



Hello We Are...



Matthew & Jessica

Graceful
Adoptions™ 



Our Hopes & Dreams

We have been happily married for more than fourteen years and consider each other to be our best friend. We genuinely enjoy spending time together and do almost everything together as a family. Our life is centered on strong values and Christian beliefs. We have been blessed with an amazing support system, a stable marriage, and a forever commitment.

We have immediate and extended family who are adopted and adoptive parents. We, too, grew our family through adoption. Five years ago, we worked with Graceful Adoptions to adopt our daughter, Lyla. We then discovered we were pregnant and welcomed our daughter Violet. It has been such a joy to be parents, the girls have rocked our world and brought us more love than we knew was possible. We have felt God lay it on our hearts to pursue adoption again and look forward to welcoming another child into our family.

We understand that for us to become adoptive parents again, a mother must make the very selfless decision to create an adoption plan. We are sure this is not easy and admire you for this courageous decision. If you select us to be the parents of your child, we not only welcome your child into our family, but you as well. We hope maintaining this connection with us and your child will fill you with peace.

We commit to being good examples of what it means to be a good husband and wife, a happy marriage, a loving family, and to be kind and loyal. We will help your child see that they are beautiful, strong, loved, and important. We will provide a place for your child to grow and explore the world around them.

We look forward to meeting you, understanding your hopes and dreams for your child, and creating a life-long bond with you and your child.

Warmest Wishes,

Blessings,

Matt & Jess

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

FAITH - We have incredible joy and peace believing in something bigger than ourselves. We pray throughout the day, are a part of a local church, do family devotions in the evenings, and consider our faith in our day-to-day decisions. We will read the Bible, engage in simple discussions about God, and share stories of the work He is doing in our lives. However, we will encourage your child to choose their faith, as we did, when they are older. Jess made this choice in 11th grade and Matt did in his 20's. We want your child to make this decision for themselves so they will have their own faith- if this is what they decide.



FAMILY - We understand that for our family to be stable, our marriage must be a priority. We are committed to a healthy marriage where divorce simply is not an option. We believe spending time together as a family is crucial and we genuinely enjoy each other. We ride bikes together, play at the park, go hiking and jogging, visit the ice cream shop, and "work" in the garden together. However, family is not just our immediate family, it includes our extended family and all those that we love and cherish. Matt's parents recently retired and moved three blocks away. We now live a multi-generational life, spending time with his parents regularly. His mother is a retired teacher and enjoys making jewelry, clay creations and reading to her grandchildren. Their daily involvement reinforces the importance of all family.



EDUCATION - We believe a good education opens doors! The fact that Matt has his master's degree has had a direct and positive impact on our family. It's his earnings that allows me to be a stay-at-home mom. Your child will have the right education for them so that they may learn in the way that is best for him or her. We will take an active role in your child's learning and explore their natural gifts and interests. We will read to them, play with them on the floor, encourage extra circular activities, and when they get older, work with them on homework. We will also have them help us in the garden to grow fruit, vegetables, and flowers, they will cook and bake with us so they can measure and stir, and they will dig for worms and watch caterpillars turn into butterflies.



TRAVEL AND EXPERIENCING THE WORLD - We believe that travel provides a unique view of the world and the people in it. We believe that this experience, along with an open mind, can lead to more compassion for those around us. Through Matt's business trips, we have been blessed with the opportunity to take trips to France, Italy, and Austria to name a few. These turn into vacations of a lifetime that we only dreamed of when we were young. We will take your child on trips with us so he or she may experience the amazing places and different cultures around the world for themselves. Of course, we will also explore places like Chicago, amusement parks such as Disney World, and the coastal beaches.

A Beautiful Experience





Our Home

Our home is our sanctuary – the place where we have fun, learn, rest, and recharge.

We live in a family-focused neighborhood with wide sidewalks and tall trees. The kids ride their scooters, bikes, and Barbie car in the front area and in the back we have a large fenced-in yard with gardens to dig in, play area to create and imagine, patio for entertaining, and lots of grass for running and adventures. Three blocks down the street, Matt's retired parents live in a townhouse. It's great to have them stop by during the day to say hello or join us for a meal. Matt's mom used to be a teacher, so she enjoys working on reading with our children. Occasionally we will go for a walk and happen to see them on a walk themselves. It's been really fun to have them so close and involved in our lives.

