

OUR STORY



joe & chrissy



Hello!

WE'RE JOE & CHRISSEY





We would like to let you know that we are so thankful and honored to be considered as adoptive parents for your child. We have a great deal of respect for you and recognize this is not an easy decision.

**The sacrificial love that you are
showing is courageous and
commendable.**

We have a lot of love to give and we have always dreamed of becoming parents. We discussed adoption as a way to grow our family even before we were married, so when we were diagnosed with infertility several years ago, adoption was the natural next step. We have several family members that have been adopted and could not imagine our lives without them. Our life choices, educational accomplishments, and career moves have been not for ourselves, but to better provide a stable, loving home for children. We look forward to being able to share our lives and provide the home that we have dreamed of with a child.

Joe and Chrissy



OUR story

How we met

We met at a small group at church where we became friends and eventually trained together for a mud run. It didn't take long before we knew we had something special. Joe was attracted to Chrissy's warmth, friendliness, and sense of humor as well as her zeal for adventure and awesome dance moves. Chrissy was drawn to Joe's actively living out his faith, sense of humor, creativity, and musicianship. Our love story resulted from fun trips with family and friends, concerts, many great hikes, learning how to surf, ski and snowboard, and lots of prayer and reflection.

Our Engagement

Two years after we started dating, Joe made plans to propose on a ski trip to Mammoth Mountain on New Year's Day. At the end of the day, we caught the very last lift on Gold Rush Express, skied partway down the mountain, then Joe asked Chrissy to stop and pray with him at sunset. Afterward, he proposed with a Celtic ring he had

specially designed by Chrissy's best friend's family. She of course said yes...and we were immediately approached by ski patrol, concerned we might need assistance. When they heard we had just gotten engaged, they started cheering, clapping their ski poles together, and took our first engagement pic.

Our Wedding

Our wedding was one of the most special days of our lives, surrounded by family and friends that we love and cherish dearly. Years later, we still hear from those in attendance that they felt so much loving energy throughout the day. We were blessed to have our wedding ceremony at Serra Chapel in California. We had a traditional ceremony with beautiful music. Our reception at a nearby country club was fantastic! We had a band playing a fun mix of classic rock, 80's and 90's music. We had the majority of our guests on the dance floor, and Joe got up on stage with the band to play guitar, sing, and serenade Chrissy!

Our Marriage

We have been married for almost ten years, which is hard to believe. The adage “time flies when you’re having fun” definitely rings true for us. Our marriage is strong because of an active faith life, family and friend support, shared interests, and the ability to laugh with each other often. We highly regard collaboration, encouraging each other, and sharing our faith and respect for each other. In our marriage, we enjoy new experiences and adventures!





MY HUSBAND

Joe

FROM CHRISSY

Before I met Joe, I didn't know if it would be possible to find one person that is at the same time faith-filled, ethical, and family-focused while also being fun, humorous, adventurous, and talented. Joe was and is exactly what my heart was longing for in a husband.

Joe has a long history of volunteering and helping people with disabilities. He is also one of the most dependable people I have ever met. When Joe makes up his mind to do something, you can trust he will do it. Joe is a problem solver and knows how to work hard and play hard. One of his greatest gifts to me is the ability to let my hair down and be myself. There are no pretenses with Joe; what you see is what you get. I know that I can come as I am and am safe with him by my side.

Joe has a beautiful and natural ability to get on the same level as children and make them feel comfortable. He is action-oriented and hands-on, which means that he is always up for a game of tag, playing catch, watching Star Wars, or teaching them how to play guitar and other musical instruments. Because of Joe's strong foundation, faith, and values, he has been asked by friends and family to be a Godfather to four children. Joe has a positive and instructive demeanor with kids; he is a great teacher because he instills joy and enthusiasm in them with his story-telling, personal attention, and coaching skills. I know he will be a great father!





