



LEAH & KURT



hello!

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IT'S SO NICE TO "MEET" YOU!

We are humbled that you would take the time to get to know us, as you may be feeling a bit overwhelmed. You are making one of the most difficult decisions of your life out of love for your child, and we can only imagine the weightiness that that decision carries. Your courage and strength are admirable.

Since marrying in January 2022, we have been trying to get pregnant. This was a difficult journey in itself, as we had to surrender to God and realize that God's plan for our life is good, though it may look different than what we had planned. The topic of adoption was brought up very early in our dating season, and we both knew without a doubt that it would be part of our family's story. We have decided not to go the route of intensive medical intervention, like IVF, as God has placed adoption on our hearts from the very beginning, and we believe it's not "second best." We're choosing to start our family through adoption, as we feel that the timing is right, and we pray God will grow our family in whatever way He chooses in the future!

OUR AIM IS TO HONOR YOU IN OUR HEARTS AND IN OUR HOME, AND WE ARE PRAYING FOR PEACE AND COMFORT FOR YOU DURING THIS TIME. OUR HOPE IS YOU WILL READ A BIT ABOUT US AND KNOW YOUR CHILD WILL BE WILDLY AND UNCONDITIONALLY LOVED IN OUR HOME.



Kurt + Leah

our story

WE MET AT WORK...

We met when we first started working together in the hospital in 2019. Many of our coworkers saw that we were made for each other long before we realized it. Leah was initially drawn to Kurt's ability to be strong but sensitive and compassionate. And Kurt was attracted to Leah's beauty and intelligence. After being introduced, it didn't take long for Kurt to start making excuses to talk to Leah at the nurse's station and eventually ask her out. We started dating in February 2021 and quickly knew it was "forever." The rest, as they say, is history!

...AND KNEW WITHIN 6 MONTHS IT WAS FOREVER

Kurt proposed six months later on a hike in Lassen National Park and our wedding day was in January of 2022 under the Redwoods of California! We rented out several cabins and invited our families and closest friends. It was such a lovely time for our families to meet for the first time and spend quality time in the cabins and in nature together. We exchanged our vows as the sunbeams shone down on us through the cathedral of trees. That evening we celebrated with our family and friends with dinner, dancing, and hanging out by the bonfire. We could not have had a more perfect day!





WE FEEL SO BLESSED TO HAVE HAD A COUPLE OF YEARS OF MARRIED LIFE TOGETHER TO BUILD A STRONG FOUNDATION BEFORE STARTING A FAMILY.

We have now been married for almost three years. Our shared faith is at the center of our marriage and we know that we cannot do anything apart from God's help. We have continued to build a firm foundation and to grow together. We are both deep processors and strive to keep communication open, stay connected, and resolve conflicts.

AS A COUPLE

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HIS PASSION FOR LIFE IS
CONTAGIOUS, AND I AM SO
BLESSED TO WALK SIDE BY SIDE
WITH HIM.

..... kurt

FROM LEAH

As my best friend said at our wedding, “Kurt is the kind of man that all fathers hope their daughters will marry.” After 2 years of marriage, I’m still in disbelief that God gave me Kurt. He is kind, encouraging, and a man of integrity and honor. His friends and coworkers speak highly of him. Kurt’s love for God and deep faith is evident to everyone who meets him. He is playful and fun, but serious when needed. He has such a positive, happy outlook on life, and lives with this expectancy for goodness.

He loves his family (and his new family in marriage) dearly and has always wanted to become a father. His gentle heart, empathy, and compassion will make the perfect landing place for a child to run to. Just the other day, we were on a walk in the park and ran into our coworker and his one-year-old son who reached for Kurt, leaning into his arms. His father said, “Wow, he never does that.” I absolutely adore watching him play with our nephews: playing on the floor with them, chasing them, and jumping on the trampoline. They adore their Uncle Kurt! I cannot wait to see him as a father!



warm

encouraging

loyal

..... BECOMING A FATHER

It has always been a dream of mine to become a father. I look forward to spending time with my child, encouraging him or her in their gifting, and teaching them about Jesus, and how they can live a fulfilling life. I look forward to taking them on adventures and just having fun together. I'm going to be there for my child through the ups and downs and to show him or her unconditional love.

