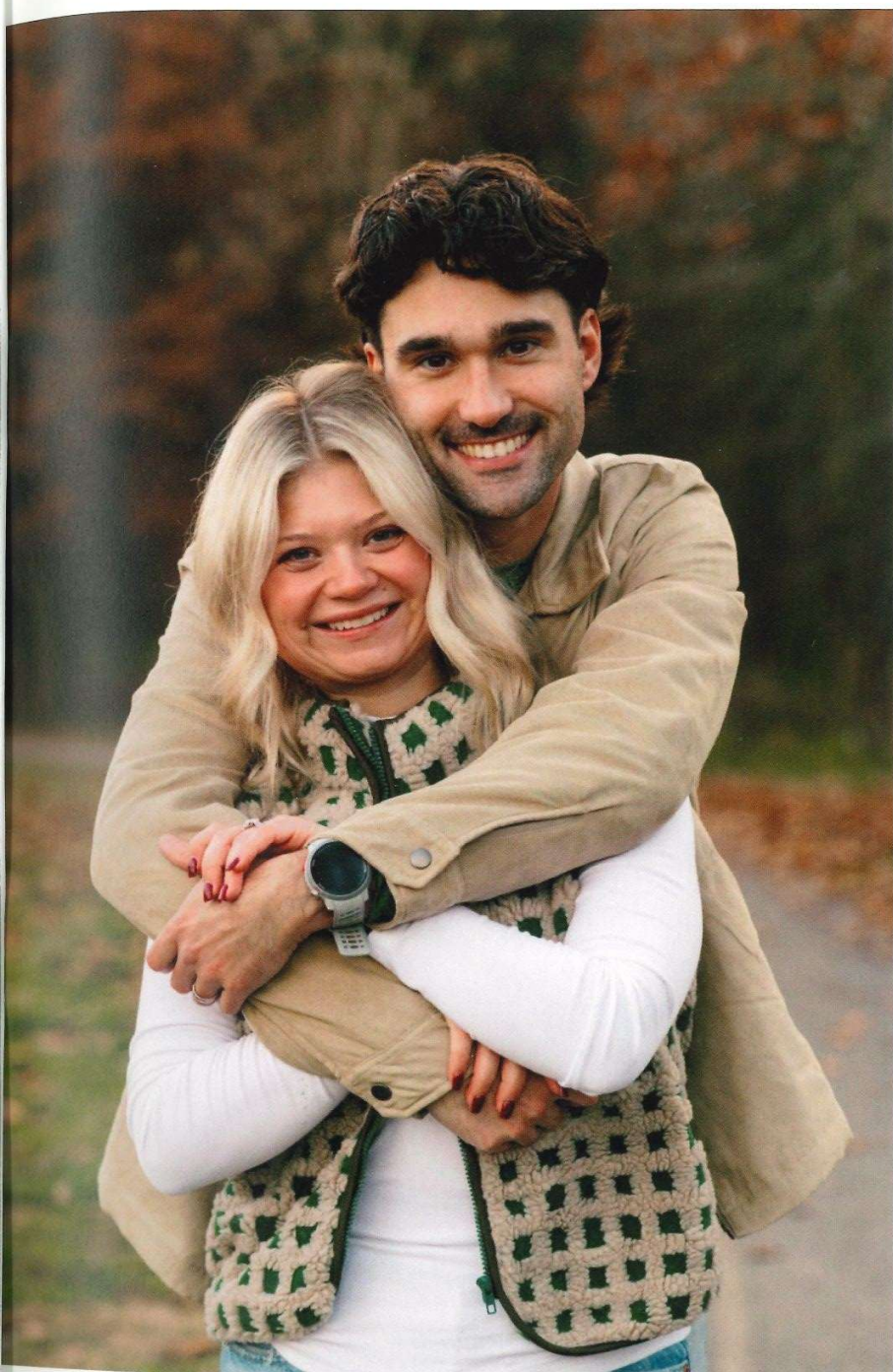




WHY WE CHOSE ADOPTION

Thank you for taking the time to learn a little bit more about our family and considering us. We hope to honor your path with compassion, respect, and openness. Becoming parents would be an absolute dream come true. We love cooking together and exploring new places. We value family, kindness, and curiosity, and promise to give your child a life filled with love, laughter, and meaningful moments. We are deeply grateful for the cha

WHY WE CHOSE ADOPTION

We chose adoption because it feels like the most natural and meaningful way for us to build our family. We've never felt called to have biological children, and we're both so excited to create a family through adoption. Over the past few years, we've spent time learning about the adoption process, talking with other adoptive families, and hearing from expectant parents. All of this has helped us understand what it truly means to provide a home full of love, support, and stability.