MY WIFE

Chrissy

FROM JOE

Chrissy has a glow about her when she smiles where her eyes light up and it provides great warmth and calm. Also, her sense of humor is the best. She has a gift for making anyone feel at ease and has a heart of service whenever anyone needs help. I cannot count how many times I have heard, "Everyone loves Chrissy!" She often does well at anything she tries, but one of her best talents is dancing. Chrissy also sings great, snowboards really well, is an amazing writer, and has a high level of empathy.

Kids absolutely light up with Chrissy. When my sisters' daughters see both of us, they go right up to her for a hug. She is fantastic at meeting a child's energy level and enthusiasm while making them feel comfortable and loved. She is also very good at making children feel like they are seen and heard. Over the years, I have had quite a few opportunities to see Chrissy doing arts and crafts, board games, sing-a-longs, Easter egg hunts, storytime, kitchen playset cooking, and much, much more with our nieces and nephews.

With being a mother through adoption, Chrissy is looking forward to sharing her tremendous amount of love. It has been a lifelong dream for her to be a mom.





MORE ABOUT **Chrissy**

I work as a study abroad advisor at a university and have been working in the same university system for 15 years. I plan to take extended time off from work to be at home at least until our child begins attending school.

One of my greatest joys is being in nature, especially going on long hikes in the woods, mountains, beaches, or surrounding lakes.

Ever since I lived in Scotland with my family for a year and a half as a baby, I have had a special affinity for international travel, and have visited 31 countries so far. I grew up surrounded by different cultures and I love learning about new traditions, trying new cuisines, and exploring places of cultural significance like museums, historical buildings, and more. I also love dancing, singing, going to concerts with my husband and friends, and snowboarding and skiing with my husband and loved ones in the winter seasons. Additionally, I enjoy taking up creative projects around the house.



“My greatest wish for my children is that they realize their immense self-worth as a child of God and that they feel deep meaning and purpose in whatever and wherever their passion and interests lead them in life.”

MORE ABOUT **Joe**



I work as a Senior Business Intelligence Analyst for a real estate company and have been involved with analytics since completing grad school. My job is family-friendly and flexible as I get to work from home two days a week. I also run my own music education business and able to teach most lessons across the globe from my office. With adoption, I will be able to take time off when needed.

I am very passionate about music, primarily guitar. I have been playing, teaching, writing, and recording music in multiple styles since I was a teenager. Currently, I'm in a group with my brother and friends that is pretty casual, and also a great creative outlet. I also really enjoy skiing, hiking, and running. Chrissy and I do a lot of outdoor activities together and are often looking for new trails to hike. We plan to get bikes soon to start enjoying the wonderful bike trails that weave all throughout our town. Recently, I have been trying to get back into reading more, and have been balancing time reading religious, leadership, and career growth books.

“My greatest wish for my children would be for them to grow to feel fulfilled in what they do and have a strong sense of being loved.”





OUR HEARTS FOR **Adoption**

We have prayed about adoption and what we have to give in providing a loving home. We are dedicated to offering a nurturing environment where your child would receive unconditional love. We promise to take care of your child's physical, emotional, and educational needs to the absolute best of our ability while helping them explore their unique talents and skills in a highly supportive environment.

Additionally, your child would be surrounded by an extensive network of friends and family. Our neighborhood is full of kids and has two parks within a five-minute walk. We are active, outdoor enthusiasts and spend a considerable amount of time hiking and enjoying the beach. When indoors, we have a lot of fun with music, games, and movies. It would be an absolute joy to share these experiences with your child and, most importantly, to love and protect them.









OUR TIME **Together**

Our favorite activities are hiking, skiing, traveling, camping, playing games, listening to and playing music, reading, having family time, and watching good movies. We are also avid hikers and have done a great deal of exploring throughout America's National Parks, plus some international parks. One of our favorite places to go is Yosemite, as it has given us the opportunity to not only explore with family and friends but go on more extensive excursions when it is just the two of us. Joe's brother-in-law often reserves a campsite in Yosemite Valley where family members can come and go as they please, and this provides good bonding time with our nieces.

