



Hello We Are...



David & Lauren

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Our Hopes & Dreams

Our greatest hope is to welcome a child into our lives and give them a childhood filled with love, encouragement, laughter, and the freedom to discover who they are. We want our family to be a place where our children feel completely comfortable being themselves, where they know they can come to us with questions, share what they are thinking and feeling, make mistakes, and always know they belong.

Adoption has been part of how we imagined growing our family since before our son was born and something we see as a meaningful way for us to welcome another child. Our son, Maddux, was born in 2021, and we would love both kids to grow up together as siblings. We picture the everyday moments they might share such as playing together, making each other laugh, learning from one another, exploring new places as a family, and hopefully developing a relationship they will carry with them long after childhood.

We are especially excited to discover who this child is. Rather than imagining a particular path for them, we look forward to learning what makes them laugh, what captures their curiosity, what foods they love, what interests they develop, and what makes them uniquely themselves. Whether that leads us to a museum, a sports event, a new restaurant, an outdoor adventure, or somewhere we have never been before, we hope to experience the world together and make room in our family for the things that are important to each of our children.

As parents, we want to offer guidance without defining who our children should become. Education, exploration, new experiences, and continued learning are important in our family, but so are individuality and independent thinking. We hope our children grow up knowing they are loved for who they are, not for who we expect them to be.

We understand that a child joining our family would already have their own personality, routines, attachments, favorite things, and history. We would follow their lead to preserve what is familiar and important to them and build trust through patience, consistency, and care. We also understand that adoption means our family would grow through a relationship with a child's first family and history. We hope to build an open relationship with you based on respect, honesty, and consideration for one another. We would never want adoption to erase any part of your child's story. Instead, we want them to grow up knowing where they came from, feeling comfortable talking about their adoption, and understanding that all the people and experiences that are part of their story matter.

With gratitude,

David & Lauren

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Our Values & Beliefs as Parents

EMPATHY & RESPECT - We believe empathy begins with recognizing that everyone has different experiences, perspectives, and challenges. We want our children to treat others with kindness, patience, and respect—even when someone thinks, lives, or believes differently than they do. Having grown up in the South and witnessed racism and discrimination, raising children who appreciate differences is especially important to us. We talk with our son about listening, sharing, respecting others, and understanding that families and people may do things differently than we do. He currently attends bilingual daycare, and we love that he is already being exposed to another language and different cultures. As our children grow, we hope these everyday conversations will grow with them.

HONESTY & COMMUNICATION - Open and honest communication is a big part of our family. David and I are naturally direct with one another, regularly check in about how we're feeling, and try to bring that same openness to parenting. No topic is considered taboo in our home, and we want our children to know they can always come to us, even when they've made a mistake. We talk about feelings, behaviors, choices, and taking responsibility rather than expecting perfection. We even have a set of family rules that we periodically review with Maddux, including being honest, listening to one another, sharing, and respecting other people and their belongings.

CURIOSITY & LEARNING - Learning in our family extends far beyond school. We are always reading, listening to podcasts, watching documentaries, discussing current events, or finding something new to explore. As a family, we visit libraries, museums, activity centers, and educational events, and we hope to give our children plenty of opportunities to discover what sparks their curiosity. We won't expect them to share our interests; instead, we want to follow their lead and help them dive deeper into the things they love. We hope to give our children both roots and room to grow: a family that teaches kindness, honesty, responsibility, and care for others, while giving them the freedom and encouragement to discover their own interests, values, and places in the world.

INDIVIDUALITY & SELF-EXPRESSION - One of the things we look forward to most is discovering who each of our children becomes. We want them to develop their own personalities, interests, styles, beliefs, and dreams and to know they don't have to become a particular version of themselves to make us proud. With our son, that currently means a lot of dinosaurs and animals! His interests have taken us to dinosaur exhibits, fossil activities, farms, zoos, and petting zoos, and we love experiencing those things through his excitement. We also make space for emotional expression by talking about feelings and healthy ways to manage them rather than approaching discipline through fear or obedience alone.

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Our Home

We live in a family-friendly community filled with parks, playgrounds, walking trails, and children of all ages. One of the things we love most about our neighborhood is how easy it is for kids to simply be kids. On any given day, you will see children riding bikes, playing at the playground, or meeting up with neighborhood friends. There is a playground just a few houses down from our home, along with a baseball field and skate park about a block away. The elementary school is within walking distance. We can easily imagine our children growing up here, heading to the playground together, riding bikes and scooters, making neighborhood friends, and having plenty of room to explore.

