

# Hi! We're Collin & Renee

Greetings and thank you for considering us as adoptive parents. We are so excited to welcome a baby into our family and hope this letter gives you more than a glimpse of who we are so that you can make the best decision for you and your little one on the way!



## Our Story

It was 9 years ago on a fateful Sunday morning that we met. Renee had already found her seat at Sunday morning church when this handsome guy (yes, Collin :) decided to park himself next to her. After exchanging many 'glances' during the service, we met up in the courtyard and the rest is history!

We married just 9 months later at an intimate gathering of family and friends on the central California coast. God is so good and we are so thankful that He brought the two of us together and continues to grow our marriage in love and affection.

As for family plans, we have always wanted to have two kids, and have prayed to have one naturally and one through adoption. Since we are not youngsters anymore (Collin is 39 and Renee is 42), we are excited to actively pursue growing our family through adoption. God is faithful and we can't wait to meet the child(ren) that He has planned for us!

## Meet Collin

My sense of adventure and need for excitement was honed at an early age as I grew up riding and racing dirt bikes. At age 19, I became interested in aviation, and all the fine motor skills that I developed riding dirt bikes really helped me to excel at learning to fly and control airplanes. This newly discovered talent for flying airplanes led me to an exciting career as a corporate airplane pilot and flight instructor. I am fortunate that most of my flights are day trips on the West Coast, which allow me to be home most evenings and to have several days off during the week.

I also have an entrepreneurial spirit and have been working on starting my own business creating products that improve peoples' lives. I love to learn and have been accumulating skills in the areas of electronics, 3-D printing, computer programming and design, among many other subjects!

Adoption has been on my heart for a long time. My dad was adopted and he has been an amazing blessing to our family and a great father to me and my brother. Renee and I have always felt like God has adoption in our future plans, and I can't wait to see Renee as the loving mom that I know she was made to and desires to be.



Flying with Captain Collin



Nephew snuggles!

## Our Faith

While Renee grew up Catholic and Collin grew up in a Christian church, we are now both part of a non-denominational Christian church family. Our faith is really the foundation of our marriage, and our lives, as we trust in God's promises and continually seek to grow in our relationship with Him. We will raise our child(ren) to know and love the Lord and to experience the peace and joy that comes only from knowing Him. We are a prayerful family that are constantly praying for situations, for health and blessing on our family, friends and community. This child that God has for us (perhaps your child) has been prayed over so many times already that we cannot count! And that gives us peace as we wait with hope for the joy that is to come.

## Meet Renee

I was raised on a dairy farm in Wisconsin and enjoy a fun and challenging job in marketing and sales of dairy feed products, helping improve cow health through better nutrition. Since we're preparing to add a little one to our family, my role is changing to significantly reduce travel and work mostly from home.

One of my greatest desires has always been for us to have children. After a rough first marriage that was not firmly rooted in Christ, I've learned to lean more and more on God's strength through difficulties. While the path to having kids has been long and not easy, the hope that I have from the Lord is overwhelming (in a good way!)

I love to use my photography, cooking and crafting skills to give gifts to others. Whether it is cooking a spread for Thanksgiving, teaching crafting class with Youth For Christ, or volunteering as a photographer for those that cannot afford one for their wedding or pregnancy, these opportunities fill my life with joy.



Trip to Israel & Tasting Dead Sea Salt!

## Our Family

Since we live in Collin's hometown, it is great to have his parents very close by! Collin's dad is a gifted engineer who was adopted by Collin's grandparents as an infant (his story is inspiration for us as we pursue adoption). And Collin's mother is such a gift with her love for children and grandchildren, and the child rearing wisdom that she freely shares. We are so thankful that Collin's mom desires to be our day-care for our child, which will greatly ease our transition into being parents. Collin also has a brother who is stationed in the military on the East Coast, and our beautiful 8 year old niece, Kaiya.

## Our Family, continued.

Renee comes from a large mid-west family with four siblings and wonderful parents that are all anxiously awaiting this new family member to arrive! In total, we have 4 nieces and 2 nephews, with the newest niece being just 8 months old...so there will be plenty of cousins for our kids to grow up with. Every summer, our family gathers in a different location together for our family reunion. Last summer, we spent a long weekend on Catalina Island together. Between hanging out at the beach, renting golf carts, and taking the dinner cruise to Two Harbors, we made lasting memories together.



Group hug with our nieces & nephews

### Raising Kiddos

We will raise our child(ren) in a Christian home, where they will see first-hand the influence of God in our lives...in how we love them, care for them, spend time selflessly with them and give them grace when they mess up. We love our church family and they are part of our 'village' that will help raise our child. Sunday school, church camp at Hume Lake, and other activities will be part of his/her growing up years....lots of memories made with other kids being raised to know how much Jesus loves them.

We think education is very important and will make sure that our child(ren) can go to college and pursue a vocation that is meaningful to him/her.

We think that adoption is such a gift and want to make sure that our child knows early on the gift they have been given. We will be open with our child so that they know their own adoption story and can be confident in the path that God has for them.

We want our child to have a childhood that is filled with great memories of spending time with family and friends, exploring the world around us through science, adventure and travel, all the while feeling secure in the knowledge that they are deeply loved both by God and their parents.



Collin's Niece Admiring Him!



At Kaiya's Birthday Pool Party!



Summer Vacation Fun With Anita

## Our Home

We own our 3-bedroom, 2-bath house on a quiet street on the edge of town, with a beautiful park that follows alongside a river and bike path that goes for 30 miles. We can't wait to teach our child to ride his/her bike, go for walks to the park and push a jogger stroller (Renee speaking here!) for many miles of fitness and fun with the family. As for neighbors, they are the best! Our neighbors Jim and Cindy have unofficially adopted us as their kids, so we celebrate holidays together and help each other out often with caring for our pets. They will be awesome 'bonus' grandparents to our kids, no doubt!



## What Fun!

We love to travel (and stay home)! Since we got married, we have traveled a couple times to Hawaii with our timeshare program that ensures we take a regular vacation! We love exploring the sights of Hawaii and can't wait to share those experiences with our kids.

Our favorite excursions are to the family cabin that is just over an hour away up in the Sierra Nevada's. This is our happy place! While it's just a cozy old 700 square foot cabin with shag carpet and a 1950's fridge, it is perfect for weekend getaways and will be a great place for our kids to learn how to chop wood, shovel snow, and other 'responsibilities' that come with such a gift.



**Thank you** for taking the time to learn more about our family. We would be honored if you chose us to be the adoptive parents for your little one. We are so thankful for the gift of life that you are giving to your child and his/her future family. Many blessings to you and we hope to be in touch!

*Collin & Renee*