We also want to be ready to support an expectant mother in every way we can, honoring her decisions and helping her feel confident and valued throughout the process. We know how important it is for a child to enter a home where they are wanted, cherished, and surrounded by love, and we're committed to creating that for our future child.

Right now, we feel secure in our careers, in our relationship, and in ourselves, and adoption feels like the perfect next step. We can't wait to welcome a child into our lives, watch them gr

HOW ADOPTION HAS SHAPED US

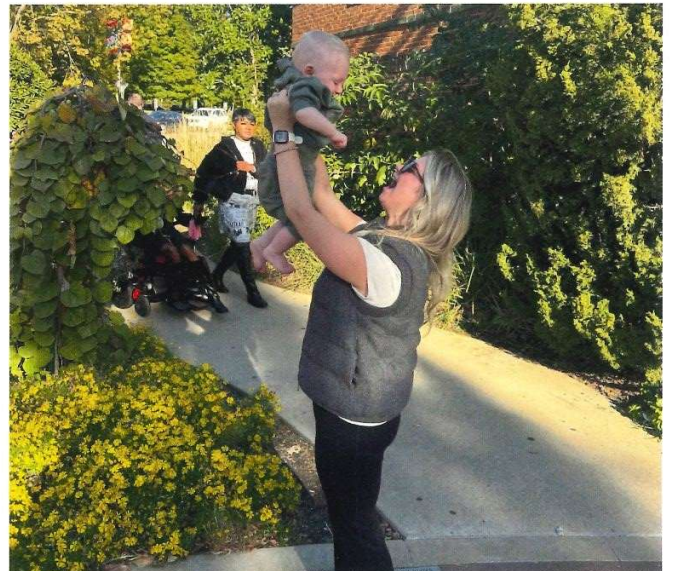
Adoption has been a part of our lives through Tyler's family in such a special way. Tyler's brother, who is biologically his cousin, was adopted from the Dominican Republic when he was about three or four years old. Tyler's parents welcomed him into their home with so much love, and he's been a huge part of the family ever since. Seeing how naturally adoption became part of their story has really shown us that family is about love, not just biology.

We hope that he'll be able to share his experiences with our future child and be someone they can talk to and connect with. Having someone in our family who understands what it's like to be adopted will be such a meaningful thing for our child as they grow. We know he'll be able to offer support, encouragement, and a sense of belonging—someone who truly "gets it" and can help our child feel seen and understood.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A PARENT

To us, being parents means creating a home that's full of love, laughter, and support — a place where our child always feels safe, valued, and encouraged to be themselves. It's about cheering them on through life's ups and downs, helping them grow, learn, and navigate challenges, while modeling kindness, respect, and resilience. It's also about learning and growing alongside them and enjoying all the little and big moments that make family life so special.

What we're most excited about is watching our child explore the world, develop their own interests, and grow into their own person. We can't wait to share the things we love — traveling, running, hiking, reading, cooking, and spending time with friends and family — and see how our child adds their own passions and personality to our family. We're also looking forward to creating new traditions, celebrating milestones, and enjoying everyday moments full of laughter and connection. Being parents, for us, also means being present, patient, and flexible, ready to support our child in whatever they need. Most importantly, we want to provide a warm, stable, and loving home where our child feels cherished and confident in who they are. Parenthood, to us, is about love, adventure, and building a family together — and we can't wait to start that journey.



DISCUSSING ADOPTION

We want to talk to our child about their adoption in a way that's open, honest, and full of love from the very start. We want them to know their story is special, that they were chosen, and that they are deeply wanted. We'll make sure they understand that their birth parents made their decision out of love and thoughtfulness, and that it was about what was best for them. Adoption will never be a secret—it's just a part of who they are and our family's story, and we want them to feel proud of it.

