



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 a bit 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 started dating our sophomore year in high school and have been inseparable ever since. We recently celebrated 12 years of marriage! Christopher is a physician and Elisabeth works 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.

Outside of work, we enjoy running, spending time with family and friends, exploring our city, 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, know 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 explore 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 our adoption journey, 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 WHERE
CHRISTOPHER SURPRISED ELISABETH
WITH A HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGE.

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



WE HONEYMOONED IN CABO SAN
LUCAS AND SOAKED UP THE JOY OF
BEING NEWLYWEDS!

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



meet Elisabeth

BY CHRISTOPHER



meet Christopher

BY ELISABETH

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. I knew that she would be an amazing partner as we proceeded through life. 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. Watching Elisabeth practice her faith at a young age was a beautiful sight, leading me to convert to Catholicism prior to our marriage. 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.

Having been married to Elisabeth for over 12 years and seeing what an amazing wife she is for me, I know that she will be an amazing mother to our children. She will not only lead by example with her faith, but also discuss the Church's teachings. Additionally, given her incredible intelligence, she will support our child in their development and schooling.

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.

I cannot wait to see him become a daddy. He is playful, fun, and will be our child's first favorite playmate. He will bring his sense of adventure to parenthood and will take incredible joy in teaching our child to ride a bike, learn to read, and play sports, and will encourage our child to learn and grow through seeing the world. His steadiness and calm will allow him to comfort our child as they grow, from soothing skinned knees to navigating teenage drama. He will be a strong model of how to live one's faith and will guide our child through learning how to pray and embracing their identity as a child of God.

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

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



OUR FRIENDS
*are like
family.*



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 looking into adoption, seeking to understand different paths, and praying about whether this was God's call on our family. Through open communication with each other and continued prayer, we believe that we are meant to grow our family through adoption and we could not be more excited to welcome a baby into our home!





Christopher's mom and Elisabeth's parents both have homes in the neighborhood. That means your child will grow up alongside grandparents who love them and we will always have built-in baby sitters! We have developed close friendships with our neighbors, who are overjoyed about our hope to adopt. We have a tight knit "village" eagerly awaiting the arrival of a child!



our home

WE BUILT OUR HOME TWO YEARS AGO WITH DREAMS OF BUILDING A FAMILY AND MAKING LIFELONG MEMORIES.

We have four bedrooms and a fenced yard. Our home sits within a large 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. Kids are always playing around the neighborhood and we can't wait to have laughing children in our home and yard. The neighborhood is located in a safe, suburban location, and our community has excellent public schools.



Things we love



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



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

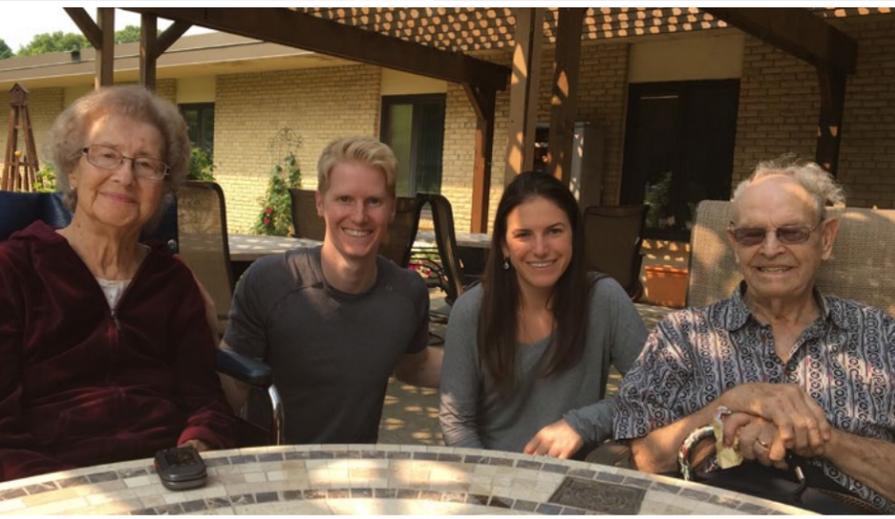


GOLF

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!



