

Annie & Todd



Dear Birth Parent,

We know you have had a unique journey to bring you to this moment. You have made an adoption plan, have considered each portion of this plan carefully, and are now reading this letter considering us as part of your plan.

We look forward to seeing the world through a child's eyes, and to providing fun opportunities for our child to explore the world. Whenever we take a walk with our dog, we talk about what it will be like to have a little one in tow and how protective our dog might be with the new member of the flock. We imagine what hiking, camping and traveling will be like with an addition; what will our everyday life look like? How will our little urban garden change? Will our little one fall in love with carrots, eggplants, or corn? We imagine walking to the nearby bike trail and racing across to see how many geese and ducks are waiting for us in the river (and of course, the accompanying shrieks of laughter and the little fingers pointing out every new sight and sound).

We think of the joys of our own childhoods, the closeness of our families to this day, and the comfort of our home. We think of family vacations and our traveling tradition at Christmas and wonder where our child will want to go when she (or he) is old enough to cast a vote! Our shared goal as parents is to raise a kind human with a firm understanding of the balance between work and play and to equip her (or him) with skills to make good decisions, and to provide a home filled, on a daily basis, with warmth, laughter and (knowing us) delightful chaos.

Sincerely, Annie & Todd



OUR WEEKDAY LIFE

Todd works from home for a small technology firm in London, England (a place he visits once a year) He plays softball once or twice a week, takes piano lessons, teaches CrossFit kids and works on his Olympic Weightlifting form!

Annie is studying to be a nurse and tries to get this all taken care of during the week to leave the weekends free for family and fun! She tries to sneak in a couple good meal prep sessions, workouts and time with friends as well.

OUR WEEKEND LIFE

Both Annie's mom and Todd's older brother's family are a short walk away! On the weekends they see as much of their family as possible! Annie and her niece love to get their hair cut together and Sunday suppers with Annie's mom are hosted as often as possible. Todd's dad and younger brother live an hour away yet frequent visits are organized to the family farm. In the summer, the front porch is a favorite spot. In the winter, a movie in front of the fireplace!

OUR RELATIONSHIP

In 2004, we met at work and were married 5 years later in 2009. Very early on in our relationship, we discovered that we both loved to travel. These are just a few of the trips we have taken over the years. Travel is one of our favorite ways to learn about our world and ourselves. We love hiking new trails and trying new foods most of all. A trip can be as simple as a cabin in Tennessee or as complicated as a trip to Hawaii but really all that matters is that we get to enjoy it together, quite often with family and friends!



Our first (and only) tandem bike ride



Annie canoeing on the Kokosing River



Todd and his buddies at fishing camp



Todd wandering around Bologna, Italy

OUR SHARED HOBBIES

- traveling
- cooking (Annie is a foodie!)
- listening to music (Todd plays the piano)
- movies
- hiking
- being fit (Todd teaches CrossFit Kids)
- studying (Annie is studying to become a nurse)
- reading



Back country family skiing trip in Utah



Family & friends



Annie and Olivia (niece)



Happy hour with friends



Merle the Pearl



Home sweet home...

FAMILY – VILLAGE – TRIBE COMMUNITY – NEIGHBORHOOD HOME

Our family and friends are as excited as we are that our family is expanding. Our niece can't wait to babysit, our friends will provide respite and we anticipate many play dates with neighboring families. We have waited a while to start this journey (Annie is 43 and Todd is 53) but our supportive community is richer and deeper as a result. We believe that home is where the people you love are. Our child will be adored and will know many homes filled with laughter and love. Of this, we are sure.