On the weekends, we often watch a movie on Friday night, work on home projects Saturday afternoon, then spend time with friends or family on Saturday night. Sunday mornings we go to church with Joe playing music, followed by the occasional brunch with family and afternoon hikes.

Music has been a great source of enjoyment for both of us and we often attend concerts or have singalongs by a campfire.



OUR EXTENDED

Family



We are thankful to have great relationships with our extended family. Our extended family does a great job of supporting all family members. For example, if a niece or nephew has a dance recital, everyone tries their best to make it. If there is a fun concert or comedian coming to town, the siblings will often check with each other before asking friends to go. There is an almost daily chat stream feed of kids' pictures and videos that we share with each other. We all support each other and know that a new addition to our family will be welcomed and supported with open arms.

Our families are all fully supportive of our decision to adopt and cannot wait to meet a new family member to make memories with!





Joe's Family:

Joe has five siblings (Danielle, Katie, Brennan, Rachel, and Kevin). Danielle and her husband, Brian, have four children (Jude, Eli, Abby, and Kiera); Katie has one child (Zelie), Rachel and her husband, Jack, have two children (Evie and Olive). All siblings are currently in California except for Katie, who lives in Tennessee. Joe's mom (Janey) lives nearby so we get to spend a good amount of time with her. Joe's dad (George) and step-mom (Laura) now spend most of the year in Nevada but still have a place near us in California. We're thankful to see at least one member of Joe's family every week or two.



Chrissy's Family:

Chrissy has one older sister (Aimee). She and her husband (Mike) and their two daughters (Mary and Catherine) live 50 miles away. We get to see them fairly often during family birthdays, events, holidays, or play dates. Chrissy's dad (Tony) lives within a 10-minute drive from us, so we get to see him frequently.