Our home itself is comfortable and centered around family life. A covered front porch welcomes you when you arrive, and inside, natural light fills the main living spaces. We intentionally keep children's play areas within those shared spaces because we want our kids to be part of whatever is happening rather than tucked away in another room. Your child would have a large bedroom of their own right next door to our son's room. Instead of decorating it before we know them, we would love to make it a space that reflects who they are, their favorite colors, interests, toys, books, and all the little things that make a room feel like their own.

Some of the moments we treasure most are also the simplest. We cook dinner almost every night and sit together around the dining room table. Afterward, we usually take a walk through the neighborhood. Sometimes it's a leisurely walk and other times it turns into racing, running, or Maddux zooming alongside us on his bike or scooter. We can picture another little bike or scooter joining us someday as those evening walks become an ordinary part of your child's childhood, too.

Weekends leave more room for adventures. When the weather is beautiful, we might visit a farmers' market, hike, spend time at the lake or beach, explore a botanical garden, or head into a nearby city. Rainy days give us an excuse for indoor fun at trampoline parks and playgrounds or a cozy day at home with games, art projects, learning activities, and movies. Weekend mornings start in the kitchen making breakfast together before deciding where the day will take us.

We also look forward to discovering what your child enjoys and allowing those interests to shape our family's adventures. Whether they fall in love with soccer, art, animals, music, baseball, or something we haven't experienced before, we will help them explore it. When the time is right, they will have the opportunity to attend the same bilingual English/Spanish daycare Maddux has attended, giving them another place close to home to learn, play, and build friendships.

More than anything, we hope our home will be a place where your child experiences both the comfort of familiar routines and the excitement of discovering new things, a childhood filled with family dinners, neighborhood friends, bedtime routines, weekend adventures, celebrations, playdates, and plenty of ordinary moments together. We hope it will always feel like a place where they belong and hope to be a source of stability and support.

HOBBIES:

Adoptive Mother: Movies, live music, reading, cooking, running, yoga, walkable cities, thrifting, spending time with family, visiting parks and trails

Adoptive Father: Golf, sports, gaming, history, cooking and trying new cuisines, spending time with family, events, museums and sightseeing

PROFESSIONS:

Adoptive Mother: Sustainability Consultant

Adoptive Father: Financial Advisor

EDUCATION LEVEL:

Adoptive Mother: Masters Degree

Adoptive Father: Bachelors Degree

PLUS:

- Family dog
- Both non-smokers

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Our Family

We met through mutual friends in 2011 and have been together ever since. From the beginning, we could talk for hours about almost anything—from politics and psychology to religion and whatever happened to capture our curiosity that day. Lauren was drawn to David's adventurous spirit, generosity, and willingness to be himself, while David fell in love with how deeply Lauren cares about other people. We got engaged two years after meeting and married the following year.

In many ways, we are opposites who balance each other well. Lauren is thoughtful, organized, and conscientious, while David is outgoing, curious, and adventurous. We approach challenges as a team, but we also don't take ourselves too seriously. There is plenty of laughter in our family, and Saturday mornings can easily turn into singing and dancing in the kitchen.

Our son, Maddux, brings a lot of energy and personality to our family. He is caring, funny, social, and currently very passionate about dinosaurs! He also loves animals and being around other kids, although he can be a little shy when he first meets someone. Right now, he is learning to spell, becoming better at talking about his feelings, and asking us lots of questions, including questions about adoption.

Maddux is especially excited about the possibility of having a sibling. Because he loves being around other children, he talks about the adoption process often and is eager to welcome another child into our family. We know sibling relationships come with everything from laughter and companionship to disagreements and learning, and we look forward to watching their own unique relationship develop naturally over the years.

Our extended family, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, and several cousins, is rooted in Georgia, and even though we don't live in the same state, they are an important and consistent part of our lives. We are especially close with David's siblings and their children, as well as Lauren's immediate family and cousins. We talk or video call with family in Atlanta at least once a week, visit regularly, and make it a priority to be there for important events like birthdays and weddings. They also come to Washington to spend time with us, and everyone is excited about welcoming another child into the family.

Many of our favorite traditions are the ones we grew up with and now get to share with our children. At Christmas, we open gifts throughout the week leading up to Christmas Day, a tradition from Lauren's childhood, and when we're home, we visit a local farm to choose our Christmas tree. We dress up together for Halloween, eat collard greens and black-eyed peas every New Year's Day, and often gather around the table for Sunday supper. We also love family beach trips and hope to start a tradition of escaping to the beach during the rainy Seattle winters!

Whether we are celebrating a holiday, visiting family in Georgia, taking a trip, or being silly together at home, we want your child to know they have a place in all of it. Our family is excited not simply to welcome another child, but to get to know them, make memories with them, celebrate the person they become, and give them a lasting sense of belonging within our family.



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