I will make every effort to give my child the same rich experiences I did growing up on holidays, birthdays, and family outings. I will spend quality time with my children as I receive them, letting them know how unconditionally loved they are. I will be there for them in the ups and downs.



WORK + HOBBIES

I work as a registered nurse at a local hospital. I really enjoy caring for people in their time of need and I do my best to advocate for my patients. I'm grateful for the people I work alongside, whether it be our doctors, housekeepers, or nursing aids, everyone has the same goal of taking care of our patients. I work three twelve-hour shifts which gives me four days at home every week. I plan to take paternity time once we welcome a baby to have plenty of time to bond.

I really enjoy time with my wife; she is my best friend. On our days off, we sit on the couch drinking coffee and catching up. We also enjoy taking our dog for a walk, eating meals together, exploring nature, watching a movie, and hosting friends and family. I also have a good group of other men I meet up with every week online for a Christian small group where we study the Bible, pray, and encourage each other in our faith. I also meet up with other guys occasionally to go on hikes, bike rides, and camping trips. I also enjoy alone time and make time every day to read my Bible and pray.

MEET KURT

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WE PRAY OUR CHILDREN GROW
AND THRIVE IN OUR HOME
BECAUSE IT IS FULL OF LOVE,
PEACE, AND JOY.

..... leah

FROM KURT

Leah has many traits and gifts I admire. She is an incredible nurturer; she's sensitive to the needs of others, especially babies and children. She's also very intelligent, I'm not ashamed to say she's smarter than me and helps me a lot! She's also very creative and has an eye for beauty, she has made our home very welcoming and peaceful in the way she decorates. My wife is also just fun and easygoing, she's a joy to be around and adds so much sweetness to my life. Lastly, she's an amazing cook - there's always healthy and delicious food in our home!

My wife has been preparing to be a mother since she was a little girl. She is so warm and loving around children. She loves to hold babies and rock them. When we visit our nephews she is always playing with them and encouraging their imaginations, making crafts and playing pretend games with them. We have friends who come over with their 6-month-old baby girl and they ask my wife for advice even though we don't have our own kids yet. Leah was born to be a mother!



kind

steadfast

funny

..... BECOMING A MOTHER

I really cannot wait to experience my heart expanding and loving a child more than I thought imaginable. Being a mom is something that I have wanted since I was a young girl, endlessly rocking my baby dolls. I naturally have a very nurturing personality and cannot wait to care for a child!

My prayer is that our children will know how loved they are by their parents and by their Heavenly Father. I pray that they develop a strong identity in God from a young age, and grow and thrive in our home because it is full of love, peace, and joy.



WORK + HOBBIES

I work as a Registered Nurse, and I have loved my career at the hospital, but am now working two days a week for local universities as a nursing clinical instructor. I love the slower pace, lower stress, and most of all the reward of teaching. This is a very flexible job, and my plan is to only work the days Kurt can be home with the baby. If this changes, I will be able to pull back and be a stay-at-home mom.

I love to be creative. I express this mostly by working to make our home beautiful and inviting. I also love to bake (especially sourdough) and cook new flavorful recipes. I am always looking for a new creative outlet. I love music and enjoy playing the piano. I really enjoy going on trips and adventures with my husband - seeing the beauty of the world together. But just as much as I enjoy an adventure, I love being home, sitting together reading on the couch, going for a walk with our dog, or having friends over for dinner.

MEET LEAH



holidays & traditions

Christmas is our favorite holiday and we are having so much fun creating new traditions. We have a small storage shed that is full of Christmas decorations, so you can imagine our house is fully decorated and full of cheer! We make a gingerbread house together as we listen to Christmas music, eat charcuterie, and watch some of our favorite Christmas movies. We love to cut down Christmas trees in the forest; one for the yard and one for the living room.

For Halloween last year, we dressed up as Mary Poppins and Bert and surprised our nephews in full character (Kurt can do quite the British accent). We walked the neighborhood with them as they trick-or-treated, and we returned to their house for a big Halloween party.

