Hello We Are...



Jason & Kelly







Our Hopes & Dreams

It means so much to us that you are taking time to get to know our family through this profile. We have always dreamed of raising a family and sharing our love with multiple kids. Growing up, each of us having two siblings, we experienced that special bond as a child and how that bond grows and develops into adulthood. Those are relationships we cherish very deeply and hope our children get to experience themselves. We faced infertility while trying to grow our family the first time and were very blessed when our daughter made us a family of three. When we decided to grow our family again, we chose to embrace adoption as a part of our family story. We know families form in many different ways and feel strongly that adoption will grow our family in ways we could never imagine, including a relationship with you and your family that is rooted in respect and kindness.

We hope to provide your child with the life and experiences you envision and desire for them. Your child will be encouraged to build confidence in being themselves and build independence as they grow. We both grew up in very loving and supportive families who were involved with each other's activities and chose to spend quality time together. We will provide your children the same opportunities to participate in a wide variety of extra-curricular activities, to participate in faith activities, and the opportunity to explore their interests as they change and grow.

We want to walk beside you throughout this process and beyond, giving you support, encouragement, and strength you may need. Always remember that you have come to this moment based on the love that you have for your child. At times when it might be hard for you to acknowledge, please remember that we think you are showing incredible strength and courage and know those are qualities that your child will carry as well. We want you to eventually feel peace and to be proud of the difficult decisions you made, on whatever timeline it takes. We also want you to be comfortable setting goals for your own life and feel supported in pursuing those goals. Most importantly, we want you to feel welcomed into the relationship you desire to have with your child.

Warmest Wishes.

Jason & Kelly

Graceful Adoptions









Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

LEARNING - Education and learning has been a constant presence in our lives. We spend our days working in the world of education and we believe that growth through learning never ends. We believe education takes hard work and dedication and that it is an investment into our future. We also believe there are opportunities to learn all around us and continual learning is an integral part of raising well-rounded children. Learning will be a priority for your child and we will learn along with them while exploring new places, reading books, visiting museums, and doing homework together.

BALANCE - We believe that life is all about balance. Without balance, opportunities are missed. There are times to be incredibly hard working, to be focused on what needs to be accomplished, and to put your energy toward meeting your goals. We also believe that just as important as hard work is making sure to enjoy life. Making time to enjoy our hobbies, travel, relax around a bonfire, and spend time with family is something we are just as proud of as our work. We will encourage your child to find balance in their lives by finding time to enjoy their hobbies, spend time with friends, and be involved in extracurricular activities.

COMMUNICATION – Having open and clear communication has helped us grow so many strong relationships in life. In our relationship as a couple and as parents we have relied on strong and open communication to make decisions, share how we are feeling, and navigate challenging times. We want to share that value with your child by teaching them that we can talk about how we are feeling and why, and that we can work together to make decisions and solve problems. We believe that open communication builds trust and we hope to build that foundation of trust with you and your children.

OPEN-MINDED - The world is full of different people, lifestyles, opinions, and beliefs. It is guaranteed that life will bring us to interact with people who are more different than similar to ourselves. Keeping an open mind and being willing to learn from those with differing backgrounds without holding judgement is something we model and live by every day. Being openminded has helped us partner with and learn from so many families and students that we have worked with throughout our education careers. We will raise your child to understand that there is no one right way to live or one way to think. That staying open-minded allows us to build relationships and have experiences we wouldn't otherwise have on our own.

FAMILY - Our families have always been one of the most cherished parts of our lives. To us, family represents a support system, unconditional love, encouragement, safety, and lifelong friendship. We were both blessed to grow up in families that valued spending quality time together. We have applied these same values to our own family and will model how to support each other to your child. We will strive to make your child feel safe, loved, and encouraged to be themselves and follow their own passions. We look forward to when your child will find themselves modeling this value to their own children someday.







HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Camping, biking, bonfires, golfing, baking, working out, following sports, listening to and discovering new music, Cricut projects, and exploring new places.

Adoptive Father: Golfing, biking, camping, attending live sporting events, grilling/smoking meat, and learning new skills.

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Instructional Coach
Adoptive Father: High School Principal

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Masters Degree Adoptive Father: Masters Degree

PLUS:

Both non-smokers

Our Home

A house becomes a home through the memories it collects and the feelings it holds. Eight years ago, we made the decision to move in order to prioritize family. At the time we lived 10 minutes from Kelly's family and almost six hours from Jason's parents. We wanted to be able to help both parents more easily as they aged. We literally looked at a map and visualized a circle right in between both of our parents. We would have never imagined how welcoming the community was and how quickly we would feel like we were right where we belonged. Our house quickly became our home and started to collect memories of the new life we started to build.