As they grow, we want them to feel comfortable asking questions, sharing their feelings, or just talking about adoption whenever they need to. We know their thoughts and feelings might change over time, and that's completely okay. We want to celebrate their story, highlight the love that surrounds them, and help them understand that being adopted doesn't change how much they are loved or how much they belong. Our goal is to create a space where they feel safe, supported, and heard, and where their relationship with their adoption story can grow and evolve naturally as they gr

CULTURAL HERITAGE

We know that adopting a child of a different race or cultural background comes with its own joys and challenges, and we're excited to celebrate our child's unique identity. We want them to feel proud of their heritage and understand that their culture is an important and valued part of who they are. We plan to introduce them to their traditions, history, and role models, while keeping an open dialogue about race, identity, and belonging as they grow.

At home, we'll create a space that's full of diversity, inclusion, and respect. That means books, media, experiences, and friendships that reflect many cultures and perspectives. We also know there might be times when our child faces bias or challenges, and we'll always be there to offer guidance, support, and advocacy.

Our goal is to raise a child who feels confident, proud, and celebrated for exactly who they are, while

EDUCATION WE CAN PROVIDE

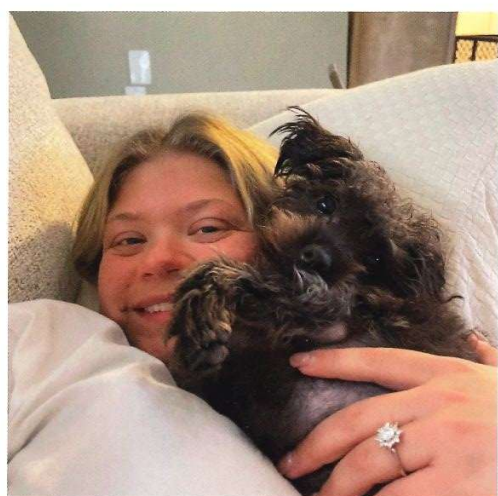
We're excited to give our child a well-rounded, high-quality education. The schools in our area are ranked among the top 20–30% in the state, with strong academics and high graduation rates, and we plan to support our child in every area — from reading, writing, and math to science, the arts, and creative exploration. We love encouraging curiosity and a love of learning, and we'll stay involved by talking with teachers, helping at home, and exploring fun ways to learn, like reading together or trying new hobbies.

We also want their education to include important values like kindness, respect, resilience, and curiosity about the world. With our love of travel and family adventures, we hope to make learning real and exciting outside the classroom too. On top of that, through my workplace, our child will have the incredible opportunity to attend college tuition-free, so they can follow their dreams without worrying about finances. We want our child to grow up thriving academically, socially, and personally,



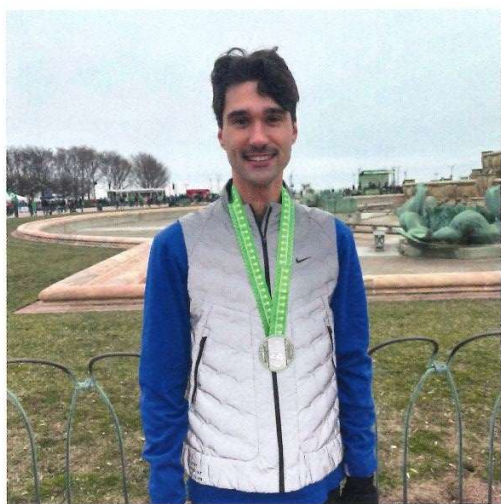
A LITTLE BIT ABOUT ALYSSA

Alyssa is beautiful inside and out. Her eyes and smile light up a room, but it's her heart that really captivates me. She's smart, driven, and has such a fun, vibrant personality that makes every day better. I love how she embraces life with kindness and joy, and how she puts up with my quirks and goofiness while always bringing out the best in me. She's my partner in every sense — my best friend, my confidant, and my biggest source of inspiration. I feel so lucky to share my life with her, learning, laughing, and growing together every day, and I truly believe she's my perfect match.