We go on adventures for our birthdays every year and love to celebrate our family's birthdays. Whether it be exploring a new city, staying at a cabin in the forest, having a picnic in the snow (one of Leah's favorites), or watching a movie on the projector from Leah's sister's swimming pool, we love to celebrate each other!

WE ARE SO EXCITED TO ADD A CHILD INTO THE FUN AND CREATE
NEW TRADITIONS AND MEMORIES TOGETHER!

A DAY IN OUR LIFE

On weeknights, Leah enjoys cooking and we sit down and enjoy dinner together as we catch up on each other's days. We then enjoy cuddling and enjoying a show together. Some weekends are full of rest at home, where we enjoy slow mornings sharing breakfast, coffee, and conversation. Sometimes we enjoy taking a long weekend away, either to visit family nearby, or rent a cabin or Airbnb somewhere and enjoy nature.



MEET GIDEON

We have a Papillon dog named Gideon. He's been with Leah since he was a puppy and he has always been so gentle with children. Giddy loves his morning walks followed by snuggling with us. He's a playful dog at heart, who even at age 16 still enjoys running on the beach.



our home

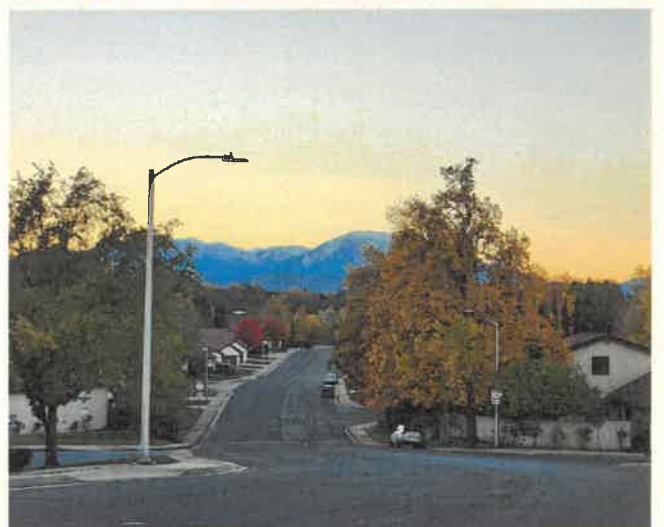
IN BEAUTIFUL NORTHERN
CALIFORNIA

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THE PERFECT PLACE TO RAISE A FAMILY!

We live in a three-bedroom, two-bathroom home in a safe, quiet neighborhood. We have a grassy front yard and a fenced-in backyard with a playground just two blocks away. Though this isn't our forever home, we have created a warm, welcoming, peaceful home here. We spend most of our time in the living room, in the front of our house. It's connected to our kitchen and dining room, so this is also one big area for entertainment, where we love to offer food and drink to friends when they pop over for a visit. We absolutely love to celebrate holidays and host people for dinner and board games. Our vision for our home is one that welcomes people as family. We want a home where our children will want to bring their friends home with them to hang out.

Our community is the perfect-sized city with plenty of indoor and outdoor activities and a diverse selection of schools. We love our church and the children's ministry program is wonderful. There are a lot of restaurants, theaters, and parks in the city, and within a quick 15-minute drive, you will arrive at a beautiful lake we love to visit frequently. We even have a secret spot where we take our hammock to hang by the creek and have named it "Giddy Cove." There's also a farm nearby that hosts seasonal events, such as pumpkin picking and flower festivals. There's a children's museum near a beautiful garden 5 minutes away, a trampoline park, endless bike trails along the river, local fishing spots, and two national parks nearby. It's a great place to raise a family!

