

Meet Nick & Lisa

Dear Expectant Mama,

We are so thankful to be able to show you a bit about who we are as a family, our values, and our hopes for the future. Our prayer is that you would feel a great sense of peace and direction as you seek the best pathway for this pregnancy.

As you've sacrificed so much to give the best possible life to this child, we promise to continue to give him or her a life of opportunities, unconditional love and support, outdoor adventures, and belonging. We also have a daughter by birth who is beyond excited to welcome a new little brother or sister into the family.

We've seen God's hand in even the darkest hours in our lives. In the midst of those times, we've discovered the power of gratitude and our support system of family and friends, we've learned to bear with one another in love, and be generous with our time and talents. We are coming from a place of infertility and pregnancy complications, but we believe God is leading us to grow our family through adoption, and we couldn't be more grateful!

View our entire profile book and see recent family adventures by visiting our Facebook page at

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61572399261300>

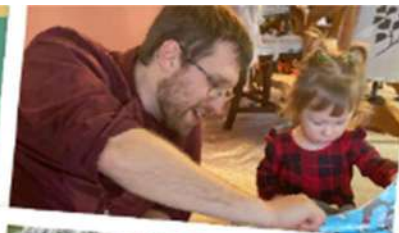
We believe in the beauty and benefits of open adoption. Our hope is to foster a relationship where our child knows their biological family and heritage. We want them to have a sense of their roots and to understand the love and care that brought them into our lives. We believe that knowing where they come from is an important part of their identity.

We understand that every situation is unique, and we are open to discussing what level of openness feels right for you. We are committed to maintaining a relationship built upon mutual respect, honesty, and care. Our priority is to ensure that our children grow up feeling loved and supported by all the people who care about them.

We are excited about the possibility of building a connection with you. Thank you for considering adoption and for your courage. Thank you for considering us.

With grateful hearts,

Nick & Lisa



Our Love Story



How We Met:

We met online in early 2018 (we were both 29 years old). We both knew we wanted a lifelong commitment founded upon Christlike love and respect, so we were intentional about discussing difficult topics of faith, money management, work ethic, life goals, our upbringings, children, and more. We were engaged in March 2019 and got married in September 2019.

Our Journey Together

We love the life we've built together in West Michigan. We attend a local church regularly and we are both involved in different committees and volunteer opportunities. We love to spend time outdoors together gardening, camping, hiking, cross country skiing, playing with our daughter, and hosting friend and family gatherings. Nick is a university professor and Lisa is an English language learner teacher.

Our national and Michigan state parks are pretty stunning, and we hope to visit them all someday! We have visited 7 national parks as a couple, with our most recent trip being in Fall of 2021 to visit the "mighty 5" in Utah in a little camper van.

We found out the week before that trip that Lisa was pregnant, and so began our next adventure as parents when we were blessed with our daughter, Lydia, in June 2022.



Meet Nick

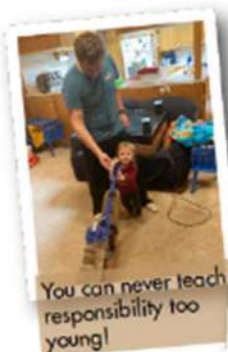
Background:

I grew up in a small town on the East Side of Michigan. Hard work has been a part of my daily fabric, as I am the 3rd generation on the family farm. I have both a Bachelors (2013) and Masters (2021) degree in Recreation Therapy, and have practiced in the field for the past 12 years working in Long Term Care with older adults. I am currently a Professor at a local university.



Hobbies and Interests:

My hobbies include camping, fishing, golf, reading, learning new games, and disc golf. I love playing and being silly with my daughter and nieces! I would love to get back into coaching (especially if my children want to play, for any sport!). I recently have been learning more skills with home repair/maintenance, and I strive to pass these skills on to my children, much like my dad has done for me. In summer, I love grilling meat for a gathering and helping in the family garden.



Personality:

I like to make people laugh! I love spending time with my friends and family. Serving others is a pillar in my life--I serve as an elder at our church and run the livestream, volunteer with the Michigan Therapeutic Recreation Association, and in the past have volunteered as a soccer coach. I am a detail-oriented, careful planner with a strong work ethic and prioritize putting faith and family above all.

Meet Lisa

Milking the family goat with my mom and sister



My dad, mom, sister, and baby me in 1989

Background:

I grew up in a rural community in Michigan. My mom ran an adult foster care home for adults with severe disabilities in our home for over 30 years, and my dad works in a factory. I have a great relationship with both my older sister and my late younger brother. I earned a bachelor's degree in 2011 and master's degree in 2015. I have worked in the field of English language learner education for over a decade, working with adults and children from all over the world.

Personality:

I enjoy living a simple, down-to-earth lifestyle. I'm an introvert but thrive on maintaining close relationships with my friends and extended family. I have a heart for helping people. I enjoy organizing, scheduling, and keeping track of all the details in the family!



I got to meet the girl I've sponsored for 10+ years when I went to Peru!



Some of my amazingly courageous students whom I've had the privilege to help learn English



Completed a 4-day hike to Machu Picchu in 2018!



Burning some toddler energy at the park...in the snow :)

Hobbies and Interests:

I enjoy learning about cultures and languages. I am proficient in Spanish and have used my language skills to help others: mission trips to Mexico, Panama, and Peru; a study-abroad semester in Spain; working with "newcomer" students at my school; and volunteering with Lydia and Nick at a local Hispanic food distribution site. I enjoy reading, being creative in the kitchen, playing games, hiking, and most of all, being a wife and mom! Motherhood has been my greatest challenge and joy.

Meet Lydia

I love baking with Grammy (Nick's mom)!



My parents love that I got a recorder from Aunt Jamie and Uncle Matthew for Christmas! :)



I want s'more, please!

Lydia was born in June 2022, and she is such a blessing in our lives. She understands the basic premise of adoption, and she is SO EXCITED to welcome a little brother or sister to the family! We have always longed to have more children, in part, because we both have committed, supportive relationships with our siblings and we want our own children to have that special relationship too.

Our Home



Our home sweet home

We love cooking with healthy food from the garden, baking new creations, and hosting gatherings with loved ones!



Location:

We have a large yard with a garden, fruit trees, playset, and lots of room to run around. We love our friendly neighbors! We enjoy being a few minutes away from many parks, highly-rated schools, shopping areas, the library, and our home church. We are close to the beach and water, but also close to a large city that frequently hosts many community and cultural events throughout the year.



We have a large yard for playing, running around, and gardening.