

# JAKE & KELLY

## JAKE

Doctor of Chiropractic

Kind, helpful, and optimistic

Enjoys helping people, running with friends, and drinking coffee.

Favorite Color: Red

## KELLY

University instructor of Design

Creative, patient, and reliable.

Enjoys bird watching, crafting, and playing with her nieces.

Favorite Color: Hot Pink

## OUR FAMILY

Married 4 years

No children

## DEAR BIRTH PARENTS,

We find it truly incredible that two different sets of people can come together to answer each other's prayers through adoption. We are so thankful adoption is an option for us and we are also incredibly thankful for your willingness to consider us as the possible future parents of your child.

If you were to choose us, you will be a part of our family forever no matter how involved they are in the child's life. However, we are hoping for an open adoption. We want to be able to send photos and letters and involve the birth parents in the child's life through invitations to birthday parties and to visit on occasion. We will also encourage phone calls with the birth parents. The more people there are to love our child, the better.

Your journey is not an easy one and we can't imagine what you're going through, but please know you have all the respect, love, and admiration you deserve from us.

We know you are making a very tough decision and we pray that you find the right person for your child, even if it is not us.

Sincerely,

Jake & Kelly





### WHY ADOPTION?

When we decided to start our family several years ago, the doctors told us it might be difficult because of a reproductive condition that afflicts Kelly. From the very moment we learned we might not ever get pregnant, adoption was always our shining hope because we knew that even though adoption was a different way of having children, it is no less special than having a biological child.

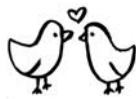
The day we finally decided to pursue adoption was one of the most wonderful moments of our marriage. Some people say you know God is guiding your way when you feel peace in the journey. We have found great peace in our decision to adopt and are so very excited to begin our family this way.

### OUR VIEWS ON PARENTING, EDUCATION AND DISCIPLINE

Our parenting philosophy centers around openness, flexibility, and empathy. We will use our values such as honesty, patience, and courage to raise our children to be kind, responsible, and passionate. Our methods of discipline will always be clear and consistent consequences of time-outs when they're little and taking away privileges when they're older.

Education will be a big part of our child's life. Kelly works for a university and Jake has three degrees, but these accomplishments did not come easy. We know what it takes to work hard, overcome obstacles, and be passionate about learning.

## MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS, LIFETIME OF JOY.



Jake's mom, dad, and little brother

Kelly's mom, dad, brother, sister-in-law, and two nieces





Our house has three bedrooms and a big backyard.



Kelly is very creative and likes to illustrate birds.

Luna is our very happy puppy.



### CULTURE & DIVERSITY

We are very open to a child of any race. However, we know our family and neighborhood does not offer the diversity we wish it had.

Therefore, we plan on spending our entire lives learning about, celebrating, and encouraging the culture and heritage of our son or daughter. We will always make sure he or she have mentors, coaches, teachers, and friends in their life who look like them. We have already begun this process by connecting with babysitters, friends, and pediatricians that add diversity to our lives.

Our families are completely open to any child that may not be our same race. They have verbally committed to love, respect, and empower their personal history, culture, and identity.

**OUR HOME |** We live in a tri-level home with three bedrooms and a basement. We have a large backyard that backs up to a prairie. Kelly likes to garden so every year she plants more and more native plants and trees.

Our home resides on a quiet street in a suburb with an elementary school within walking distance. Our city has a wide variety of amenities without the chaos of a busy city. Our neighbors are friendly and helpful. Most days you can find all the neighborhood kids playing together outside.

**CREATIVITY |** Kelly's greatest passion in life is creativity. She loves to draw, build, design, and always be creating something.

**LUNA |** We have a dog named Luna. She is an eight year old, small, full-breed Australian Shepherd. She has a lot of energy but is very well behaved. She loves to play frisbee and eat doggy snacks but most of all, she loves hugs, snuggling, and sitting on your lap.

We spend all summer on our brother's boat.



**BOATING |** Kelly's parents and siblings live very close to a small lake and have a boat on the water. We spend all summer on the boat skiing, cruising, and swimming. Because of our passion for water, our child will learn how to swim and learn how to be safe in water early on.



Playing a board game called "Wingspan"

**SCOUTS AND ACTIVITIES |** We both grew up participating in many activities such as sports teams and scouts. We believe in the power of these activities and the mentors and friends that come with them. We will encourage (but not force) our child to participate in these types of activities.



We are always having fun with our two nieces, Parker and Peyton.



**HEALTH** | Jake has always been passionate about health. He has a deep understanding of nutrition, exercise, and health care (primarily chiropractic care). Our child will be in good hands with Jake who will ensure their health, safety, and happiness their entire lives.

**CHILD CARE PLANS** | Because we are so passionate about our jobs, both of us plan on working full time jobs as we raise our child. We believe we can sustain a healthy work-life balance and show our child what it means to have everything you want in life: both a family and a career. Before our children attend public school, we will put them in the hands of a trusted child care provider.

**FAMILY LIFE** | We put our families above all things. We don't go more than a day without at least talking to them because they're so special to us. With families this close, it's impossible to keep anything from them. They support our every need, whether it's talking through the hard times, feeding us when we're hungry, or making us laugh.

We find great joy in our family. Our nieces, Parker and Peyton, call us up on the weekends and ask if we can play at the park or just come over. At least once a week you can find us playing barbies, magic show, or any variety of imaginative games with the girls. Parker and Peyton are a big part of our lives and will hopefully be friends and mentors to our child.

**RELIGION** | We are Christians who believe Jesus Christ is our savior. We attend church most Sunday mornings and have a dedicated church family we study the bible with once a week.

Our bible study group is very special to us because two of the families have adopted children. These families are beyond excited for our journey and provide great advice.

We plan to raise our children in the Christian faith. Our church is devoted to teaching children how to be compassionate Christians who love all and put our faith in Jesus Christ.

**HOLIDAYS** | We celebrate all major christian holidays. Most holidays consist of attending church and spending time with our families. Our celebrations always involve a lot of good food!



Birding is a hobby Jake and Kelly share they will share it with their child.



Jake loves treating his patients.



Luna goes with us everywhere!

We spend every moment we can outdoors!



Family game night with Jake's cousins.

Kelly has a very large extended family!



**TO YOUR BELOVED ONE,**

We vow to love you unconditionally, through all the odds, to the end of the universe. We vow to protect you with everything we have under the guidance of God and our families. We vow to keep you healthy as you grow.

We vow to always be on your side. To lift you up when you are down. To build you up when you are weak. To bring you moments of happiness and a lifetime of joy.

We vow to provide for you and to make you proud each and every day. To always be bold and courageous for you. We vow to continue to grow close to you, our families, and to God.

We vow to take you on many adventures in your life and to push you further than anyone else could. We vow to encourage and respect your passions and personality. To be patient with you and help you find courage when you need it.

And... we vow to write all our important messages, words and action statements on post-it notes, so you can hold on to them.

And my darling,

When our lives are nearing their end and we are older, grayer and withered, we will still love you, cherish you, protect you, hold you, listen to you, and be right by your side.

You are and forever will be our family. We love you.



Thank you for viewing our book and taking the time to get to know us. We wish you a life-time of peace in your decision.

Love,

*Jake & Kelly*