A LITTLE BIT ABOUT TYLER

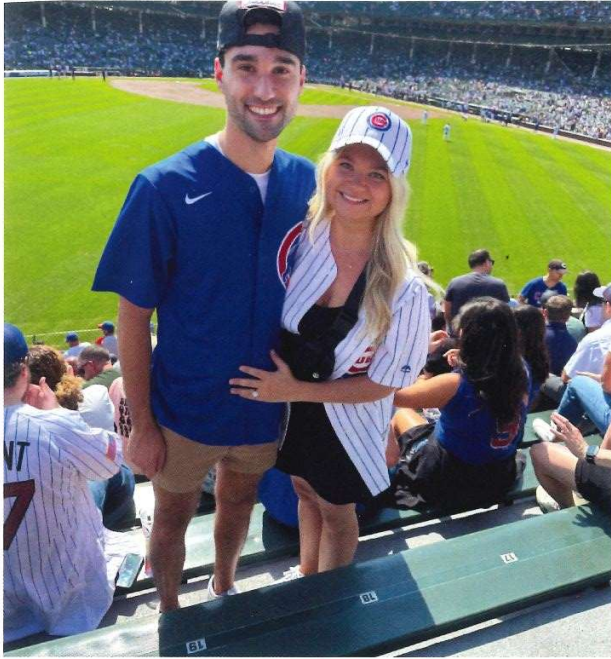
Tyler is patient, kind, and thoughtful. He listens carefully, approaches situations calmly, and always creates a space where I feel safe being open and honest. His kindness and affection—whether a reassuring hug, holding my hand, or a small thoughtful gesture—remind me every day how much he cares. I trust him completely, and being with him feels like I won the husband lottery. He'll guide our child with love, listen with understanding, and create a safe, supportive environment where our child feels cherished and valued.



OUR LIFESTYLE

Tyler and I live a happy, balanced life filled with love, laughter, and shared adventures. We love staying active — going for runs, hiking, traveling, or exploring all the fun things St. Louis has to offer. Travel is one of our favorite ways to make memories, try new foods, and experience new cultures. We also really value spending time with friends and family, whether it's a backyard barbecue, a game night, or just hanging out and catching up. Those moments of connection are important to us and are exactly the kind of environment we want to create for a child.

Our careers give us flexibility and a great work-life balance. I work as a Nurse Research Coordinator at Washington University, four days a week, and Tyler works as a Financial Analyst at Express Scripts, three days in the office and two days from home. This schedule gives us plenty of quality time together and will allow us to be present and involved in a child's life. At home, we enjoy relaxing and our individual hobbies — I love reading and experimenting with new recipes, while Tyler enjoys video games and home projects. Together, we make sure life is full of fun, curiosity, and meaningful experiences. We're excited to share our active, loving, and family-focused lifestyle with a child and help them grow in a happy, supportive, and adventurous environment.



OUR FAVORITE THINGS

ALYSSA

ANIMAL: OTTER
FOOD: BISCUITS AND
GRAVY
DREAM VACATION:
REYKJAVIK, ICELAND
HOBBY: COOKING,
READING, AND
RUNNING
MOVIE: 1917
ICE CREAM: VANILLA
SPORTS TEAM:
CHICAGO CUBS
HOLIDAY: CHRISTMAS
COLOR: LIGHT PINK
AUTHOR: KRISTIN
HANNAH
CHILDHOOD TOY:
GAME BOY
GAME: TRIVIAL
PURSUIT
DREAM CAR: BRONCO
MUSICAL GROUP: THE
1975
STORE: TJMAXX

TYLER

ANIMAL: GOLDEN
RETRIEVER
FOOD: HAMBURGER
DREAM VACATION:
ITALY
HOBBY: RUNNING AND
TRAVELING
MOVIE: THE
BENCHWARMERS
ICE CREAM: COOKIE
DOUGH
SPORTS TEAM:
CHICAGO CUBS
HOLIDAY: CHRISTMAS
COLOR: LIGHT BLUE
AUTHOR: JOHN
FEINSTEIN
CHILDHOOD TOY:
TRUCKS
GAME: DARTS
DREAM CAR: PORSCHE
MUSICAL GROUP:
JONAS BROTHERS
STORE: NIKE



OUR FAMILIES



Our families are full of personality, so there's never a dull moment when we get together. Most of our family live about two hours away, but they make regular visits, and we love every chance to see them. There's even talk of both of our families moving closer. Everyone is so supportive of our adoption plan and over the moon about welcoming the first grandchild into the family! We've also built a wonderful group of friends nearby who have really become like family.

They all bring so much joy, and support into our lives. We spend a lot of time together—playdates, cookouts, or just casual hangouts—and it's comforting to know our child would grow up surrounded by this loving, supportive community. A favorite memory from this year was starting to host Easter at our house for both sides of our families. Everyone came together for a barbecue and just hung out outside all weekend. Tyler and I ran around helping with little tasks, laughing with everyone, and enjoying the sunshine. It was exactly the kind of happy environment we hope to share with a child.



