



Hello We Are...



Amanda & Justin



Our Hopes & Dreams

We are a fun, loving, and kind couple who are excited to add a child to our family through adoption.

We have been together for more than nine years and have always dreamed of having children. I, Amanda, have wanted to be a mother for as long as I remember. I was always the “young mother,” watching my younger cousins and taking them to the park and other fun places. I’m most looking forward to teaching and guiding a child through life with the aspirations of helping him/her to achieve their dreams, whatever they may be. My desire to help others to be their best selves, and this is still who I am today and the reason I became a nurse.

For me, Justin, I have an innate drive to teach a child life lessons that we have learned and see them grow into good people. We truly enjoy every second we spend with our niece and nephews and look forward to our next fun time together. However, we want to experience the commitment of having a child. We believe it will change our purpose in life and we welcome that responsibility. Our biggest hope and dream is having the opportunity to raise a happy child.

We have always known that we would grow our family through adoption one day. Amanda is unable to carry a child and growing up she had a good friend who was adopted. He inspired her to want to grow her family through adoption. We will provide a child the opportunity to have the best life possible and hope they will have many of the same childhood experiences we had. These include visiting apple orchards, pumpkin patches, and going to the zoo. Going on family vacations, playing and attending sports and other extracurricular activities, building great friendships, and celebrating birthdays and holidays with family and friends are also things we look forward to enjoying with our child.

If you select us as the adoptive parents, we hope that you will remain in your child’s life, at whatever level you feel comfortable. We believe that the more people who love and support your child, the better! Regardless, we want you to know that your child will be forever, whole-heartedly loved and that we will raise the child with the knowledge of how much you love them.

Thank you for taking the time to learn a bit about us. We hope to have the opportunity to get to know you as well.

We wish you the very best.

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

LOVE AND KINDNESS - We believe that having love, respect, and consideration for others leads to peacefulness in our lives. "Love" is an actionable word, and we show love through how we treat and act towards others. There is a saying, "everything I need to know I learned in kindergarten," it goes on to say "share everything, play fair, don't hit people, don't take things that aren't yours, say you're sorry when you hurt somebody..." This is what we believe and how we strive to live. We will teach your child to be kind to others, always seek forgiveness, find common ground with those around us, and always treat people like they would want to be treated.



LEARNING AND EDUCATION - We believe learning and education happens all around us, in and out of the classroom. Amanda is a continual learner and loves to read and Justin is a constant "tinkerer" who loves trying to figure out how things work. Both of us have college degrees and continue to use our skills every day in our careers. Amanda has always loved to help others, and she turned this desire into a career in nursing. We know children are little sponges and we look forward to sharing our love for learning with your child by exposing him or her to all life has to offer. Visiting the zoo to learn about animals, going to museums to learn about dinosaurs, and traveling to new places to learn about people and cultures.



FAITH - We have a tremendous amount of faith and believe our faith gives us the strength and confidence to get through hard times. We both have been baptized and were married in the church. However, we believe someone's faith is as personal as they are. We don't believe we have to go to a weekly service or be involved in a structured organization to have faith and to be a good person. We want your child to believe in something bigger than themselves so they too can have the strength to get through rough patches. As the child gets older, we hope they will test and question their faith and beliefs so they may decide what is best for him or her.

PASSION - We have been lucky to be surrounded by people throughout our lives who have supported and encouraged our passions. Justin and his brothers played baseball in little league through traveling teams in high school. One week Justin's mother attended more than 40 hours of baseball practices and games to support Justin and his brothers. After his dad came home after working a full day, he played catch with them in the back yard. We will encourage and support your child's passions by helping them discover and pursue their passions through clubs, extracurricular activities, or playing at home. We will always be there for your child, cheering them on!



HUMOR - Everyone enjoys laughter! Humor is an easy way to bring joy to life and we use it regularly. We both enjoy laughing and making each other laugh, whether it is making jokes, giving each other a hard time, or just being silly in general, we try to keep things light and fun. We hide around corners to catch each other off guard, and Amanda loves telling jokes. She is so funny that she usually starts laughing before she gets to the punch line, and of the ten people she tells the joke to, she is the most entertained by it. We will share this value with your child by continuing to live life light-hearted, not sweating the small stuff, and playing games with each other in our daily lives.

A Beautiful Experience





Our Home

Justin bought our home in 2009 for the land, trees, and lots of hopes and dreams for the future. It's a beautiful and peaceful piece of property on 20 acres at the edge of town. If we are up early enough, we can see the sunrise over the treetops and we watch deer, wild turkeys, and raccoons run through our yard. We are greeted by the smell of fresh air and freshly cut grass and the sounds of birds chirping in the morning and owls at night. It's quiet, we can hear the rustling of the leaves and the smell of nature.

The property has 15 acres of woods and trails, with about five acres of groomed land where our house and a place called "The Shed" sits. We spend a lot of time outside exploring the woods and trails on 4-wheelers with the family and friends, having cookouts, and playing yard games. We will grill just about anything – steaks, hamburgers, hotdogs, wings, pizza, and even veggies are all enjoyed! Some of our favorite games besides hide-n-seek with the kids, is playing corn hole and ladder ball with the adults. There is a back deck on the house with a firepit where we make smores.

The best part of our home and property is "The Shed," this is something like an adult and child playhouse or a great man cave. The Shed is a large building, almost the size of a football field, where we entertain and hang out with our friends and family. It's divided into two areas, one is a living space with a full kitchen, living room, and eating area. The other area is full of adult and children's toys like a bounce house, pool table, air hockey, shuffleboard, drums, basketball hoop, TVs, and a playset. It is a unique property that we wouldn't trade for anything.

