



Hello We Are...



Ashley & Jonathan

Graceful   
Adoptions™



## Our Hopes & Dreams

Our purpose as parents is to encourage our children to be the best version of themselves. We want to provide a support system for them that is stable, comfortable, and above all, allows them to grow into someone that they are proud of, we are proud of, and you are proud of.

When we think about our hopes and dreams, happiness is what we want to achieve. To us that means having enough, but not too much; being financially comfortable so that we can enjoy the outdoors, travel, and explore the world around us. As parents, we want to share experiences with our children. Experiences that will allow them to try new things, be compassionate to all people, and hopefully contribute to society in a meaningful way. We are firm believers in happiness, it is what you have in your heart and not what you have in your hand. Although our children will have plenty of toys and games, our biggest hope is that their childhood is filled mostly with fond memories of love and lots of laughter.

Jon has a 10-year-old son named Locke who lives primarily with his mother. We get to enjoy time with him throughout the school year, during breaks and holidays, as well as most of the summer. When he is with us, time is spent with grandparents, exploring the outdoors, and eating big breakfasts on the weekend. Locke is a sweet kid that will fill our heads with facts about science and nature and lights up the room with his hilarious laugh!

We are most excited about sharing our lives and experiences with a child full-time. We look forward to providing a child with everything they need, as well as some of what they want. Ashley is ready to plan birthday celebrations, make Halloween costumes, and get flour all over the kitchen when baking cookies together. Jon is ready to run around the yard, build a proper swing set, and look at the planets through the telescope together. As a family, we talk about what it means to be a good person. We don't want to shelter our child, but instead equip them with life lessons and experiences so that they can be a loving and compassionate human.

If you select us to parent your child, we want to be a blessing to you. Wherever you are in life, we want to meet you there. We have both been so lucky to have great support systems made up of friends and family. We have learned through them what it means to hold people up even during trying times. As you approach this season, know that although we look forward to loving your child that we also intend to love you too.

Lovingly,

*Ashley & Jonathan*

Graceful   
Adoptions™

*A Beautiful Experience*

YourPartner@GracefulAdoptions.com | GracefulAdoptions.com





# Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

**HONESTY** - We believe honesty is always best, even when sometimes it doesn't feel good. Life isn't always easy, but we must hold ourselves and each other accountable to grow as individuals and in our relationships. In our marriage, honesty has helped us work through tough times together. Ashley works hard to ensure Jon feels loved, safe, and heard when honesty is expressed. This is how we plan to teach our child honesty, by allowing them to speak up, rewarding them for their honesty, and helping them work through tough feelings and situations.



**KINDNESS** - In our home, kindness is the most talked about value - kindness towards each other and kindness towards others. We hope to leave a legacy of how well we treated others. Sometimes this comes out in how we communicate with each other. If there is a hard subject that needs to be discussed, we know that taking time to gather thoughts often leads to more productive conversation. When dealing with others, kindness often plays out through listening, not being quick to judge, and trying to understand the other person's perspective. Teaching kindness to our child will begin at a young age by helping them with kind language, sharing, and acknowledging other's feelings.



**SUPPORT** - In our wedding vows, we promised to never leave each other and to always be the other's biggest fan. This unwavering support offers both of us security even on our bad days. We each know the other is our constant and our best friend. When it comes to being parents, we will show our child support by showing up for them in ways that are meaningful to them. We will help them find extracurricular activities that they find passion in and support those passions, whatever they may be. We will support them when they experience heartbreak and help them work through it. And when they make mistakes, we will support them in a loving way even when they must face the consequences.

**LOVE** - Our wedding song was "All You Need is Love" by the Beatles and we try to live by this sentiment. Love is waking up each day and choosing the other person. It is being open and curious about the other's wants and needs. It is accepting them for who they are today and who they will be tomorrow. We are intentional about planning date nights, trips, and activities. Not only does this ensure we make time for our relationships, but it also keeps us present and living in the now. As parents we will show our love by getting on the child's level to listen and talk to them. We also say 'I love you' in our house. No one in our family will ever wonder if they are loved, they will be told out loud multiple times a day and showered with affection they are comfortable with.



**CURIOSITY** - We often discuss the world, our beliefs, and the meaning of life with the understanding that these thoughts and beliefs may change over time. Curiosity allows us to understand other's points of view and change our minds when we need to. We want our child to know they can ask questions so that they fully understand what they've been taught or led to believe. This means helping them research answers if we don't have them.

*A Beautiful Experience*







# Our Home

We live in a quiet neighborhood, tucked away from busy streets and through traffic. It is very diverse, with a wide range of ages and cultures who all mix well together. The neighborhood kids are always together, the older ones playing basketball in the driveway across the street while the younger ones run through the sprinklers and down the slip n' slide in our front yard. We frequently get together for cookouts and birthday parties and exchange everything from books to craft beer and even collaborate on garage sales.