CHRISTOPHER'S FAMILY

Christopher has one sister, an adorable nephew, and is close to his mom and dad. His sister and her family live in Rhode Island, and we love to spoil our nephew with gifts! 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 and we are blessed by their friendship with one another and we enjoy spending time as one 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 mom and dad. They have a home in our neighborhood, very near to our house, and we love having them 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.



meet our pup

BERNIE

Bernie is a dachshund who we rescued in February 2011. We think he's about 11 years old. He loves his blanket, balls, treats, and walks. He is rather stubborn but will do virtually anything for a treat. We met his foster mom in the mailroom of the condo building we used to live in and it was love at first sight.

While Bernie makes us laugh nearly daily, our funniest memory is shortly after he joined our family. His foster mom came to leave us a Valentine's gift and when Elisabeth opened the door, Bernie dashed out into the hallway after her. Elisabeth ran after him and Christopher ran after them both. The door shut – and locked – behind us. The best part is that we were wearing matching t-shirts (with hearts!) making us quite a sight when the locksmith arrived to let us in.

Bernie has regularly been around babies and children and interacts with them well. We think he will especially enjoy the high-chair stage as he will wait for crumbs to fall to the floor to gobble up!



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 "The Last Dance," a docu-series about Michael Jordan.

FOUR Christopher grew up in a neighborhood full of adopted kids!

FIVE Elisabeth has visited 23 countries and 33 states. 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 20 states and 2 countries.

NINE Elisabeth has lost track of how many times she's been to Disney World, but it's at least 20.

TEN We try to complete the New York Times crossword puzzle together every day.

Christopher always says we didn't choose Bernie, he chose us.



our travels

TRAVEL IS FATAL TO PREJUDICE, BIGOTRY,
AND NARROW-MINDEDNESS...BROAD, WHOLESOME,
CHARITABLE VIEWS OF MEN AND THINGS CANNOT BE
ACQUIRED BY VEGETATING IN ONE LITTLE CORNER
OF THE EARTH ALL ONE'S LIFETIME.
—MARK TWAIN

We love to explore the country and world together. We have been so enriched by exploring other cultures, meeting people from diverse backgrounds, and enjoying different cuisines. We typically plan one “big” trip and several weekend getaways throughout the year.

In the last several years, we have visited Europe, French Polynesia, Hawaii, Costa Rica, and Mexico, along with shorter domestic trips. We love both relaxing, beach vacations, and exploring new places and seeing famous sites. While we know that adding a child to our family will change the way we travel, we can't wait to add a 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
DATE OF BIRTH: 34 YEARS OLD
HAIR COLOR: BLONDE
EYE COLOR: BLUE
HEIGHT: 6'2"

ELISABETH

OCCUPATION: CAREER COUNSELOR
EDUCATION: LAW SCHOOL
RELIGION: CATHOLIC
DATE OF BIRTH: 34 YEARS OLD
HAIR COLOR: BROWN
EYE COLOR: HAZEL
HEIGHT: 5'4"

Date of marriage: 7/18/09

Children: None

Interests and hobbies: Running, golfing, reading, traveling, cooking, baking, exploring our city, being outside, walking our dog, Bernie.

Home: We purchased our home two years ago 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.

Pets: We have one dog, a dachshund, named Bernie.

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 looking into adoption, seeking to understand different paths to adoption, and praying about whether this was God's call on our family. We believe that we are meant to grow our family through adoption and we could not be more excited to welcome a baby into our home!

Openness to birthparent(s): We are open to the level of openness that you desire, from sending photos 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 may become a full-time stay-at-home mom for our child. If she chooses to continue to work, we will likely rely on a combination of family care through nearby grandparents and part-time childcare or the in-home care of a nanny.

