



Shelby & Joshua

374318

Hello

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us. We hope with this book you will be able to see the love that we have for each other, our friends, family, and our future child. You are making an extremely important decision over the coming days and we admire you so much already. We know from our own experiences that life does not always go as planned but that God always has a way to see us through and will guide us to where we need to be. We pray for nothing but the best for you and your child as you go through this process and are honored that you've taken the time to learn about our family and appreciate your consideration. Thank you again for being so courageous.

Love Always,

Shelby & Joshua



Our Story

We met in 2009 during various church events that summer as kids. We originally connected over our love for music, and our faith. We dated over the next three years and got engaged right out of high school and married a year later in 2013. We've both always enjoyed spending time being busy outside so there were lots of vacations in the years that followed that focused on hiking, and biking to beautiful landscapes, though Shelby took some time to warm up to the idea of camping outdoors. We both love God and have leaned on him heavily through the years and grown closer to him throughout our life. We live in a suburban neighborhood right next to a middle school and various parks. One of our biggest blessings was adopting our son Gideon in 2025 and watching him grow. We enjoy spending time with our friends and family who all love big and show their support in every way possible.





Meet Shelby

I grew up in Missouri with my parents and two brothers. On the weekends in the summer my family spent a lot of time at our family lake house, and still do. My mother passed away when I was 17. I enjoy spending time outside going on long walks, reading, games, crochet, and photography. I also enjoy spending time with my church family so I have organized various ladies studies for our church group.



I love to read
I received a black belt in
taekwondo in highschool

The boats and fourwheeler at
my family lake house are some
of my favorite things to ride

Singing random disney songs
in the car makes me smile

What Joshua Loves About Shelby

Shelby is very outgoing, caring, and a good mom to our son Gideon. She is extremely organized and self motivated. Shelby has a strong faith and is always looking for new ways to get together with our church family, and makes the time her and I spend together full of joy whether by ourselves or playing boardgames with friends. On the surface Shelby is outgoing, organized and methodical; but look closer you'll see someone who is caring, protective and loves real big.



Meet Joshua

I grew up in a smaller but not quite rural town in Missouri with my parents and two brothers. We vacationed a lot during the summer and spent a lot of time hiking and camping. I enjoy playing games with family and friends. When I was younger I took guitar lessons which fostered my love for music. I enjoy playing with our son, painting miniatures, games, hiking, and traveling to new places.



I enjoy playing guitar in my free time and learning new songs.

I like 3D printing and creating practical or fun projects.

I enjoy reading and taking time to learn or unwind with a good book.

What Shelby Loves About Joshua

Joshua is a quiet guy who loves to figure things out on his own and loves a good challenge especially while at work. He is the silent strength that guides our family spiritually and physically. Joshua is a provider who puts his family's needs above his own and will always go the extra mile for them no matter what. He loves to work with his hands and is always finding new music to listen to.

meet OUR CREW

Gideon (2025)

Gideon is our only child and his personality is sweet, happy, and energetic. He loves to bounce around to any music and crawls faster than the speed of light. He is just now learning how to walk and is having a blast going from one side of the playroom to the other picking up random toys along the way to hold out to you and show you.

River

River is a husky shepherd mix who enjoys howling, swimming, and sleeping. She likes to go for walks outside and lead the other two dogs along the way. She loves to run alongside our friends' kids outside when they come over and play with them while wanting to be petted.

Rajah

Rajah is a cocker spaniel who enjoys his meal time and will let you know when it's getting close to time to eat. He is a cuddler who would prefer to sit on your lap rather than go for a walk outside but really enjoys a good game of fetch whether it's with us or one of our friends' kids.

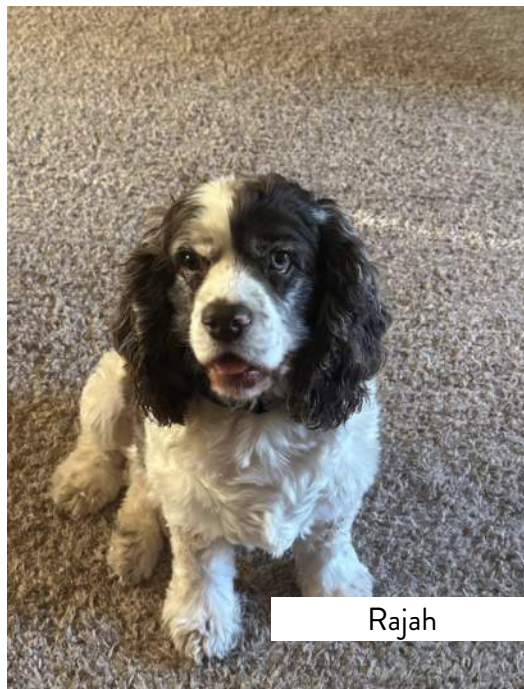
Loki

Loki is a mini aussie who is the most animated dog we have ever seen, and it's hysterical. He enjoys pets the most and is always trying to get Rajah to play with him. Loki likes to respond quickly to commands given and is eager to please so he can receive more treats.

