



Elisabeth + Christopher

ID#2085068

Dear Birth Mom

IT'S SO NICE TO MEET YOU!



Thank you for taking the time to consider us as adoptive parents for your baby and for learning about us through this book. We write to you with respect as you decide whether to make an adoption plan, and we are humbled to be part of your journey, even if for just a few minutes. We are praying for you and would welcome your prayers for us.

A little about us: We started dating our sophomore year in high school and have been inseparable ever since. We have now celebrated 14 years of marriage! Christopher is a physician, and Elisabeth works part-time as a career counselor for law students. We feel fortunate to use our skills to help people and find it immensely rewarding to feel that we have made a difference in someone else's life. Almost two years ago, our daughter, Bridget, joined our family through the miracle of adoption. She is our greatest joy. It is a gift to be her parents, and we are grateful to walk with her as she learns, grows, and develops into the person God has called her to be.

We enjoy spending time as a family and with friends, exploring our city, running, and traveling. We live in a suburban area in a friendly, family-oriented community with excellent public schools. Our neighborhood is situated along a river with beautiful walking trails, several playgrounds, and two community pools.

As you consider life in our home for your baby, it would be one filled with love, faith, laughter, and adventure. We would instill in your child this belief: "Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire." Our home is full of affection and joy as we spend time with those we love. We are firmly grounded in our faith, and we love to expand our horizons and learn about other cultures and people by traveling the world.

We are grateful to walk with you through this part of your journey. Our family and friends have been immensely supportive of both of our adoption journeys and, along with us, will hold you in prayer as you continue to consider the best plan for you and your baby.

ELISABETH AND CHRISTOPHER

The story of us

**WE MET OUR SOPHOMORE YEAR OF
HIGH SCHOOL AT AGE 15.**



**WE WERE ENGAGED IN ATLANTA, WHEN
CHRISTOPHER SURPRISED ELISABETH
WITH A HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE.**

**WE WERE MARRIED ON JULY 18,
2009 AT THE BASILICA OF ST. MARY
IN MINNEAPOLIS.**



**CHRISTOPHER GRADUATED FROM
MEDICAL SCHOOL, AND ELISABETH
GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOL.**



**WE BECAME A FAMILY OF THREE
THROUGH ADOPTION WHEN BRIDGET
WAS BORN!**



why adoption?

WE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OPEN TO ADOPTION.

Christopher's two best friends during his childhood were adopted, and Elisabeth had two close friends in high school who were adopted. Each of these adoptive families had incredible strength, and we admired their faith, compassion, joy, and warm hospitality for friends and family alike. Having struggled with infertility for several years, we began seriously discerning adoption, seeking to understand different paths to adoption, and praying about whether this was God's call on our family. Through open communication with each other and continued prayer, we became certain that we were meant to grow our family through adoption. Those prayers led us to our daughter, Bridget, and we are in awe of God's faithfulness in bringing us together. We could not be more excited to grow our family again through the beautiful path of adoption.

meet Elisabeth

BY CHRISTOPHER



Elisabeth is my best friend. We started dating when we were in tenth grade, and I knew from an early age that I was going to marry her. Elisabeth is the warmest and most genuine person you will ever meet. Everyone who meets her is instantly drawn to her warmth and hospitality. She is strong in her faith and has helped me to grow in my faith by leading by example and through conversations. Elisabeth is also one of the smartest people I know. She was top of her class in college and in law school, and I have always valued her intelligence and appreciate that she is my equal. She has been the perfect wife for me. She has helped me to be a better person and has been there to support me along the way. Whatever challenges in life come our way, I know that Elisabeth will be by my side.

It has been amazing to see Elisabeth as a mother these last two years. She is a natural when taking care of our daughter. She anticipates Bridget's needs and has helped her to learn and develop. Elisabeth and Bridget have a bond that is so beautiful to watch. One can easily see that Elisabeth's vocation in life is being a wife and mother.

Without a doubt, Elisabeth will provide the most love and support one can give to your child.



meet Christopher

BY ELISABETH

Christopher is my best friend. He is kind, gentle, compassionate, patient, and always believes the best in everyone around him. He has a quiet strength and is always the calm in the storm. He laughs easily, loves deeply, and is fiercely loyal. He is an incredible husband because of his ability to communicate openly, his commitment to our relationship, and his desire to bring me joy.

He is an extraordinary father to Bridget. He is playful, fun, silly, and is her favorite playmate. She absolutely lights up beneath his gaze. He is sacrificial in his love, always choosing what is best for her. He brings his sense of adventure to parenthood and takes incredible joy in watching Bridget learn and develop. As our children grow, he will encourage them to learn through seeing the world. His steadiness and calm will allow him to comfort our children throughout life, from soothing skinned knees to mending broken hearts as they grow up. He will continue to be a strong model of how to live one's faith and will guide our children through learning how to pray and embracing their identity as children of God. More than anything, he will love our children wholeheartedly and seek their good above all else.