We are within walking distance of the botanical gardens, a playground, and a small public pool and water park. There is also a large lake with many trails, boat launches, and a playground a few minutes away. We also have a zoo, science museum, numerous biking paths, and a ton of mural art and music venues. The outskirts of the city are crisscrossed with rivers and small lakes where we love to kayak or take the dogs for long walks.

Our house always has a sense of warmth which reflects our lives. We are a front door open, blinds raised kind of family. We like the natural light, but we also like to be an inviting place for family and friends alike. Our dining table is ten feet long to accommodate the friends and family who often join us, and our living room has a super cool fireplace that's fun to snuggle up to in the winter. We have two dogs that everyone loves and snacks galore for kids that visit.

As much as we enjoy spending time with friends and family, we also enjoy our time together. During the week after we get home from work, we make dinner and then spend time relaxing and enjoying each other's company before doing a project or running a few errands. We love cuddling up in the living room with our dogs and watching tv or reading and relaxing. On the weekends we make a big breakfast and enjoy it together on the front porch while drinking coffee. It is a relaxing time that we enjoy together.

When Locke is with us, we are always more active - taking dogs on long walks, playing in the front yard, and going on adventures. Having a child with us full time will bring an energy into our lives that we yearn for. We are excited to include a child in our daily routines and look forward to establishing new ones as a family. Locke has a little brother that he lives with at his mother's house. He is very fond of being a big brother and we have no doubt that he will take on that role with pride at our house too.

The kids' rooms are close to each other. Right now, the child's bedroom is waiting for direction. We have dressers and a bookcase, but once we know the child, we will buy an appropriate bed or crib. We will add a chair in the corner of the room for rocking and reading. Just like our son's room, we want this room to be tailored to the child's interests and personality.

## HOBBIES:

**Adoptive Mother:** Crafting & DIY projects, party planning for birthdays and holidays, hanging out with my close group of girlfriends, traveling, kayaking, hiking, and pretty much anything outdoors

**Adoptive Father:** Astronomy, woodworking, tennis, hiking, kayaking, reading, writing, traveling, climbing trees

## PROFESSIONS:

**Adoptive Mother:** HR Specialist

**Adoptive Father:** Lead Brewer

## EDUCATION LEVEL:

**Adoptive Mother:** Currently in College

**Adoptive Father:** Bachelor's Degree

## PLUS:

- Family dogs
- Both non-smokers



*A Beautiful Experience*





# Our Family

We met on Tinder more than nine years ago and instantly connected based on the similarities in how we were raised. Although at the time neither of us was really looking to settle down, something kept bringing us back to each other and eventually we started dating exclusively. After that, love came quickly. We both let our guards down and allowed the other in. Over the next three years, we became each other's best friend. We spent time traveling to new places, exploring our own city, and doing projects together. Eventually we decided to make it official, and we eloped! Although our relationship has not always been easy, being together has. Together is where we both feel the most at home, where we can be ourselves without judgement.

We are both very open-minded and are constantly adjusting our views through gained experiences and interactions. We love the outdoors and enjoy walks together with our dogs. We frequently hike or kayak, either while on vacation or on the weekends around the city. We love trying new and old restaurants and attractions. We also enjoy working together on projects around the house or outside in the yard. Our home is where people come to enjoy themed parties and holiday dinners.

Our son, Locke, is very polite and reserved when first introduced to new people, but soon comes out of his shell. He is a very curious child and loves to learn about everything, especially animals and nature. We take family pictures every year as a way to remember events in our lives. The backdrops have included the nearby downtown district, backyard treehouse, family farm, outdoor wilderness and lakeside goose chase!

Our family is a wonderful system of support, and adoption is already part of our family. We have lots of extended family which means a busy holiday season with months of full weekends. We have many traditions including small Christmas vacations and summer getaways. We have regular visits, family dinners, and birthday parties. Ashley's family lives nearby and we enjoy countless hours of swimming, birthday parties and meals together. We visit the family farm where Ashley once picked blackberries with her grandpa, and now spends the day going to antique stores when they come to visit.

Jon's parents live a bit of a drive away and typically crash at the house when they visit for holidays or for long periods in the summertime, to enjoy time while Locke is with us. These visits are filled with conversation and cooking and eating meals together. Jon's brother lives close by, so he is often at our home and joins us on adventures.

Our family is very positive about our adoption journey. Our parents are ready to be the best grandparents to another child, and our siblings are looking forward to being aunts and uncles again. The cousins are ready to add to their numbers.



*A Beautiful Experience*