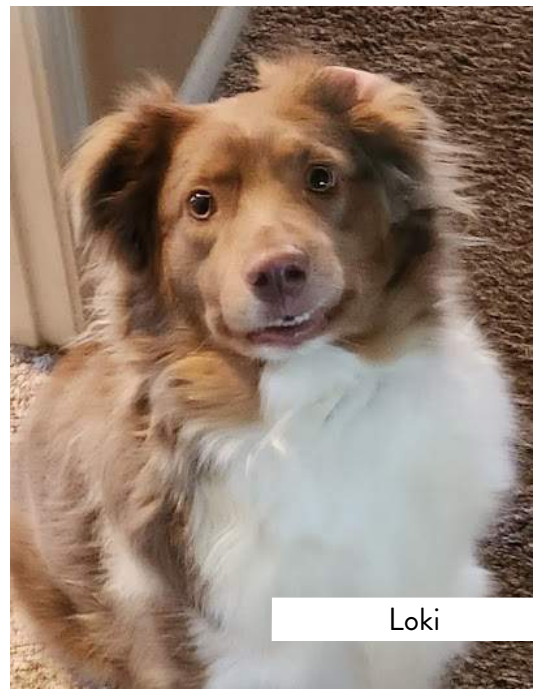




River



Rajah



Loki



welcome to

Our Little World



Neighborhood park



Union Station



Local Museum



Our Church

We live in a suburb of Kansas City, close to many parks, a zoo, and several museums that offer plenty of opportunities for family outings. Being in the Midwest, we experience a wide variety of weather—sometimes all in the same day—which adds a little adventure to everyday life. Our backyard includes a built-in garden space that we look forward to using in the coming years as a family project. We are also just a short drive from several lakes, most of our extended family, and a vibrant downtown area filled with restaurants, events, and activities. It's a wonderful place to raise kids, with a strong sense of community, great schools, and endless options for fun and exploration both nearby and within a few hours' drive.



Extended Family

Family is a very big part of our lives, and not just our biological families. There are many close friends who are very involved in Gideon's life that we also consider family and are prepared to love this child just as big as they love Gideon. Both our biological families live close enough that we are always getting together for birthdays, holidays, and random family events that the five cousins are excited to get to add another cousin to play with at.

VALUES

Love
Faith in God
Honesty
Communication

Traditions

Sunday is big breakfast Sunday
Summers spent at the lake
Firework display the Wednesday before Thanksgiving
Christmas in the Park



Family Friends



Family Friends

Joshua's Parents



Shelby's Family



David and Grace - Joshua brother and wife



Daniel - Joshua's Brother



Family Friends

Adoption & Parenting

The most important thing to us is that our child knows how loved they are, by us, by you, and by God. But we also want them to understand who they are and where they came from. That being said, culture is very important to us and we want to be sure that the child knows their culture and is proud of it. You are a part of accomplishing that which is why we are praying for a loving and healthy relationship with you which is why an open adoption is so important to us, and the child so they know how special their unique journey is.



Family Information



Mother's Name:

Shelby

Occupation:

Medical Assistant

Education:

Associates Degree

Religion:

Christian

Date of birth:

1994

Hair Color:

Brown

Eye Color:

Brown

Height:

5' 3'



Father's Name:

Joshua

Occupation:

HVAC Tech

Education:

Technical school

Religion:

Christian

Date of birth:

1993

Hair Color:

Brown

Eye Color:

Blue

Height:

5' 8'

Date of marriage:

2013

Children:

Gideon joined our family through adoption in 2025. He's full of energy, personality, and love—always ready with a smile or a giggle. He absolutely loves bouncing to music and working on his walking skills.

Interest and hobbies:

Our hobbies between the two of us are crochet, reading, gaming, hiking, camping, 3d printing, painting, photography and music

Home:

We own a cozy 4 bedroom ranch style home in a suburb of Kansas City that is very close to downtown, lots of parks, a few museums, libraries, family, friends, a neighborhood pool, and our church.

Pets:

We have three dogs, River, Rajah, and Loki.