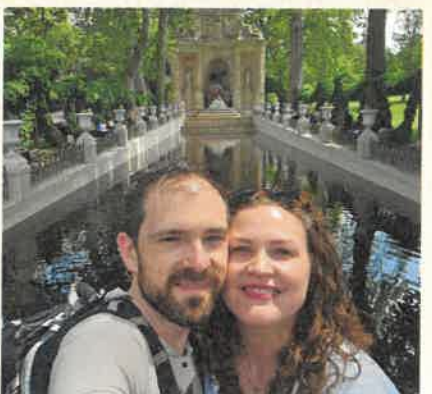
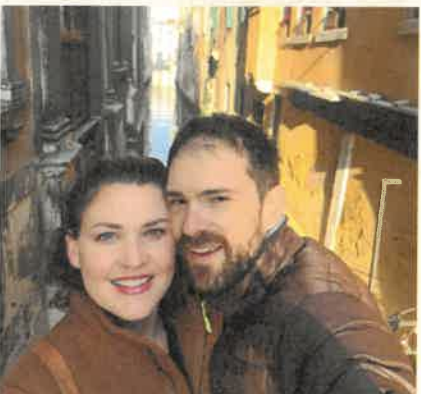
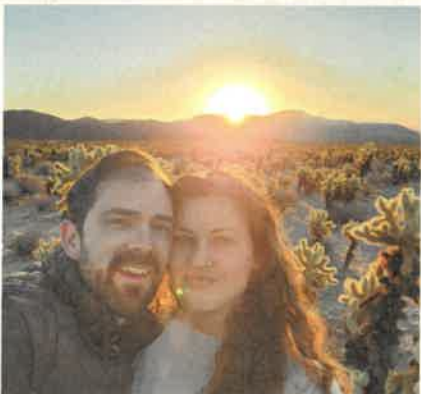
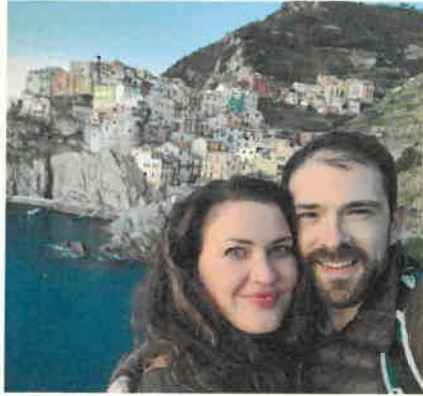




WE ARE SURROUNDED BY MOUNTAINS AND LAKES ON THREE SIDES, AND WE LOVE TO GO EXPLORE, CAMP, AND HIKE. WE ARE IN AWE OF THE BEAUTY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA. WE LOVE ROAD TRIPS TO SEE FAMILY AND HOPPING ON A PLANE FOR AN ADVENTURE.

Last spring, we traveled around Europe for a month. It was a special trip, as Kurt got to show Leah where he lived in Germany for several years, and we got to visit multiple friends in Germany and Switzerland.





The Redwoods and the coast are near and dear to our hearts, as it was the location for our wedding. We're in awe of how majestic it all feels, and cannot wait to see it again anew through a child's eyes. We can just imagine a child walking through a canyon of ferns, jumping over the small winding creek and feeling like you're in a fairytale.

Visits to South Dakota to the farm and to the suburbs of Chicago are also always a very special time with family. We love watching the grandkids help grandma in the garden or ride in the tractor with grandpa.

Every other summer, Kurt's family has a big reunion at a lake in Wisconsin, where we rent a big house (or two) for a week of gathering around food, games, and festivities. We go sailing, play volleyball, jump off the dock, and tell stories around the campfire.

ADVENTURE

our values



TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO, AND WHEN HE IS OLD, THEY WILL NOT TURN FROM IT.

Proverbs 22:6

PEACE

1

We want our home to always be one of tangible peace where people can come and rest, and our children can thrive. We're thankful every time visitors remark about how peaceful they feel when they enter our home!

COMMITMENT

2

We believe our commitment to one another in our marriage is foundational for a healthy home and creates stability for our family and future children.

JOY

3

We want our home and lives to always be full of joy. No matter what our circumstances are, we believe that God gives deep, unwavering joy to His children. "The joy of the Lord is our strength." - Nehemiah 8:10



education

Education is also important to us and we want to find the best school for our children individually. We are open to public schools or homeschooling if that is the best fit. We want to support their ongoing education however we can, whether in college or other pursuits. Every child has different talents and passions, and we will fully support them to pursue the right career path for them.

faith

We believe that God calls us to instill into a child his/her God-given self-worth and identity, so they can understand the call of Jesus on their life. We plan to attend church as a family, have prayer and devotion time as a family, encourage scripture reading in our home, and encourage our kids to put their faith into practice. Above all else, we will lead by example in all these things and let our children decide personally what they want their faith to look like individually.

our future

We dream of someday having a home on some land with a garden near our parents so our kids can grow up with the support and love of extended family. We want to continue traveling as a family to give our kids the gift of memories and experiences of other cultures. We would love to visit Europe as a family, and we also plan to get a camper so we can travel to different parks in the summer. We would love to take a family trip to visit our family in Australia someday.