More than anything, Christopher will love our children wholeheartedly and seek their good above all else.



our daughter

BRIDGET

Bridget is nearly two years old and is the light of our lives. She is bright, focused, determined, and observant while also being quite easy-going. She has an enormous vocabulary and notices the smallest details in the world around her. She loves to explore and has a wonderful sense of adventure. She is enthusiastic about flying on airplanes and seeing new places. She enjoys reading, listening to music, singing, dancing, playing on the neighborhood playgrounds, playing with friends, going for walks, and spending time with her grandparents.



Bridget especially loves dogs and is delighted to give them gentle pets. There is no sweeter sound than her deep belly laugh and no greater feeling than her little arms wrapping around us for a hug and her gentle voice saying, "Love you."



Things we love

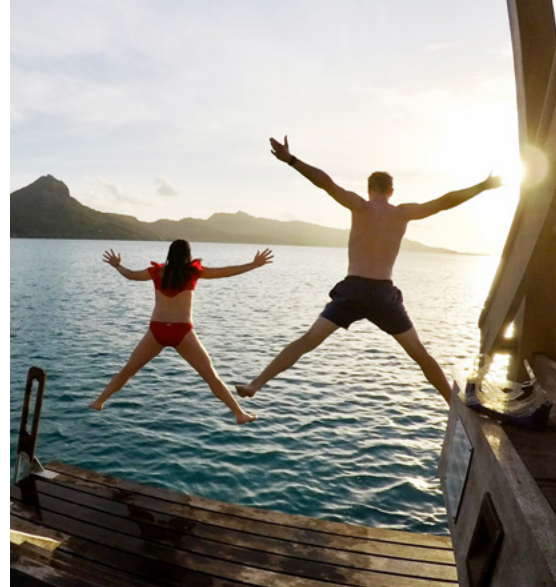


RUNNING

WE'VE RUN TWO FULL MARATHONS AND SEVERAL HALF MARATHONS

PHOTOGRAPHY

ELISABETH LOVES TO DOCUMENT OUR TRAVELS AND FILL OUR MEMORY DRIVE WITH PHOTOS



THINGS WE LOVE

ADVENTURING

CHRISTOPHER LOVES TO PUSH ELISABETH OUTSIDE OF HER COMFORT ZONE FROM ZIP-LINING TO HELICOPTERING

EXPLORING OUR CITY

WE LOVE TO CHECK OUT NEW RESTAURANTS, ATTEND SPORTING EVENTS, AND DAY-TRIP TO HIKE, PICK APPLES, AND SEE NEARBY AREAS



GOLF

CHRISTOPHER IS A GREAT GOLFER AND ELISABETH HAS FUN TRYING TO KEEP UP AND, OCCASIONALLY, JUST ENJOYS DRIVING THE CART

TRAVEL

MORE ON THAT LATER, BUT WE LOVE DISNEY!



our home

WE PURCHASED OUR HOME FOUR YEARS AGO WITH THE HOPE THAT WE WOULD BUILD OUR FAMILY AND CREATE LASTING MEMORIES IN IT.

We are the first homeowners of this new construction home, and it has four bedrooms and a fenced yard. It is within a large, planned community with hundreds of families, including other adoptive families. The neighborhood has multiple playgrounds, miles of walking trails, access to a river for kayaking, and two community pools. The neighborhood is located in a safe, suburban location, and our community has excellent public schools.

Christopher's mom and Elisabeth's dad both have homes in the neighborhood. We have developed close friendships with our neighbors, and we are grateful that Bridget has so many friends in the neighborhood. We have a tight-knit "village" who will support us as we grow our family again!



We are currently building our forever home within the same neighborhood. Our new home will provide even more play space for our children and will allow us ample space to host their friends and their families as they grow.



**BE WHO
GOD MEANT
YOU TO BE
AND YOU
WILL SET
THE WORLD
ON FIRE.**





OUR FRIENDS
*are like
family.*





family is the best

ELISABETH'S FAMILY We both feel fortunate to have been raised in loving, supportive homes. Elisabeth is an only child and remains close to her dad. Elisabeth was very close to her mom, who passed away after a cancer battle two years ago. Elisabeth leans on everything her mom taught her in raising children and creating a loving home with meaningful traditions and warm hospitality. Elisabeth's dad has a home in our neighborhood, and we love having him nearby. Elisabeth's extended family is large. Though she does not get to see her extended family very often, as they live around the country and world, she loves the laughter and joy of family gatherings.