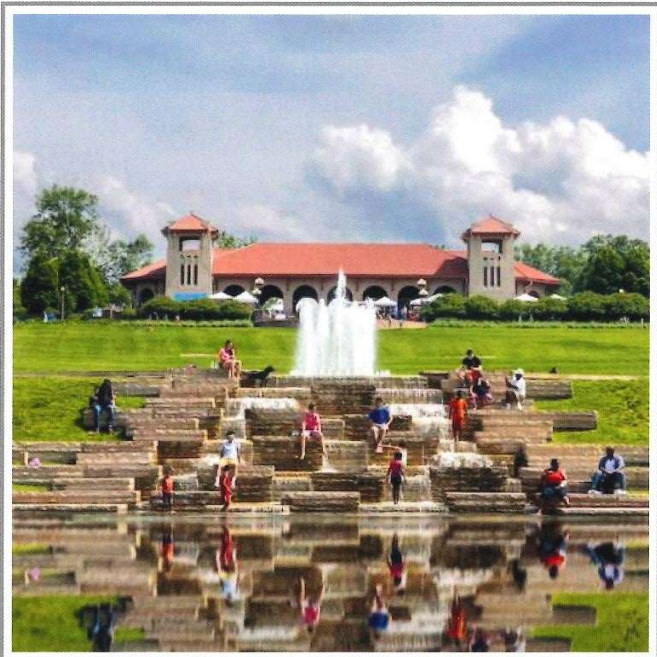
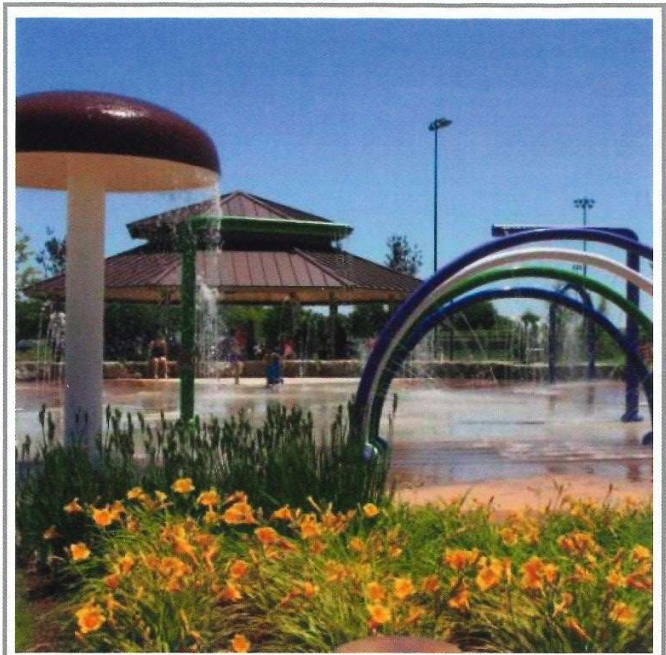
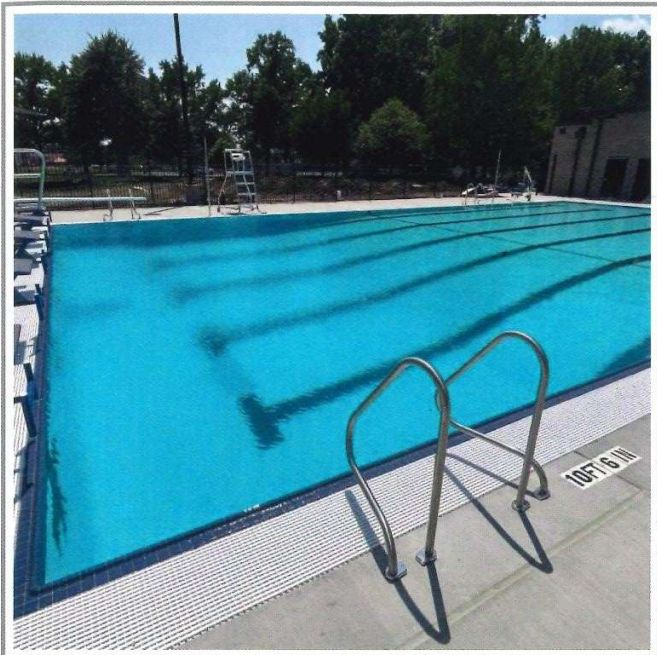


What makes our family unique is that we come from blended families. One of Tyler's brothers is adopted, and I have a large stepfamily, so we've seen how love and connection can take many forms. Everyone has different personalities, but there's so much humor, loyalty, and support. We're excited to bring a child into this mix and start making our own traditions together!

HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD



Our home is in a welcoming, family-friendly neighborhood in O'Fallon, Illinois, where kids are always outside playing, neighbors help each other out, and there's a real sense of connection—making it easy for our future child to grow up in a caring, supportive environment. Our comfortable, modern home, built in 2012, has 3 bedrooms and 3 bathrooms, and one of our favorite spots is the family room with its vaulted ceiling and big windows that open onto our deck and fenced backyard—a place for watching sports, hanging out, or just relaxing, where everyone is always welcome. O'Fallon is a great place for kids, with highly rated schools, supportive teachers, and a strong foundation for learning. Beyond school, the community has fun events like District Nights, seasonal festivals, and family gatherings that bring neighbors together and help kids make friends. There are also parks, trails, and community pools where a child can run, swim, explore, and play safely. Plus, we're only about 20 minutes from all St. Louis has to offer, from museums and theaters to sports and cultural attractions. We love imagining our child playing in the backyard or biking with friends—surrounded by caring people in a home full of love and possibilities.



A LETTER FROM US TO YOU



Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We can only imagine the strength, courage, and love it takes to consider an adoption plan for your child. We understand that this journey can be overwhelming, emotional, and deeply personal, and we know that nothing we say can fully capture what you may be feeling. What we can promise is that you will never walk this path alone - we are here to support you with compassion, respect, and care every step of the way.

We live in a welcoming, family-centered community in southwestern Illinois, where kids play outside, neighbors look out for each other, and there's a true sense of connection. Our three-bedroom, three-bathroom home, which includes a fenced-in backyard, has plenty of space for our child to grow, explore, and feel safe. With great schools, nearby parks, trails, pools, and family-friendly events, and just a short drive to St. Louis for museums, theaters, and sporting events, we hope to provide a childhood full of fun and adventure. We are deeply, wholeheartedly ready to be parents.

This desire has been with us for years, growing stronger every day. We yearn for the moments that come with raising a child - the first giggles, the bedtime stories, the scraped knees we can comfort, and the milestones we can celebrate together. We dream of holding our child in our arms, teaching them, guiding them, and watching them discover the world with curiosity and joy. Parenthood is not just something we want - it is something we feel destined for, something that fills our hearts with anticipation and love even before our child arrives. We are eager to give a child everything we have: patience, guidance, encouragement, and an unwavering presence through every stage of life.

We're excited to make everyday memories with our child - taking them along on stroller runs, cheering as they run beside us, or watching from the sidelines if that's where they feel happiest. We can't wait to travel together, whether it's our yearly trip to Disney World and seeing their face light up when meeting a favorite character, or exploring new foods and cultures around the world. We also love quiet weekends at home, reading together, watching sports, and enjoying slow, cozy moments as a family.

We've been together for almost six years and married for almost three. Even though we officially met as adults, we've always felt connected by an invisible string - we grew up just five minutes apart, went to the same high school, and shared many mutual friends. Our love feels both fresh and lifelong, built on mutual respect, shared values, and a deep commitment to family. Both of our careers give us flexibility, allowing us to be home one to two days a week. With Alyssa's experience caring for children in pediatric healthcare, we feel confident in our ability to navigate illnesses or medical needs calmly, safely, and with knowledge.

Adoption has been in our hearts from early in our relationship. We've never felt called to have biological children, but our desire to become parents has only grown stronger with time. With Tyler's brother being adopted, we've seen firsthand how important it is for adoptive parents to be prepared, open-minded, and committed to supporting both the child and their birth family.

We honor you - your story, your journey, and your love for your child. We know adoption is a lifelong journey, and that communication between birth parents, adoptees, and adoptive parents naturally changes over time. We hope to maintain a connection that feels comfortable for everyone, sharing photos, notes, videos, and updates in ways that support both you and our child. We promise your child will always know where they come from and will grow up in a home filled with love, laughter, learning, and encouragement. They will be supported, respected, and cherished for exactly who they are. And if you choose us, you will always be a part of their story - and ours.