IMPORTANT THINGS

kurt's family

Kurt's parents, Mark and Nancy, are retired but live very active lives in support of their family, neighbors, and church community. They did a great job raising three boys and now are actively involved in being grandparents to Kurt's older brother Charlie's boys, Max (6) and Sam (5). Charlie is a firefighter/paramedic and divorced but does a great job co-parenting. He lives 45 minutes from Kurt's parents in Illinois. His younger brother Kevin lives in Pennsylvania with his wife, Lori. Kevin is an electrician and Lori runs a non-profit for inner-city kids who want to play baseball. They are very active in their community.

Even though we are more spread out these days, we still gather for a family reunion every two years in Wisconsin, which is now a huge gathering and a lot of fun. We get to see Kurt's parents at least once a year and we enjoy traveling together. When we get together we enjoy spending time with each other around meals, going swimming, hiking, and playing games together. It's always special being together.



OUR WHOLE FAMILY IS EXCITED ABOUT US ADOPTING AND CAN'T WAIT TO MEET THIS PRECIOUS LITTLE ONE. OUR DESIRE IS TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE CONNECTED TO FAMILY AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE, AS IT IS HOW WE BOTH GREW UP.





leah's family

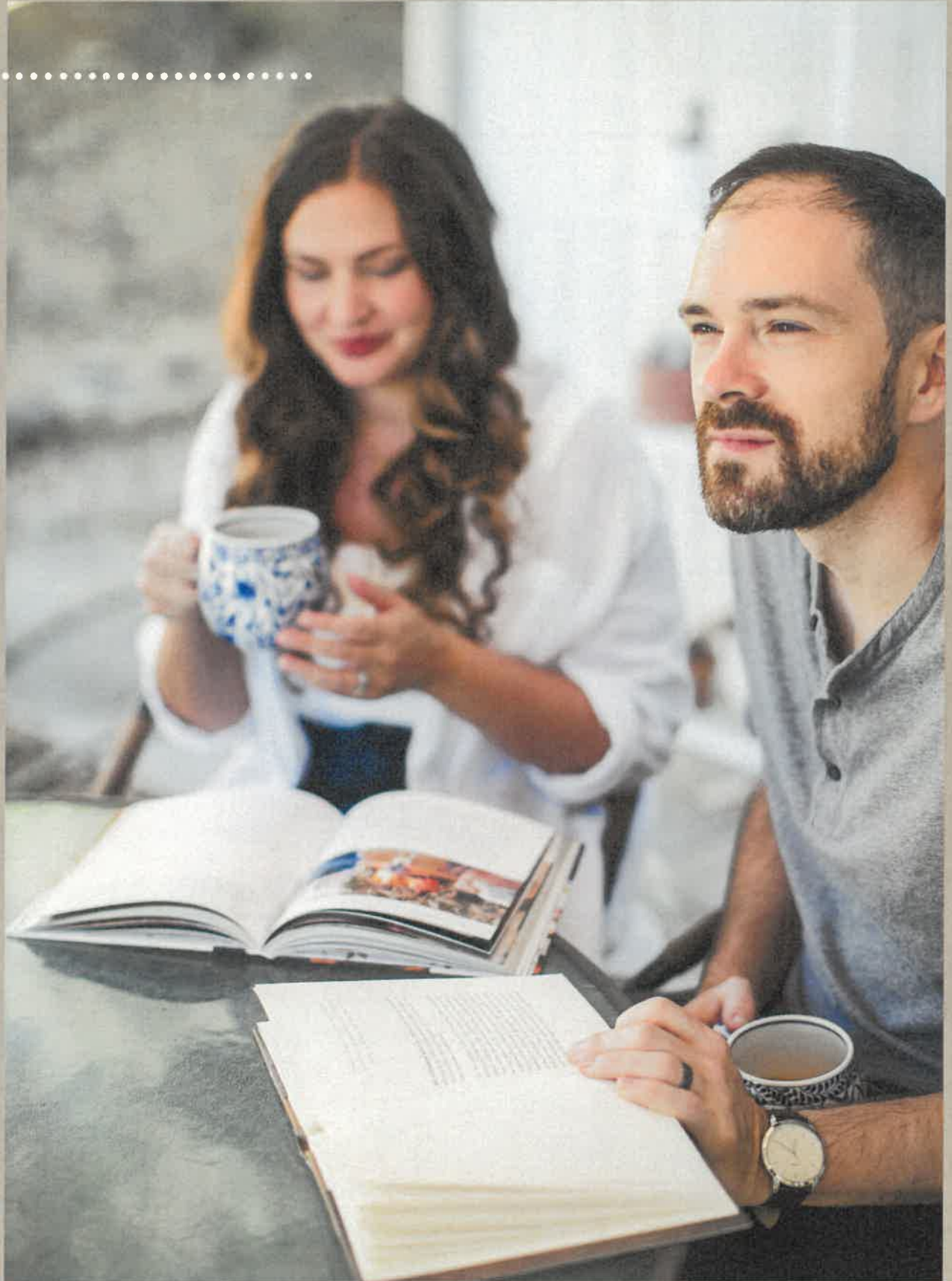


Leah's parents, Rod and Bev, have been married for 43 years. Leah is one of six children. Her oldest brother, Glenn, is married to Kirsten and they have three boys; Walter (14), Henry (13), and Eddie (7). Her other brother, Jordan and his wife Cassie have a boy named Marius (4). Leah's younger sister is married to Max and they have two boys; Rowan (5) and Arlo (3). Leah also has two younger sisters who were adopted, Shya (9) and Cierra (14). Both girls joined our family as toddlers, and they bring so much joy to our family.



Leah's family is a bit spread out. She grew up in South Dakota, where her parents and Glenn and Kirsten still live. Jordan and Cassie live in Australia, and her sister lives in California. Being spread out is a testament to Leah's parents raising their kids be curious and follow their dreams! Despite us living far apart, we see each other one to two times per year (with the exception of her sister, whom we see monthly). We're so thankful for video calling and that we can keep in touch with everyone, and do so often. When we all get together it is so much fun.

