

Hello we are...

Annie & Joel



Graceful
adoptionsTM



Our Hopes and Dreams...

Our hopes and dreams are to share our lives, and everything life has to offer, with a child.

After nine years together, we are excited to grow our family and are steadfast in our desire to adopt. We will love this child with every fiber of our being and develop a close relationship with him or her. We look forward to watching this child learn and grow each day and will invest in them becoming the best version of themselves.

We believe in raising them to be a brave and kind. We love to travel and are eager to take our son or daughter on many adventures, opening their eyes to this great big world. We look forward to spending quality time together and are eager to make a lifetime of memories with him or her - going to the tree farm to chop down our Christmas tree, watching the fireworks light up the sky together in July, or feeding the animals at my parent's farm.

We are blessed with a wide support network of family and friends who will be there for this child as well. Our parents are the type of people who get down on a child's level to laugh, chat, and play. They can be silly and supportive, warm and strong. We consider many of our friends family, and look forward to raising this child in the village we have established with them and their own families.

We believe the more people who love this child, the better. This includes you, the child's mother. Although we don't know your story, to consider adoption for your child, we are sure you are selfless, brave, and loving. With the greatest sincerity, we hope you live the happiest and healthiest life possible as you work towards your own dreams and goals. With both of our love, this child will be able to do anything they set out to accomplish.

Warmest Wishes,

Annie & Joel



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

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Our values and beliefs as parents...



Kindness - We believe in being kind to friends, acquaintances, and strangers alike. We are genuine and accepting people and aim to inspire and encourage people through our interactions. We believe in listening well and seeing people for who and where they are. We have helpful spirits and think it is important to help others in practical ways - hauling boxes on moving day, making a busy friend a meal, or giving to a cause we believe in. Annie is an emergency room nurse, dependability and compassion are at her core.

Exploration and Fun - We believe our attitude and approach to life shapes how we view, experience, and respond to the world around us. We have inquisitive and open attitudes, understanding the more we experience, the more we grow as individuals. Children are naturally inquisitive and have a sense of wonder; both of these things we will encourage and foster. We will make a lot of memories, from picking apples at the orchard to camping in the backyard. We will take them on adventures to play in the sand and the waves at the beach, meeting Mickey and Minnie at Disney World, and traveling abroad to experience the sights and sounds of another culture. We look forward to many adventures to all the places they dream of, many of which we can't even imagine today.



Education - We believe education and a thirst for knowledge are important to raising a happy child that will grow into a successful adult. From an early age, we will make learning fun and spend time actively learning. We will read books, sing songs, play with Legos, go on nature hikes, color pictures, and frequent zoos and learning centers. We will support him or her at school, helping with homework and chaperoning their field trips. As he or she gets older, we will continue to encourage their curiosity by cultivating their interests and participating in extra-curricular activities. We both have bachelor's degrees and will encourage and help prepare him or her to attend college if that is their desire.



Faith - We both attended church at a young age with our parents, but independently sought out what faith means to us personally in high school and college. We love others well and generously give our talents and resources. We attend church regularly, and believe our faith helps us get through challenges with hope and love. We will pray with and for our child, and read Bible stories with him or her. We will use fun ways to teach prayers and look forward to him or her engaging in Sunday school activities and camps. We want and expect him or her to question our beliefs, just as we did, and discover their own faith and what it means to them.



Family - We have close-knit families who are there for each other through thick and thin. We are thankful to have amazing parents to learn from, who demonstrate happiness, love, and persistence. We are the kind of family who knows what's going on in each other's lives and enjoy spending time together grilling, playing catch, or a weekend at Annie's parent's farm enjoying nature. We have fun with our nieces and nephews, pushing them on the tire swing and feeding the horses carrots. We are excited to add another into our fun-filled and down-to-earth family, celebrating birthdays and holidays, weekend trips, pick-up soccer, and making cookies with grandma.

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Our home...

We had children in mind when we chose our home. It has four bedrooms, a large fenced-in backyard, kind neighbors who have children, a park just down the road, beautiful trees, and wide sidewalks perfect for strolling and learning to ride a bike. Blocks from our home we have hiking trails, streams to tromp through, and playgrounds to climb. We enjoy being outside, be it sitting and relaxing, gardening, going for a walk with our dog, or hiking the wooded trail near our home. Annie can't wait to visit the nearby butterfly garden and library with its amazing space for kids to play and learn.