We love weekends! We don't have to rush off to work, giving us the time to recharge. There is a sense of freedom and peacefulness that comes with waking up and having nowhere to go. We may relax, watch movies, go to sporting events, playing golf, or spend time with friends and family. It's a time we are committed to ourselves and our family.

We look forward to sharing our home and lives with a child. A child will become the center of our life - nurturing, caring, and educating him or her. We cannot wait to explore life through their eyes and from their perspective. We are excited for the energy a child brings. Having him or her constantly on the go and the spontaneity they will bring to our lives will be a welcome addition.

The child's room is complete, waiting to add some personal touches. The room is painted grey with multi-color polka-dot stickers on one wall. There is a crib, dresser with changing table, and a rocking recliner where we will snuggle and read to them every night. We will add pictures of the child, your family, and our family as well.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Reading, baking, crafts and decorating, photography, 4-wheeling, traveling, golfing, attending football, baseball and volleyball games, playing with dogs, spending time with friends and family

Adoptive Father: Woodworking, building things, golfing, attending college football, play basketball, baking, attending college and major league baseball games, watch college volleyball, playing with our dogs, spending time with family and friends

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Nurse Practitioner

Adoptive Father: Project Manager

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Masters Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelors Degree

PLUS:

- Family dogs
- Both non-smokers



A Beautiful Experience



Our Family

Amanda's older sister introduced us while we were both working out. We immediately felt at ease with one another, laughing and telling our life stories. We have been together for more than nine years and married for more than five.

Amanda has an outer strength and inner beauty that shines through whenever she walks into a room. Her ability to truly listen and care about others has made her such a successful nurse, and now nurse practitioner. Justin's love, support, and involvement of his family is at the core of who he is. His calmness, laid-back, and fun approach to life compliments Amanda's tendency to plan and organize. Trust and openness are our biggest strengths as a couple. We don't keep secrets from one another. Any time we have something to talk about we give each other the respect to speak from our heart and feel listened to.

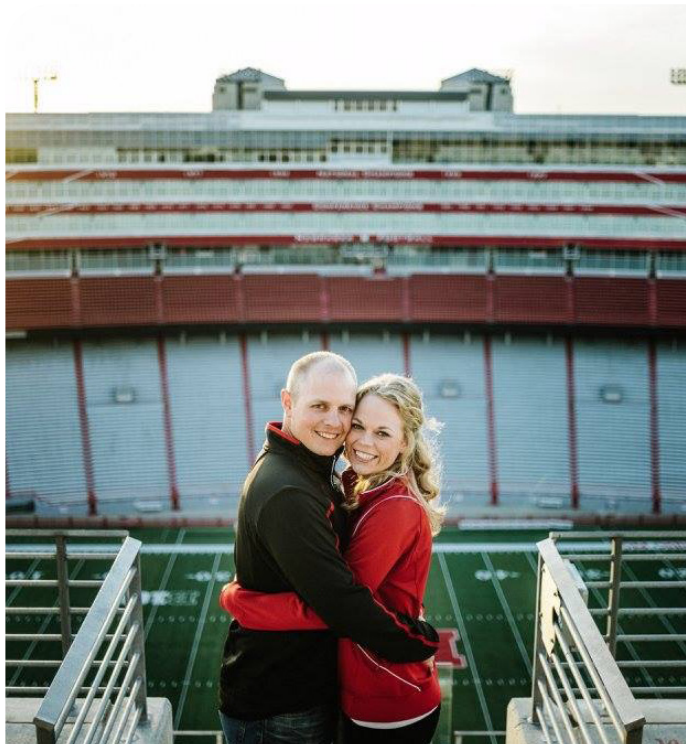
We enjoy new experiences together, everything from visiting new vacation spots to trying new restaurants. We also enjoy going to sporting events including football, volleyball, baseball, and dirt track racing. For date nights, we play miniature golf, go bowling (to see who is the best of the worst), go to comedy shows, act like a big kid at Dave and Busters, and visit any good Mexican restaurant or get a burger and relax.

Some of our best memories are created with our families. We live close to them and enjoy family get togethers regularly. Of course, we enjoy watching sporting events and hanging out in The Shed, but our life-long memories are created around vacations, birthdays, and the holidays. Recently, we went with three families to a state park together for a week. We rented a cabin and stayed together, swam in the lake, rented a boat, went tubing, and took turns on the jet ski. It was so much fun!

We celebrate all birthdays and holidays in a big way, and from mid-October until New Year's Day is one ongoing celebration. There are six birthdays from October to December, along with Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. During Halloween and Thanksgiving, we visit apple orchards, carve pumpkins, and have many family breakfast, lunch, and dinners together.

Christmas is our favorite holiday, and our celebration is a little off the charts. It starts the first or second week of December with a family cookie baking contest. Everyone joins at The Shed's full kitchen, making cookies together, and then submitting them for judging. The judge is Justin's father who is a big Oreo fan. The winner usually makes something with Oreo's to find his favor. Our personal favorites that we made were cherry cheesecake cookies, cereal cookies, and hot chocolate cookies. None have won but they were good to eat. As a group of 10-20 people, we also rent a limousine together and drive through town looking at the holiday lights.

We look forward to adding a child to our celebrations. The house will be decorated with garland and there will be stockings hanging over the fireplace. Cookies will be left out for Santa and carrots for the reindeer. There will be a basket for letters to Santa, the Elf on the Shelf doing mischievous things, and Santa's shoe marks on the floor to prove he was there. We can't wait to make memories doing all of these fun traditions with our child.



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