LOVE + SUPPORT



WE TRULY BELIEVE THERE IS NO
SUCH THING AS TOO MANY PEOPLE
TO LOVE A CHILD!

It is our desire for our child to have a healthy relationship with their birth family. Our hope would be for a relationship of sharing updates and photos, with a goal of being able to have visits, and we would love to hear what your desire is for connection with your child.

This adoption journey is one of ups and downs and is not black and white. We want to go on that journey with one of the most important people in your child's life - you. As this child grows, they will have questions that only you can answer, pieces of the puzzle that only you can give. We want that for you and for your child.

We can promise to continually seek God and seek counsel and education on how to best navigate some of these big questions and pains that may come up for this child. We can promise that "adopted/adoption" will be a word that we speak early and frequently in a positive way, that this child may know from an early age their unique story that began with you.

And we can promise that we are true to our word; if we speak it, we mean it, and we will follow through.

ADOPTION IN OUR HOME



Thank you again for taking the time to get to know us.

We can only imagine how overwhelming this may all feel, and want to say again how in awe we are of your difficult and love-filled decision. Know that we have been praying for you and will continue to pray for you. We care deeply about you and are praying you would feel supported, loved, and free in this decision ahead of you. No one can ever replace you in your child's life, and we can promise that your child will be raised in a home where your name is only ever held in honor and love.

Ultimately we pray that God would guide you to the family that you can connect and grow with, and that you feel deep peace. If you feel that may be us, we can't wait to hear from you and are open to answering all questions you may have. If it is not us, we are praying God blesses you with peace that surpasses all understanding, you feel His comfort, and you are aware of how proud He is of you.



Kurt + Leah

THE STORY IS JUST
BEGINNING..