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption:

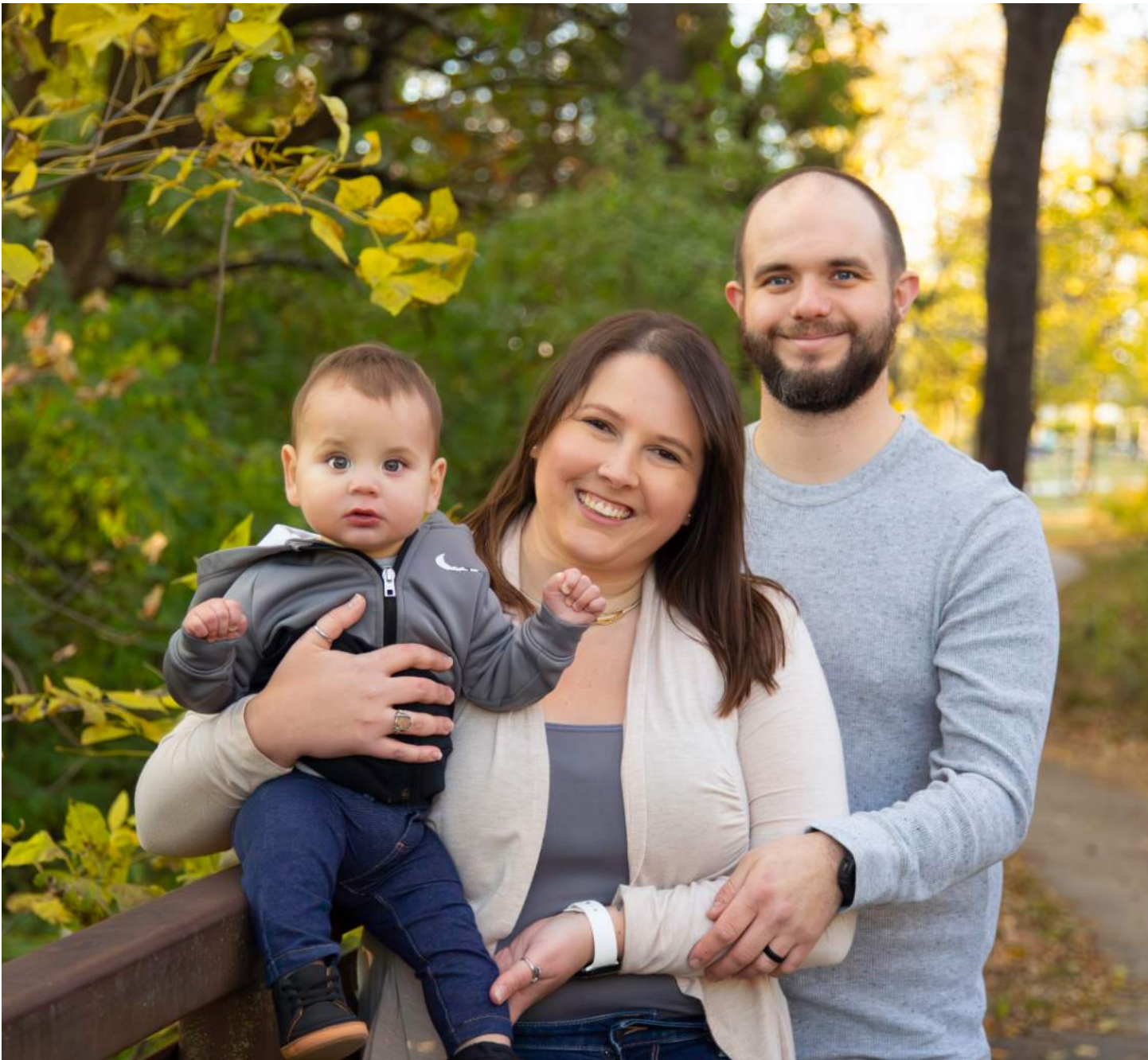
Early in our marriage we found out that we would be unable to have biological children. After we both took time to process that and had time to reflect on it we decided that Adoption was the best path for us. Being around other families who had adopted, and talking with them created a special place for adoption in our hearts and this only became more real when we welcomed Gideon into our home through adoption in 2025. His birth story was so special and because of that journey we knew we wanted to continue to build our family through adoption.

Openness to birthparent(s):

We've spent a lot of time reflecting and praying about what openness could look like in our adoption journey. It's deeply important to us that the birth family feels valued and connected. We hope to share regular updates through photos, letters, and phone calls.. We're also open to in person visits throughout the year. Our desire is to build a meaningful, respectful relationship that feels natural and supportive for everyone involved.

Childcare plans:

Shelby will be the primary caregiver as a stay at home mom.



Our Promise

We promise to love this child unconditionally. We believe you are making a brave decision and while we cannot imagine what you are going through or how you're feeling, we promise to honor your place in this child's life. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our family and no matter what you decide we want you to know that we admire you for your strength, bravery, and love.

Shelby & Joshua

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