CHRISTOPHER'S FAMILY Christopher has one sister and an adorable nephew and is close to his mom and dad. His sister and her family live in Rhode Island. We treasure the time we get to spend with them, and Bridget loves playing with her cousin, Benny! His mom lives in our neighborhood, and his dad lives in Minnesota, though he visits often. Because we started dating during high school, our families have known each other for many years. We are blessed by their friendship with one another and we enjoy spending time as one family.





Ten fun facts

ONE We were named most likely to get married in our high school senior yearbook – And we did!

TWO We have run two full marathons: the Walt Disney World marathon and the Miami marathon, and several half marathons.

THREE Elisabeth's favorite TV show is *Gilmore Girls*. Christopher's is *Formula 1: Drive to Survive*.

FOUR Christopher grew up in a neighborhood where nearly half of the neighborhood children were adopted.

FIVE Elisabeth has visited 22 countries and 33 states and Christopher has visited 21 countries and 38 states.

SIX Christopher followed in his dad's footsteps by becoming a physician. Unlike her physician and nurse parents, Elisabeth did not!

SEVEN We are both trying to improve our language skills by learning French on Duolingo.

EIGHT We have friends far and wide. We send Christmas cards to 21 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 countries.

NINE Elisabeth has lost track of how many times she's been to Disney World, but it's at least 20. She has no need for a map in any of the parks!

TEN Elisabeth enjoys cross-stitching, and Christopher loves to complete the NYT daily puzzles, especially the Spelling Bee.





our travels

We absolutely love to travel! We love to explore the country and world as a family. We have been so enriched by exploring other cultures, meeting people from diverse backgrounds, and enjoying different cuisines. We plan one “big” trip a year and several weekend getaways. In the last several years, we have visited Europe, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Costa Rica, St. Lucia, and Canada, along with shorter domestic trips. We love relaxing, beach vacations, exploring new places, and seeing famous sites. *Bridget has embraced our love of travel, visiting two countries, nine states, and the District of Columbia in her first two years of life. We can't wait to add another buddy to our adventure team!*

Our promises

IF YOU CHOOSE TO ENTRUST US WITH
RAISING YOUR BABY, WE PROMISE
THESE THINGS TO YOU:



We promise to love your baby wholeheartedly and unconditionally, through life's ups and downs.

We promise to teach your baby to love God and know their faith.

We promise to remain committed to our marriage to ensure your baby has a stable household in which to grow up.

We promise to seek to educate ourselves as parents to ensure we are meeting your baby's needs through each stage of childhood.

We promise to provide access to excellent educational opportunities for your baby.

We promise to instill the value of respect for all people by exposing your baby to different cultures around the world.

We promise to ensure your baby is surrounded by a community that includes other adoptive families.

We promise to honor you through open communication and to seek a healthy relationship between you, your baby, and us.

all our love,

ELISABETH AND CHRISTOPHER





family profile

CHRISTOPHER

OCCUPATION: PHYSICIAN
EDUCATION: MEDICAL SCHOOL
RELIGION: CATHOLIC
AGE: 36 YEARS OLD
HAIR COLOR: BLONDE
EYE COLOR: BLUE
HEIGHT: 6'2"

ELISABETH

OCCUPATION: CAREER COUNSELOR
EDUCATION: LAW SCHOOL
RELIGION: CATHOLIC
AGE: 36 YEARS OLD
HAIR COLOR: BROWN
EYE COLOR: HAZEL
HEIGHT: 5'4"

Date of marriage: 7/18/09

Children: Bridget, will turn 2 in February

Interests and hobbies: Spending time as a family, traveling, running, reading, cooking, baking, exploring our city, walking our neighborhood, and being outside.

Home: We purchased our home four years ago. We are the first homeowners of this new construction home, and it has four bedrooms and a fenced yard. It is within a large, planned community with hundreds of families, including other adoptive families. The neighborhood has multiple playgrounds, miles of walking trails, access to a river for kayaking, and two community pools. The neighborhood is located in a safe, suburban location, and our town has excellent public schools.

Pets: None

Why adoption? We have always been open to adoption. Christopher's two best friends during his childhood were adopted and Elisabeth had two close friends in high school who were adopted. Having struggled with infertility for several years, we began seriously discerning adoption. Through open communication with each other and continued prayer, we became certain that we were meant to grow our family through adoption. Those prayers led us to our daughter, Bridget. We could not be more excited to grow our family again through the beautiful path of adoption.

Openness to birthparent(s): We are open to the level of openness that you desire, from sending photos and updates to in-person visits. We recognize that our relationship will require commitment, communication, and empathy, and we look forward to walking with you through this journey.

Childcare plans: We are fortunate that Elisabeth works on a part-time basis from home and that our nearby parents are able to care for our children while she works.

