

Amy, Chuck, & Connor

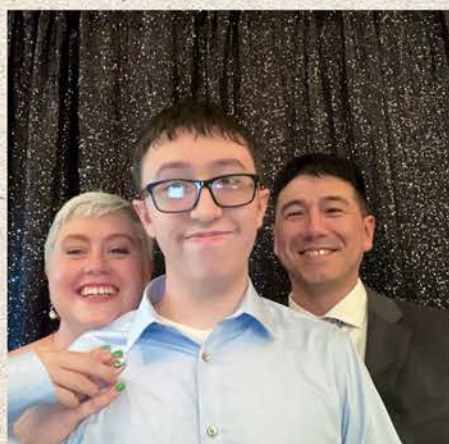


Our Family



Hello! We are Amy, Chuck, and Connor. Thank you for considering us as your child's adoptive family. Although you are facing many difficult decisions right now, we hope this book can provide some information about us so you can know if you'd like to learn more about us or meet in-person.

As a mixed race couple and family, we are especially open to adopting a child of any race and are committed to giving them a connection with their birth culture and heritage. As part of that commitment, we will work with you to develop a plan for openness.



Selfie time at Amy's sister's wedding! We clean up pretty well!



Connor's favorite holiday is Halloween and we always make sure to tour the yards with the best decorations!

Our History

Amy and Chuck met in Raleigh, NC when Chuck was an active duty soldier and Amy was a technical writer. We bonded over our love of board games, travel, and adventure—Chuck was an Airborne Ranger and Amy was a boxer! Nearly 15 years later, we still host board game tournaments and visit new places each year, but we stick to adventures that aren't so extreme.



We regularly return to Hawai'i to visit old friends and see the plants and animals found nowhere else.

After many moves (including 3 wonderful years in Hawai'i) and deployments, Chuck switched to the Army Reserve so we could settle down in one place. We chose Minnesota because of its proximity to Amy's family and the great services for people with special needs like Connor.

Now, Chuck works from home every day, while Amy has a hybrid schedule. We both have flexible hours, which allow us to be available when needed. This will also help us spend as much time as possible with a baby, in addition to the 12 weeks of parental leave each of us will take.



We love attending local festivals, including the Rhubarb Fest, where Chuck won the rhubarb pick-up contest 3 years in a row.



We attend all of Connor's games and love cheering him on to success!

Meet Amy

Amy is the planner of the family. She uses her skills to coordinate family trips (most recently Chicago), coach Connor's Special Olympics bowling team, and handle home repair projects. She works as a project manager, a job which also makes good use of those planning skills.

She relaxes by reading sci-fi novels, cross-stitching, or watching Korean dramas to practice her Korean language skills. In addition, she also speaks Spanish, though she's always looking for more chances to practice! In the winter, she cross-country skis with her dad and sister—a good way to warm up during cold months.

Amy is a practicing Catholic and believes strongly in the Church's values of charity and community-building. She volunteers with organizations supporting refugees, mows lawns for homebound seniors, and serves as a Eucharistic minister. She chose her job because it was in a field dedicated to saving lives by designing better medical devices.



Amy volunteers as an election judge during elections; voting is important!



Brrr! Amy plunges into a frozen lake each winter to raise money for Special Olympics.



Amy learned many practical skills from her parents – and still helps with projects at their farmhouse!



Amy loves to try new activities & see new places.

Meet Chuck

Chuck is the cook and technologist of the family. He uses his culinary skills to create delicious dishes from around the world and his technical expertise to ensure the family is up to date with the most recent and practical technologies. He works as a Cybersecurity Engineer and as an IT Officer in the U.S. Army Reserves.

In his free time, he relaxes by playing video games, watching scary movies, working out, hiking, and reading.

Chuck grew up in a household that spoke both Korean and Spanish, and enjoys picking up snippets of other languages from countries he's visited in his travels.



Chuck's favorite beer, root beer!



Chuck is an excellent Korean-style grillmaster!



When your Independence Day pool party gets rained out, you can still have fun outside!

Meet Connor

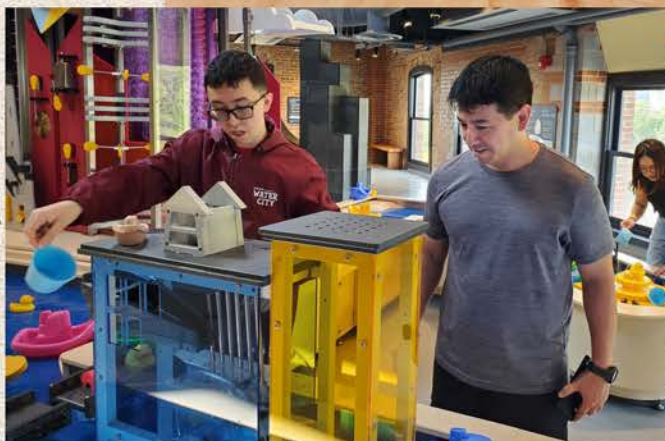
Connor is our 16 year old son; a happy, goofy kid who loves baking desserts, playing his Skylanders or Lego video games, and splashing in the nearest body of water.

