Brandon, Rachel & Olivia
Hello,

First we want to compliment you for considering adoption. It takes a lot of courage and love to make an adoption plan.

Second, we have always wanted to have a family, and when we discovered we were unable to have biological children, we researched our options. We decided adoption would be the best way to grow our family. In 2019, we adopted Olivia. We would like Olivia to have a sibling to grow up with which is why we are choosing to grow our family through adoption a second time.

We promise you that we are going to provide the best life we can offer your child by meeting their needs, providing a great education, supporting their interests and talents, and providing a safe, loving, happy home for them to grow up in. We have a lot of love and happiness to share with your child and will encourage them to be successful in what makes them happy.
About Us

We met in 2010 when a mutual friend introduced us. We dated for 3 years before getting engaged, and we’ve been married since June 2014.

We love the outdoors whether we’re close to home or when we’re traveling.

Our relationship is built on honesty, patience, and humor.

One of our favorite things to do together is to play with Olivia and our dog, Josie, and relax on the couch for some family snuggle time.

We enjoy making each other laugh, going on adventures and spending time together as a family.
About Brandon

I enjoy being outdoors. I love traveling to Lake Superior to hike and explore the area.

He is loyal, kind, loving and hardworking. He has a great sense of humor. He is passionate about helping others, which is one of the reasons he became a Firefighter and EMT. He always tries to find the positive side of things in life. Dogs and babies make him smile. He likes history, reading books, learning about government and watching sports.
I love seeking adventure outdoors- hiking, canoeing, running.

About Rachel

Rachel likes to laugh, have fun, and travel. She is a natural born caregiver. She is kind, caring, loving and nurturing. She has such a passion for caring for others that she became a nurse. Rachel loves being a mom to Olivia- playing, reading books, teaching and snuggling her. Spending time with family has always been important to her and something she enjoys most in life.

I enjoy baking, cooking, & crocheting
About Olivia

Olivia is our sweet, active and talkative toddler. She enjoys being outside rain or shine. She loves when mom or dad read her favorite book *Going on a Bear Hunt*. Olivia also enjoys hugs, kisses and snuggles. She likes to play with mom, dad and Josie. One of her most favorite things to do is look for animals and wave at them when we go for walks.
We Love Adoption

We have an open adoption with Olivia’s birth family. We send pictures to each other and meet every few months.

We think having some level of openness is beneficial to everyone. It gives Olivia an opportunity to spend time with people of her own race. In the future, it will also allow Olivia to ask questions that we cannot answer for her.

We hope we can make a plan for openness with you that we can all be comfortable with.
Puppy Love

Josie is our 5 year old pug. She is an adorable, fun-loving, playful, energetic dog who loves to be everyone's friend. Her favorite activities are going for walks, playing catch or tug-o-war with her toys and snuggling with us on the couch with a fuzzy blanket.

Josie plays well with Olivia and is very tolerant of her pets and rough snuggles. She loves popping bubbles we blow for Olivia, and Olivia laughs hysterically as Josie chases and pops the bubbles.
How we Make a Living

Rachel has a Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in nursing. She is a Charge Nurse in the post surgery recovery area for children and adults. Rachel’s favorite part of her job is working with kids. She has a regular work schedule, working Monday through Friday from 7am to 3:30pm.

Brandon works as an EMT in a nearby town. He has a regular schedule, working from 6am to 6pm Monday through Wednesday. He also volunteers on the local fire department.

In the future, Brandon hopes to advance his firefighting career as he has a strong passion for firefighting and helping others.
Home Sweet Home

We live in a small town in southeastern Minnesota in a split level home. We love sitting on our cozy living room, sipping our coffee with the morning sun shining in. We have a deck where we like to relax on nice days and a patio where we enjoy having fires in our fire pit.

The room in our house we have turned into a nursery is across from our bedroom. The room is safari themed.
Home Sweet Home

We live in a nice, quiet neighborhood full of young kids to play with.

You can often find us playing on our backyard swing set and sandbox or walking to a nearby park on one of the walking/biking paths throughout the community.

In the summer, we love taking Olivia to our community pool where there are several fun slides.
The People we Love

We both value spending time with our families as we provide love and support to one another and share life’s joys and sorrows together.

Our families are very excited to help us welcome a second child into our family. They have been supportive in our decision to adopt and will help us pass on good values to our child.

We travel out to western Minnesota to visit Brandon's parents and his brother and his family for holidays and special occasions. We play games with our nieces and nephews or have a movie night with popcorn.

For holidays and special occasions, Rachel’s family gets together to share a meal and play games. Rachel’s family members all live within a 2 hour drive, except her brother who lives in Colorado. At least once a year we travel to Colorado to visit him and enjoy the beautiful Colorado wilderness.
We have three nieces and two nephews who we adore and enjoy playing games and doing fun activities with.

Searching for the perfect pumpkin at the pumpkin patch with Ellie.

It has been fun watching Olivia and her cousin, Ellie, who is only 3 months younger than her, play and grow up together.

Olivia’s older cousins adore her and love helping her find fun toys to play with when she comes to visit them.

Beach day with the nieces and nephew
Just Can’t Wait to Get on the Road Again

We love traveling and learning about the culture and history of the places we visit, seeing the sights of the area, and trying new foods.

We have a tradition of traveling somewhere in the fall to hike, enjoy the fall colors, and relax outside to enjoy the last days of the nice weather before winter comes.

We look forward to bringing our children with us on our trips and sharing the experiences of seeing new places and new faces with them.
Sightseeing in California- We walked across the Golden Gate bridge and visited a castle winery in Napa Valley.

Helping dad navigate the map on our hike.

Enjoying the morning Colorado sunshine with mom.

The north shore is one of our favorite places to enjoy the outdoors.
Our Spiritual Life

We are a Catholic family and integrate daily prayer into our lives by always praying before meals, offering special prayers to those in need.

We look forward to sharing our faith with our children and hope they will learn to love God, love themselves and love others. We also hope our children will learn not to judge and always offer forgiveness to others.

The church where we were married is also the church where Olivia was baptized. We attend mass here regularly.
The Rivalry: Packers vs. Vikings

We knew we had to learn to compromise on our first date when we found out that Brandon was a Vikings fan and Rachel was a Packers fan.

We have both learned to cheer for each other's teams (when they're not playing each other). The rivalry between us has always been playful in nature—no matter who's team loses, our house is still a happy, loving home.

Olivia is still undecided, but we can't wait until she chooses her favorite team (just as long as it's not the Bears!)
A Special Message to You

We appreciate you taking the time to learn more about us. We do not know what you're going through or the emotions you must be feeling, but what we do know is we have a lot of love in our hearts and a strong desire to share our love with your child. We would welcome a child of any race into our family. The amount of love we will have for a child is not determined by the color of the child's skin.

Our philosophies on parenting are to be patient, be parents first and friends second, and above all, love our children unconditionally. We want to teach our children the importance of family and share our values of hard work, kindness, and honesty. We look forward to playing, reading bedtime stories, and snuggling our children.

We hope to have some type of open relationship with you, but we want to be sure the level of openness is comfortable for everyone.

Whether or not you choose us to parent your child, we know you will make the best choices for both you and your baby. Thank you and God bless.