Once inside, we have tall ceilings and an open feel with a lot of natural light. The main floor has big windows and vaulted ceilings. The walls and the furniture are neutral and light, making our home feel peaceful and comfortable. We remodeled almost every room in the house to make it our home. We are both morning people - we love to get up early to make coffee and breakfast before the day starts. Throughout the year, we enjoy cooking and grilling with family and friends. In winter, we usually have a fire going in the living room. In the summer, we spend a lot of time outside on our deck. We have plenty of green space, and like to play yard games when we have company.

We look forward to watching this child learn and grow each day. We've envisioned having a son or daughter here. We are so excited to make new memories of love and laughter within these walls. We can imagine him or her in each room of our home; sitting in the high chair in the dining room, rocking the baby in the nursery, watching him or her fall asleep slowly. Joel teaching our daughter or son to ride a bike, because let's be honest, he's a better teacher and much better bike-rider, singing and dancing in the living room, building forts with the couch cushions, and making delicious chocolate chip cookies in the kitchen with Annie. We look forward to sitting on the couch and reading stories and playing games together in front of the fireplace.

We look forward to creating a fun backyard for our child and all his or her friends. The yard is surrounded by a fence and there is plenty of room for a swing set or playground. It's easy to imagine Joel playing catch or tag, pushing him or her on a swing, and making snowmen with a son or daughter. We imagine watching him or her throw a ball or stick to the dog, and running in circles trying to keep his or her ice cream from being eaten by their four-legged friend on hot days.

Just as our family and friends helped remodel our house to make it our home, they have eagerly participated in creating the nursery. They have bought furniture, built shelves and bookcases, and painted walls. Family and friends have generously given their time, energy, and expertise to help create a special place for this child, just as they will continue to give unconditionally once he or she comes home.

- Both non-smokers

Hobbies:

Adoptive Mother:

Running, biking, exploring places new and old, road trips, dabbling in a variety of creative endeavors, photography, baking, reading, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Adoptive Father:

Anything outdoors; cycling, hiking, and canoeing. Building and making things, including woodworking, remodeling, cooking, and traveling. Attending sports events and concerts.

Professions:

Adoptive Mother: ER Nurse

Adoptive Father: Product Manager

Education Level:

Adoptive Mother: Bachelor's Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelor's Degree



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Our family...

We met at a restaurant where we both worked for several years during college. Annie was a barista, Joel was a bartender. Throughout three years, our relationship progressed from co-workers to friends to crushes and, finally, we began dating. Once we started dating we were both sure we had found our one.

We are deeply in love, have fun together, and are committed for a life-time. Annie is kind, considerate, and generous with her time and resources. She looks at the world trying to help, making friends out of strangers wherever she goes. Joel, a planner, is smart, energetic, and methodical. He tries to solve problems and is always thinking about the next project. As a couple we are loyal, dependable, and strive to live a full and adventurous life together. We are on the same team and always have each other's back.

Our family will be active, spending quality time together and constantly making memories. Annie will work part-time so she can stay home with the child most of the time. We look forward to sharing the activities we love - cycling, cooking, and hiking to name a few, but we also look forward to our child discovering their own interests and hobbies and sharing his or her interests together. We look forward to traveling together to places near and far - from riding the trolley's in San Francisco to riding the rollercoasters at Disney World, we look forward to the "ride of our life" sharing each day with him or her.

Christmas is one of our favorite times of the year and we can't wait to see it through the eyes of a child. We look forward to going to a local tree farm to select our Christmas tree while our dog runs alongside of us while we walk through rows of trees. We can't wait to come home, eat warm cookies and hot chocolate and then decorating the tree together while Christmas music plays in the background. It's a family tradition Annie grew up with and has great memories of selecting the perfect tree. Joel remembers the excitement of Christmas morning seeing what Santa left in his stocking and finding new toys. We are excited to have this time with our family, creating our own lasting memories.

We are very close to our family and spend quality time together. Joel's siblings and parents live close by and we spend time together regularly. Grandpa and Grandma are active in their grandchildren's life, boating at the lake, enjoying weekly dinners, having slumber parties at their house, and taking them to the zoo. They can't wait to add another grandchild in the mix.

Annie's parents have a farm where we enjoy weekends with family - sitting by the bonfire roasting marshmallows, sharing meals, and playing ball, swinging on the tire swing, and eating an imaginary feast in the playhouse with our nieces and nephews. In the morning, from where we sit drinking coffee, we watch the sun come up over the pasture where the horses graze.

We look forward to our child joining our adventure and building close relationships and spending time with their aunts, uncles, cousins and grandparents taking trips to the zoo and learning to ride a horse at grandmas and grandpas' farm.



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