. We are thankful for the sacrifice birth mothers make and appreciate the love adoption has brought to our family.

Blessings,

*Brent & Whitney*

The logo for Graceful Adoptions features a stylized teal flower icon above the text "Graceful" in a script font and "adoptions" in a bold sans-serif font, with a trademark symbol.

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 believe that God knows every path that our lives will take, every obstacle that will come our way, and every triumph that we will encounter. We know that God is on our side and He will equip us with all that we need, even though we may not understand it at the time. It is incredibly important to us that our child is raised in a home that loves Jesus and it is our hope and prayer that he or she will have their own personal relationship with Him. We will have our child baptized, and attend church and Sunday school every Sunday. While our child is in Sunday school, we will continue to volunteer at the church. Attending a youth group is something we will strongly encourage. Youth group was a big part of our childhoods, we would love for our child to have these fun memories as well.



**Family and Friends** - We have a great support system made up of our family and friends. They give us helpful advice and fill our lives with laughter. We're so excited to bring a child into this circle of support! We will teach our child the value of friends and family by demonstrating our love and affection for those people in our lives. Hugging a family member or friend when they need to be comforted and saying I love you every day to each other is normal for us. We will help our child to understand the importance of sharing, taking someone else's feelings into account, and listening to each other. We will ensure our child has the opportunities to meet other children with similar interests, through lessons, team activity, or in play groups.



**Laughter** - We love to laugh and are really very lighthearted people. We tell jokes and don't take life too seriously. We truly believe that laughter is the best medicine. We once read that "laughter is a sound that love makes" and we look forward to hearing our child be silly and laugh regularly. We will provide an atmosphere where it is safe to be playful, have a good sense of humor, and be spontaneous. We will teach our child to put themselves in other people's shoes, feel free to be creative, and try to bring joy to others when they might be down. We will surround our child with humorous books, funny cartoons, and we will be their comedy role-model, always telling funny stories and jokes. We will strive to put a smile on their face every single day!



**Education** - We believe education and continuing to learn are essential to having more choices in life. We will always encourage our child to reach their fullest potential and do whatever is in our power to support them reach their own hopes and dreams. We look forward to exploring our child's love of learning by creating a fun, comfortable, and inquisitive environment. We will incorporate simple concepts into daily tasks such as counting the number of cracks on a sidewalk, the number of cookies, or cows in the pasture. We look forward to participating in our child's school activities and making learning fun outside of school too.

**Fun** - We appreciate the simple pleasures in life. We are grateful for those everyday things that are easy to take for granted or missed altogether. We meet for lunch during the week, go to the grocery store together, and appreciate a gorgeous sunset. We love spending time at our family's lake house during the summer - boating, eating and making s'mores with family. We take day-trips to amusement parks, zoos, and festivals. We enjoy every bit of life together and can't wait to experience these things with a child by our side.

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





# Our home...

We live on a 40 acre farm in the country. We have a two acre yard where we spend our time and enjoy our three dogs. We were both raised in similar spaces and we wouldn't want it any other way. It's the best space to watch a child's creativity, exploration, and imagination blossom. There are endless things to do, messes to make, forts to build, adventures to take, and memories to be had. We are surrounded by amazing friends with little ones and we can't wait for them to be able to grow together and have lots of playdates. We believe there is no place better to raise children than on a farm.

We love being outside in the fresh air! We spend time on our deck grilling out, on the patio, and playing with our dogs in the yard. One of our favorite places is a quiet lake community with paved walking paths, it's such a beautiful place to explore nature and take in the calmness and tranquility of the water. There are playgrounds nearby and fun seasonal activities that we will take part in throughout the year.

We believe that a home is meant to be shared with those we love. Our home welcomes everyone - a place where people can put their feet up and feel comfortable. Meaningful pictures and mementos are scattered throughout, making our house a home. The landscape surrounding our house is so serene and peaceful, we've done our best to bring the same feeling inside our home.

We adore hosting family and friends, especially in the warmer months when we can spend time on the deck and end the evening with a crackling bonfire. When the weather gets chilly we love playing board games and cooking warm recipes. Our community is surrounded by lots of locally owned shops and one-of-a-kind restaurants, so it's always fun to take our out-of-town guests to a few of those while they're visiting. We have so many special memories with our friends and family at our home.

Our favorite time at home is in the evening making dinner together. It's our way to unwind and catch up on the day's events. We share things about our day, talk about anything that challenged us, relax, and discuss what's in store for tomorrow.

