

# Aaron and Rachel

## Dear Expectant Parents

We are humbled and appreciative that you are taking time to learn about our family. We are continually praying for God's guidance, grace and blessings in your life as you make the daily decision to pursue an adoption plan for your child. And while we cannot completely relate to and understand the difficult choices that you face, please know that we value and admire your strength and courage. It is our hope, as we share the story of our family with you, that a mutually respectful relationship will begin to develop and grow over time.

As a couple, our relationship began when we met making apple pies at our church in 2007. We were friends for several years before we began dating in 2010, and we married in September of 2012. Our daughter Piper was born in 2015, and she brings tremendous joy to our lives each day. Piper loves gymnastics, reading, going to the park, arts and crafts and playing with her friends and cousins. She is responsible, kind and is looking forward to becoming a big sister! As a family, we love going on adventures together, traveling, attending sporting events, attending church services and celebrating holidays with our friends and family.



Our family isn't perfect, but we are loving, kind and loyal to one another. We love to laugh and have fun together as a family. We value hard work, education and, above all else, our Christian faith. It is our faith in Christ that allows us to see past any circumstances we may experience and reminds us that we are made in the image of God who loves us. It is our hope for you and your child, that you are reminded of God's mighty and perfect love for you both.

Kind Regards,

Aaron and Rachel

# Aaron

Occupation: Teacher

Personality: Easy-going, patient, loving, loyal, and creative

Hobbies: Music, writing, reading, exercise, photography, baseball, and hockey

Favorite color: Blue

# Rachel

Occupation: Employment Specialist/  
Associate Pastor

Personality: Organized, compassionate, kind, caring, and determined

Hobbies: Reading, baking, stained glass projects, Cardinals baseball, traveling, gardening, and volunteering

Favorite colors: Red and teal

# Views on Adoption

We chose adoption as a way to grow our family after experiencing issues with infertility. Through adoption, we hope to offer our children a supportive and encouraging home where they are loved wholeheartedly. We recognize that there are many ways to grow a family, and one way of growing a family is not "better" than another.

# Openness

We look forward to meeting our child's birth family, and interacting through emails, letters, pictures and videos. We recognize the important role birth family plays in an adopted child's life story. After building a supportive and trusting relationship with the birth parents, we may in the future be open to in-person visits.



Rachel and Aaron abroad in Cuba



Rachel and Aaron at a Cardinals Baseball game



Rachel and Aaron at their wedding

# Our Family

We have one daughter, Margaret "Piper" who is 4 years old. As parents, it is our role to raise children who are compassionate, kind and productive members of their community. And while we recognize that every child has different educational and disciplinary goals, our approach to parenting is to help our children discover what is best inside themselves and share it with others.

While we always plan for rest and quiet time as a family, we do stay very busy throughout the week doing things we enjoy together. We enjoy having new experiences, trying new foods and going to places we've never been before. We try to vacation at least once or twice a year in order to create new memories together as a family. We value cultures and perspectives that are different from our own, and hope to raise our children to appreciate the unique qualities in others.



Piper, Rachel, and Aaron in the snow



Piper hanging out and eating pizza at a birthday party



On vacation at the Butterfly Palace in Branson



Piper with her cousins Millie, Gus, and Anna

# Religion

We are a Christian family that attends a church within the denomination of the Church of the Nazarene. Our faith and relationship with Jesus Christ is the "why" behind every choice that we make as a family. We hope to raise our children to grow more like Christ, joyfully serve others and share their stories within their communities.



Aaron and Piper at the fair

# Childcare Plans

Aaron's mother (Cindy) and Rachel's mother and father (Kaye and Randy) plan on being the primary childcare providers while Aaron and Rachel are at work during the week. We also have two families who we've known for many years with young children. They offer to babysit Piper when needed, and she refers to them as her honorary aunts and uncles.



Lola Cindy and Piper on Halloween



Papa Randy, Piper, and Grandma KK at Piper's 2nd birthday party

Aaron giving Fleur a bath



Toodles



Yadi and Lena

# We love animals!

We have three cats (Yadi, Lena and Toodles) and one dog (Fleur). Aaron was raised with pet dogs, and Rachel grew up around horses, goats, rabbits, cats, and birds. We would like for our children to grow up with a respect and love for animals and nature.

# Our Home



We live in a tri-level home on a dead-end street in a quiet neighborhood. Our home has three bedrooms, two and a half bathrooms, and two large family areas. We have a spacious backyard with partial fencing and a finished basement. Our favorite part of the home is our dining room, where we eat together, play games, work on projects and entertain for the holidays.

# Holidays

We celebrate holidays by spending time with our extended family and friends, attending church services, and creating unique traditions within our family. We love to celebrate both Filipino and American traditional holidays each year. We love to host our family's holiday dinners and invite friends over annual traditions. Each year we host our group "Friendsmas," Advent candle lighting, Epiphany celebration, and backyard Easter egg hunt.