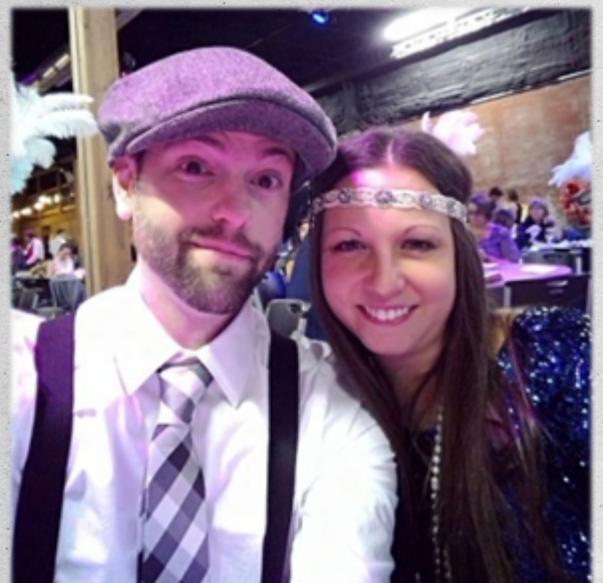


sarah + justin

We want to thank you for your commitment to your child and the thoughtful considerations you are making for their life. The decision you are making is one that will bless your child and their future family and we are so grateful that you are interested in learning more about us as you make your adoption plan. We cannot know how difficult this decision might be for you, but you are in our daily thoughts and prayers as we wish you the comfort of God's grace and unconditional love.

We are so excited to become parents and cannot wait to welcome a child into our lives. Your child will find abundant love and security in our home and we hope that brings you some peace. We love extravagantly, value kindness to others and the planet, and believe family is what matters most in this life. We have a large extended family that is extremely supportive of adoption (it's a big part of our story) and cannot wait to welcome our child into the loving fold. Your child will have parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins that are a part of their everyday life and anxious to love them beyond your wildest imagination. We hope that this book gives you a small glimpse of the type of parents we hope to be and the family that your child can be a part of. We have so much love for each other and more than enough to share with our future children. Thank you so much for your selfless act of love that might allow us and your child to be a happy family, we cannot express our deep sense of gratitude.



adoption views

Adoption is a big part of our family story already. Sarah's mother is a birth parent to Rob whom she made an adoption plan for when she was very young. We were able to reconnect with him several years ago and it has been such a blessing to all of us. Sarah's sister and Brother-in-Law are adoptive parents to two sons from Ethiopia.

Due to Justin's previous cancer treatment biological children are impossible for us. We are hopeful to weave our own adoption story into the fabric of our family's larger story of adoption. Our family has experienced the heartache and beauty from each side of adoption, and we believe we are uniquely prepared to love and care for your child.

openness

We are very open to any level of communication that the birth parent(s) would like and we will follow their lead and grow in the process together. We have tremendous respect for you as the birth parent and want to do what meets your needs through this process.



parenting views

We want our children to grow up to be happy and productive members of society that display compassion and love for others and the world around them. One of our favorite quotes is from Ellen DeGeneres and says a lot about how we will raise our children, "Be kind to one another." We will support them in their dreams to pursue their heart's desire through whatever means we have. We will love and respect our children and discipline with timeouts when necessary and then reflect and discuss positive and negative behaviors.



our home

Our home is a simple and cozy four bedroom two bathroom house located in a quiet neighborhood on a dead-end street. We have a bassinette made for us by Sarah's father which will keep our child near to us until they grow and need more space. We have a huge backyard and are near a walking trail. We have plenty of space and rooms for our growing family.



childcare

Justin plans to be President of the Stay at Home Dads Club! Countless family members will also be available to help at a moment's notice. We know it takes a village and we are not afraid to ask for help. In our unforeseen absence my sister Amanda and her husband Jim would care for our children.

our family

Our families are a huge part of our lives. We are both very close to our parents, who have each been married for well over 30 years and have set a beautiful example of marriage for us. Justin's siblings live locally with their spouses and children. Sarah's sisters are her best friends, and they have several children between them. This large, loving extended family is so excited to welcome a new member! We spend almost every weekend with them at the lake, or around a campfire, or on a front porch swing. Our immediate family will be a big part of our children's lives as they are a huge part of our lives.

our holidays

We currently celebrate all major holidays with extended family, and while we will continue to do that we also look forward to forming our own traditions with our child. For Christian holidays we attend church and then often have big family meals and activities. For example, we do a big egg hunt for all of the kids at Easter, a candlelight service at church on Christmas Eve followed by a drive to see Christmas lights, and a big BBQ and lake time on July 4th.



our religious life

We attend a mainline progressive Christian church that is very open and affirming of all people. It is a safe space for all people to grow in their faith and understanding of unconditional love. Our pastors meet us where we are spiritually and have helped us grow in our love for God and all his children.