And that is just what we do! Our home is comfortable with down-to-earth conversations, joking, and joy. When we cook, we always have music playing in the background while we are laughing and singing and dancing along. Eating meals together as a family is something very important to us. While weekday evenings, playing games together after supper, are a favorite, Saturday mornings are truly hard to beat. Snuggling into the couch, right after everyone wakes up and the coffee is just done brewing, has been a favorite of ours since we have been together. The slow morning is a balance of peacefulness and excitement as we make brunch with our favorite foods like pancakes, French toast. The kitchen fills up with all of those warm breakfast smells and is such a relaxing start to the day.

Working in education, Kelly does not work during the summer and Jason works a shortened day. Kelly and our daughter spend their time discovering new parks to play at, jumping on our trampoline, going to the library, making arts and crafts, baking, and going to the pool. Because Jason works a shortened day there is plenty of time to go for a bike ride, go golfing, or relax in the backyard as a family when he gets home from work.

Our backyard patio is what we often call "our happy place" because it is quiet, peaceful, and we love the view looking out to the fields. It is a gathering place where many people can comfortably sit and visit with each other. This is also where our firepit is and where we have spent countless hours enjoying a fire and listening to music, making smores, and telling stories. It is easy to say that we spend a portion of our day in our backyard most days when the weather allows.

The child's room has been set up as a nursery that can easily convert to a toddler's room. It is painted a calm grey, and is furnished with a convertible crib, changing table, rocking chair, dresser, and a bookshelf. We chose blue and teal colors for decorations and the wall art has a nature and bird theme. The artwork was intentionally chosen and has meaning to us and the values that lead our lives and how we plan to raise our family. Above the crib is a series of fun and bright pictures based on Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds (Everything's Gonna Be Alright)" which to us talks about perseverance through life. Above the changing table is a framed bible verse "For I Know the Plans I Have For You, Jeremiah 29:11" with a nature scene. This verse is a reminder of our faith and how it has guided us through life. Our daughter is very excited to have a sibling and has helped us prepare our home for another child. She recently went through all of the books and stuffed animals in her room and added them to her siblings' room. She can't wait to have a little brother or sister to love and play with.







Our Family

Family is so much more than your DNA or knowing each other forever. Being a family was how we embraced, welcomed, and accepted each other as we and our families joined together when we got married. These experiences have shaped how we have chosen to raise our daughter, why we have embraced adoption, and how we view family.

We met more than ten years ago and have been experiencing life and having fun together ever since. Jason is an extremely hard worker and has shown great determination and commitment throughout his life. He is patient and caring and is very intentional in his actions and considers the impact of his choices and decisions. Kelly is very thoughtful in her actions and support of others; she is calm and compassionate to all. She also is organized and the planner of events and experiences. As a couple and family our strengths are being supportive of each other, being open-minded, family oriented, working as a team, and having strong communication skills.

We truly believe quality time together and creating memories as a couple, even with a family, has contributed to our strong relationship. We both enjoy golfing, trying new restaurants, visiting local breweries, hiking and exploring new cities. Instead of buying each other gifts, for the past several years we have taken small trips to

celebrate Christmas, anniversaries, and our birthdays. We love to attend college and professional sporting events; we even have season tickets to a college football team and tailgate with family members. As fun as it is to go and experience things, we equally love our time together at home. Playing cribbage while listening to music and watching a good Netflix show are just as important to us.

Grace, our daughter, is five years old. We love being parents and everything that comes with it. Being educators, we have always had a special excitement around snow days. We spend the morning in comfy clothes watching movies, and in the afternoon, we get bundled up to play in the snow. Because Jason is the high school principal, we have access to the school when no one else is there. We shoot baskets, help Grace learn to ride her bike down the hallway, and run around to explore. This experience is something that Kelly had growing up because her dad, like her mother, was a teacher.

Holidays and vacations, especially camping, are a special time for our family. Making and decorating Christmas sugar cookies, packing treats to eat and drink while viewing various Christmas displays and light shows, and setting out cookies and milk for Santa was always something we both grew up doing and we have loved carrying over to our family. Jason's side of the family has an annual summer gathering at their family ranch. Each summer all of Jason's siblings' families spend a long weekend on the farm. Each year has a theme, and we play games and make food that goes along with that theme. Last year, for example, was Christmas in July. We enjoy swimming and fishing in the pond, having campfires, and playing games and having competitions related to our theme. On Kelly's side of the family, we always camp together, usually more than 20 nights a year. We share our meals together, go to an amusement park, swim at the pool, go for bike rides, sit around a campfire enjoying the simplicity of doing nothing and hopefully spend time at the beach together. We look forward to sharing all these experiences, creating memories, and expanding our family to include your child, as well.