We are excited for the changes a child will bring to our life and home - changes to our schedules, sharing meals together, reading books as a family, and play time! We most look forward to the noise - the laughs and giggles, hearing the pitter patter of feet while dancing, the tears as they test their boundaries, and the sounds while sleeping.

We can't wait to experience Christmas morning. Seeing the sparkles and magic through our child's eyes, the beauty of giving, and watching our child unwrap each present we meticulously wrapped with care. We then will spend time with our extended families sharing this joy all over again! We are excited to share our love and the home we've built with our child.

- Both non-smokers

### Hobbies:

#### Adoptive Mother:

Attending festivals and flea markets, volunteering within the community, playing with the dogs, going on walks, boating, skiing, tubing, spending time with my nieces, game nights, designing, trying new restaurants, spending time with family and friends

#### Adoptive Father:

Farming, going to movies, trying new restaurants, camping, fishing, hunting, reading, boating, playing with the dogs, watching TV, spending time with family and friends, restoring old tractors.

### Professions:

Adoptive Mother: Associate Director

Adoptive Father: Agronomic Consultant

### Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Master's Degree



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

# Our family...

We met when we both worked for the same company during a summer break. Whitney was 14 and Brent was 16. Whitney, the more out-going one, told Brent a joke every day just to get him to talk to her. We became friends, however it wasn't until college that we ran into each other again and started dating. Our first date was to a fun and energetic Trace Adkins and Chris Cagle concert. We dated for more than six years before getting married and have been happily together ever since!

We each have our own strengths and we balance each other out well. Brent is a planner and always knows where the future is headed. Whitney is outgoing, always up for a spontaneous adventure. We are both accountable to our friends and family and have learned not to take a moment or experience for granted. We are resilient and stronger together. We take our marriage vows seriously and we know that we can endure any challenge that comes our way.

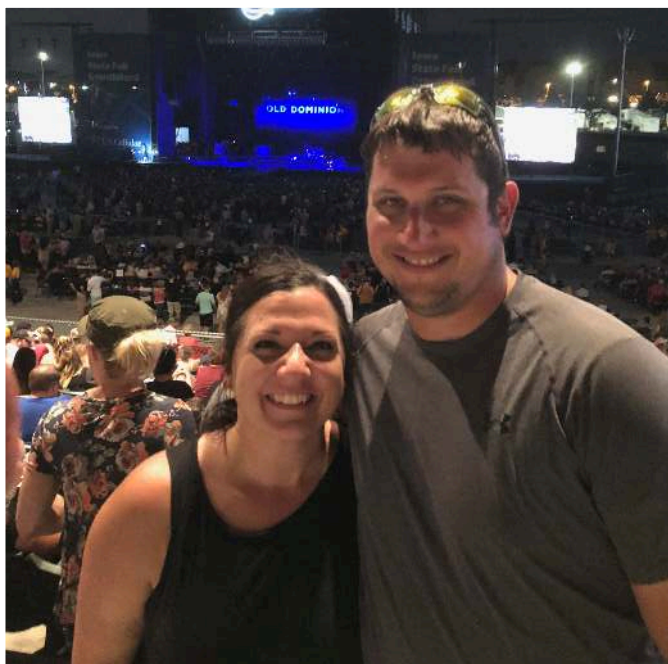
We spend a lot of time with our families and live close by so it's easy and convenient. Some of our favorite times together are summer weekends at Whitney's parent's lake house. Everyone arrives Friday night, we wake early to take the boat out for the day, and return by dark for dinner and bonfires. During the day we go water skiing, tubing, dock at the beach, and play in the water. The young children love playing on the beach and big lily pad.

We also look forward to spending time with our child at Brent's parents' family farm. They have a large piece of property with crops and cows. The young children enjoy taking care of the new calves, feeding them with bottles and corn by hand. The calves are so tame they just lick the corn right out of their hands. Riding on the tractors and in the large combine is fun for all the kids too.

One of our favorite family celebrations is what we call 'Christmas in July'. It's really a large Fourth of July celebration with lots of food, games, and a big fireworks show. We call it Christmas in July because so many of the family travels who can't travel at Christmas time. There are usually between 50-75 family members enjoying the fun!

There are a few other traditions we can't wait to start and/or share with our child. Of course, big Thanksgiving dinners with family. And, one of Whitney's favorite holidays - Halloween. We are excited to dress up as a group or theme. We like funny costumes rather than scary costumes. Whitney envisions us dressing up in silly costumes such as grapes, pineapple and a banana, or going as a few of the characters in the Wizard of Oz. We can't wait to celebrate birthdays together complete with all our families and friends, cake, ice cream, balloons, and lots of presents.

We look forward to celebrating every day with our child!



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