Our home is meant to be lived in. It's comfortable and welcoming. During the winter, visitors are greeted with the warmth of the fireplace; in Spring and Summer they are greeted by the scent of fresh flowers from our garden. Jess is an amazing cook and always has a dessert or appetizer to share. We laugh easily and smile a lot. Our life is relaxed and happy. We welcome messiness, in fact the kids have clothes and shoes for playing outside - on the sand or water table and to play and dig in the dirt. The kids help plant and water the gardens where we grow flowers, fruits, and all kinds of vegetables such as lettuce, tomatoes, cucumbers, and beans. We grow our own pumpkins, eat raspberries off the bushes, and pick fruit off the trees.

The kitchen is the heart of our home, which is often filled with the aromas of fresh baked goods or a savory meal. Our favorite dessert is chocolate peanut butter pie. Jess is a very adventurous cook with great results. While Jess is creating our meal, Matt is usually on the living room floor playing with the kids or reading them a new book selected from the library. We can't wait to explore new books to teach your child colors, numbers, or just to read a silly story that they enjoy.

Jess will continue to be a stay-at-home mother. She enjoys helping the kids learn and grow, taking them to their extracurricular activities, baking and cooking together, and playing in the yard and park. She looks forward to playing, teaching, and sharing your child's day too. Matt works about ten minutes from our home so during the week we look forward to sharing his lunch break together at home or meeting at a near-by park for a picnic. Matt is a very involved father. He is one of those fort-building, block-playing, book-reading, floor-wrestling dads. We can't wait for the sounds of another child's laughter and delight to fill the house. We can't wait to rock him or her to sleep and discover the world through the eyes of your child.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Riding bikes, working out, making cards, letter writing, traveling, journaling, reading, cooking, shopping, going on walks, playing with our dog, spending time with family and friends.

Adoptive Father: Working out, playing basketball, riding bikes, going to events around town, traveling, sports, reading, playing with our dog, spending time with family and friends.

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Stay at Home Mother

Adoptive Father: Engineer

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Professional/Vocational

Adoptive Father: Master's Degree

PLUS:

- Family dog
- Both non-smokers



A Beautiful Experience



Our Family

Jess and Matt met when Jess moved for an internship as a photographer at a local newspaper in the same city where Matt lived. Jess remembered her mom had once said “when going into a group, think before you just rush in, most people stay in the same seat week after week.” Jess walked in, looked around, and saw all 6’8” of Matt with an empty seat beside him. Jess sat down beside him and hasn’t left his side since!

Our first date was a minor league baseball game. The choice seemed like a gamble at the time because it could be a long date if we didn’t have a lot in common. We were just getting to know each other, so at the time we didn’t know if we would have enough to talk about. The concern was short-lived. We stayed in the stands long after the game was over and until they turned the lights off in the stadium. That was more than fifteen years ago.

Matt is an athletic, kindhearted, responsible, authentic, and loving man. He is hard-working and a devoted husband and father. Jess is a loving, sensitive, and compassionate mother, and an adventurous and loyal soul. We are dedicated to our relationship and marriage which we both see as a lifetime commitment. We enjoy our time together and can’t wait to spend time together as a family at the end of work days. We like to go on walks and bike rides, climb at the park, go to the Farmers’ market, and play cards and board games. We plant flowers in the yard in the Spring and bake with apples from our trees in the Fall. We play on the swing set, make fancy drinks for the kids, and Matt has regular Daddy-Daughter dates to spend quality time with each child.

Our support network is great. Everyone is encouraged to be themselves; we are quite a mix of personalities from introverted to downright boisterous. We cherish the time we have together, and we don’t take each other for granted. We hug our parents and say ‘I love you.’ We joke around with our brothers and sisters and play silly games with our nieces and nephews. We have enjoyed trips with our extended family to Disney, Louisiana, Lake of the Ozarks, and we will continue these multi-family vacations. We have spontaneous backyard barbecues and take last-minute day or weekend trips. We spend every holiday with family and pray, cook, eat, and clean up as a team for special events.

We can’t wait for our own family to expand from four to five! We look forward to all the things we will do together, as well as traditions we will share. We have egg hunts for the children in our family on Easter and at Thanksgiving we go around the table saying what we are thankful for. At Christmas, Matt’s mother comes to help decorate our house and Jess’s mother bakes lots of cookies. We look forward to incorporating being a blessing to others in our family traditions, such as; serving, sharing, and including others. Most of all, we want to care for, teach, protect and love your child unconditionally.



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