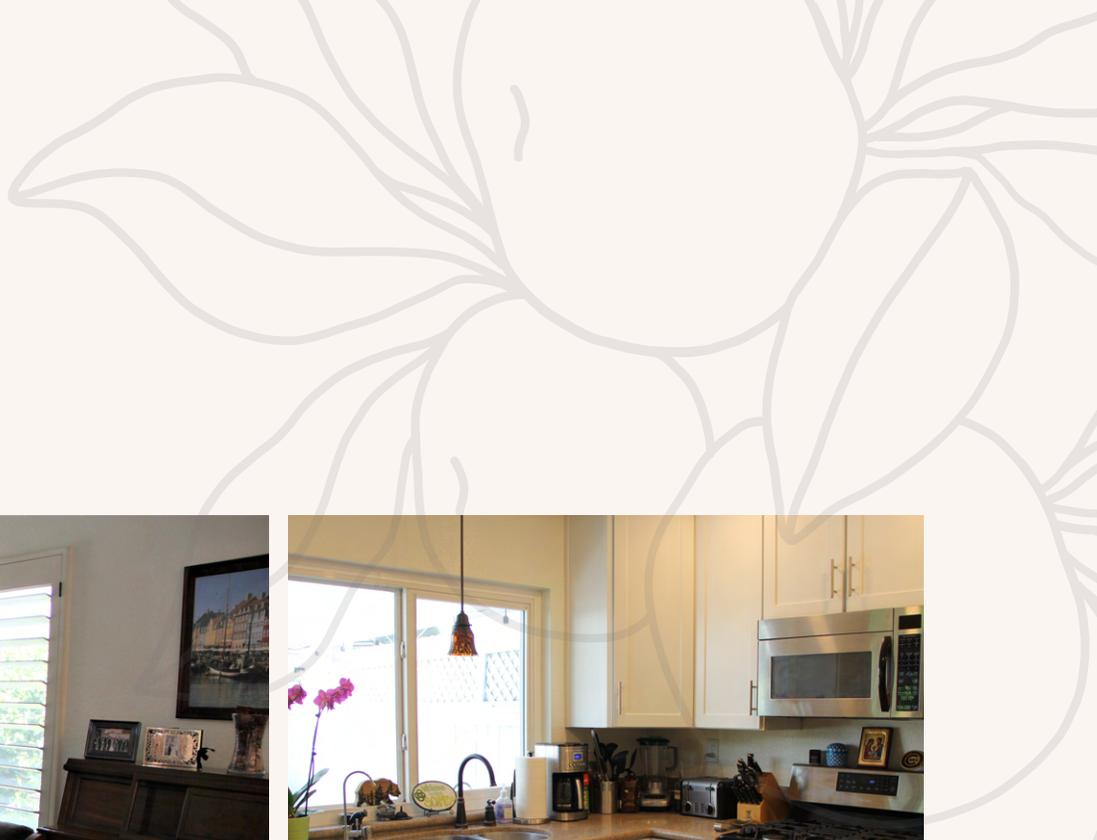


OUR HOME AND **Community**

Our house is a two-story Cape Cod-style home with four bedrooms and three bathrooms. Right now, one of the bedrooms is an office and music room for Joe. The fenced-in backyard has a patio, garden area, and bistro-lighted canopy. We sit out by the lemon tree and plan to put a barbeque on the back patio for when friends and family are over. Our neighborhood has two large parks with grass and jungle gyms, so that provides a lot of great play space. Additionally, the beach is less than four miles away.

The best thing that we do to create memories and share love in our home is through having friends and family over to play games or music. We have also had some great dinners here over the years as well as family get-togethers. We enjoy cooking recipes that have been passed down to our family over the years, like jambalaya, cherries jubilee, and a delicious chocolate cake called “icebox cake.”

We live in a lively neighborhood that has many families with younger children, coming from a variety of backgrounds. There are often sounds of basketballs bouncing, games of catch, and instruments being practiced floating through the air. Our house is about four miles from the beach in southern California with access to great schools and parks. Many of our neighbors have surfboards in the garage and treat the beaches and nearby canyon as a giant playground (biking, hiking, and more). There is a large system of paved biking trails nearby that are great for families to explore while safely avoiding traffic. We are close to a performing arts center that offers musicals, ballet, orchestra events, and unique concert opportunities. Additionally, there is easy access to ice skating, tennis courts, fishing, baseball diamonds, gymnastics centers, and much more. It's a great place to raise a family!



Family Values

IN OUR HOME

ADVENTURE

We have a growing bucket list of places that we would like to visit in the US and abroad. With young ones, we would be very content staying local or doing smaller car trips to our family vacation condo and to family-friendly recreational and cultural sites. Once the kids are older, we would like to take them to places like Italy, Ireland, and more.

FAITH

We will teach them how to pray, instruct them in the traditions and teachings of the Christian faith, and speak to them about how much God loves them. We will go to church regularly as a family, and pray at family meal times, bedtime, and other appropriate times together throughout the week. We are also excited to engage in church activities and send our kids to Catholic school where we can build community and encourage our child to make friends with other kids practicing their faith.

CHARACTER

Our family cherishes our faith life. It is from this that all of our other values stem. This includes treating all people with dignity and respect, helping those in need, listening, positive affirmation, family meal times, acting ethically, and laughing often. Integrity is an important virtue. Through it, we keep our commitments, engage in open and honest communication, and build trust in each other.

TIME TOGETHER

Quality time is one of our love languages and we both highly value our time to connect with each other. On weekdays, we enjoy having dinners and evenings together so that we can talk about how our days went. We do things together often and engage each other in conversation to understand how the other person is thinking and feeling. Quality time can involve hiking, family activities with our siblings, trying a new restaurant, or going on a drive.







thank you





THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO GET TO KNOW US!

We would like to share with you how humbled and grateful we are that you are considering us to become adoptive parents to your child. Parenting a child would be a dream come true for us, and we want you to know that we believe that your sacrifice is one of the greatest acts of love that exists.

If you choose us to parent your child, we promise to always speak of you with the utmost respect

and love in our home. We are committed to your child knowing and being proud of their story, and that they are loved by many. Your child will always know of your continuing love for them.

Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know us!

Joe and Chrissy