During the school year, he stays busy with Special Olympics bowling in the fall, adapted floor hockey in the winter, and adapted softball in the spring, so during the summers, his favorite thing is to relax at a cabin “up north” or catch up on the latest animated movies.

He is very excited to have a younger sibling to join him for co-op games, dessert baking, and movie nights!



Connor was so excited to place 4th at state last year in softball!



Playing in a pool or lake is where you'll often find Connor in the summer. He especially loves inflatable obstacle courses!



Connor's favorite place is the library. We visit every weekend so he can pick out new books.

Our Parenting Approach

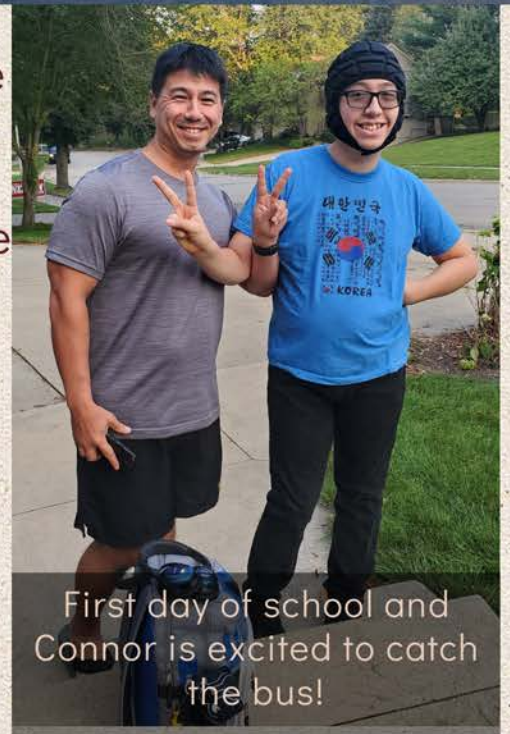
Raising Connor has been a huge blessing and helped us know we can provide a stable, loving, and close-knit family. Getting to help him blossom into an independent, thoughtful young man has been an honor and one of the greatest joys of our lives. We can't wait to experience it again with another child.

Our parenting approach is focused on helping our children learn and grow via new experiences so they can become responsible, independent adults. We always want to be safe people for them to confide in and to provide support for any of life's challenges, so we model and encourage dialog and unconditional love.

We believe that raising children requires endless love, as manifested via teamwork, patience, and clear communication between everyone in the family.



Connor "helping" with shoveling...by becoming part of the snowpile!



First day of school and Connor is excited to catch the bus!



It's always fun to tour new places as a family.



Connor is a "Master Builder" and loves to make unique creations.

Our Hobbies & Activities



Amy's parents still run a small family farm, which is a great opportunity to learn about where food comes from and enjoy fresh produce.



A favorite Boys' Night activity is seeing new movies with a big bucket of popcorn!

As a family, we enjoy a wide variety of hobbies. We have many shared activities but also make time for individual or specific parent-child hobbies so Connor (and our future child) get special bonding time and 1-on-1 attention.



Connor and Amy love making desserts – the sweeter, the better!



Winter or summer, we enjoy many fun festivals as a family.

Our Love for Travel

We love to travel as a family; it broadens our horizons and keeps us connected to our heritage and extended family around the country and world.

On long weekends, we visit state parks or interesting off-the-beaten-path local attractions. For longer breaks, we travel to other states or countries, allowing us to see as many unique places and experiences as possible.

We look forward to visiting new places, like Maui's Haleakala volcano.



There's lots to see at the Shedd Aquarium! We take a trip to a new place each summer.



We try to visit Chuck's parents in South Korea once a year. Touring historical sites is always interesting!



Chuck, Amy, and her family all scuba dive so many family trips involve exploring reefs and beautiful underwater attractions.

Our Extended Family



Amy's family holiday dinners fill the room!



Chuck's parents take us on adventures!

Amy's parents live in near us (except during harvest season, when they stay on their farm), giving us reliable and loving local childcare. Amy has 3 younger siblings, all of whom visit frequently and are looking forward to having someone new to spoil as an uncle or aunt.

Chuck's parents live in Korea, though they make sure to visit 1-2 times a year and we video call them weekly to stay in touch. We also typically visit them once a year. Chuck has 1 sister who lives in LA and has a toddler - he is excited to meet a new cousin!



Amy's family has a corn-themed festival that brings everyone together at harvest - We even have themed shirts!



Chuck hates losing at family game day at the lake. His sister was glad to win!

Our Home



We've been in our house since 2017 and enjoy completing improvement projects to make it more comfortable and beautiful. Connor helps out when he can, learning skills that we hope will help him when he's ready to move out on his own. Our latest project was to add a deck so we can enjoy summer evenings outside in our wooded backyard.

Our neighborhood is quiet with many friendly, long-term neighbors that help keep an eye on kids playing outside. Even though it's peaceful, we're still located within a few minutes of schools, downtown, the hospital, making it easy to get nearly everywhere we need to go.



A good home project requires careful supervision. Amy is always glad to make sure Chuck is doing it right!

In Closing



Thank you for reading our profile and considering us as part of your child's future. We hope this gave you an idea of who we are and the parents we strive to be.

If you'd like to know more about us or discuss an open adoption plan together, please contact Catholic Charities at:

Phone #: 507-287-7807
Email: adoption@ccsommn.org

