



kendra & josh

hello

so nice to "meet" you





thanks for getting to know us

We want to thank you for taking the time to read through this book and get to know us! **Although we don't know you yet, we have been thinking and praying for you and your baby.** We can only imagine as you consider an adoption plan how you may have a mixture of emotions. We know that decisions like this don't come easily or lightly. We greatly admire and appreciate the love you must have for your baby! **We want you to know if you choose adoption, and choose us to be your child's family, we promise to love and support you through this as well.** If chosen, we hope you can find peace in knowing your little one will be so incredibly loved and cared for - not only by ourselves but also by our families, friends, and the community of people we have surrounded ourselves with.

We had been married for just over two years when we decided we wanted to start trying to have a family. It was clear from the very beginning that having biological children would be more difficult for us than others. Since adoption was something we wanted as part of our family story (even before our infertility), after a few years and some failed fertility treatments, adoption seemed to be the way to grow our family. We are so excited to start the adoption process!

with love,

Josh & Kendra

our story

We were introduced by mutual friends on the 4th of July in 2011. We were both working at a Bible camp in northern Minnesota that week, but it wasn't until the following Summer that we got to know each other. **It didn't take long for either of us (or our friends and family) to know we were meant to be together.**

From Kendra: During Labor Day weekend of 2013, Josh and I were visiting our friends up north, and we decided to go four-wheeling with them. While driving down the most picturesque pine tree-lined road, our four-wheeler sputtered and died and we were left in the dust by our friends. What I didn't know was that the whole thing was an elaborate ruse. Josh stepped off to "inspect" our broken down four-wheeler, but he was really grabbing the ring box he had stashed in his boot. He then got down on his knee and asked me to marry him. It was the easiest "yes" of my life. I was extra surprised when I found two of our friends hiding in the trees taking photos and videos of the whole thing. That evening, we celebrated by going out to dinner with friends after phone calls were made to our families back home.



*we knew early
or we had
something
special*



We were married on a blustery, cloudy day in May 2014. **We just celebrated nine years of marriage** and are still as crazy about each other as we were in the beginning. One thing that makes our marriage especially strong is our strong friendship: **we truly are best friends**. The first person we want to tell about our successes and our failures is each other and we feel safe together. Having complete trust and faith in each other helps our communication stay open and flowing. We aren't perfect and we have our disagreements at times, but we both love the other in such a way that we want what is best for the other person and know that the other person has our back.

Where there is great love,
there is always miracles

Willa Cather





What my friends call me:

I'm Keni to those closest to me!

Introverted or extroverted?

I can come off a bit shy when you first meet me, but don't be fooled. I am mostly an introvert, but I am known to be quite goofy and bubbly.

What my friends say:

I have been described as a trustworthy and supportive friend. I'm also hardworking, dependable, and loyal.

meet **kendra**

I currently work as a receptionist for a fence company. It's full-time but also temporary as they know I will be stepping down from my position once we adopt a baby. I plan to stay at home until our future child(ren) goes off to school and then will most likely work part-time during school hours so I can be home before or after school. If we do need someone to watch them, my parents live about ten minutes away, and they are very excited to help with any childcare needed. My dad thinks "grandpa nanny" has a nice ring to it.

As a homebody at heart, I love snuggling up with the pets and hanging at home with a good book, playing video games, watching shows, or doing crafts. Don't get me wrong- I do enjoy being outside, but since winters in Minnesota are long and cold, the love of indoor activities is a must. I have attempted to take up knitting about a dozen times but am proving to be pretty terrible at it. When the weather allows, I love to go horseback riding. I'm an amateur photographer and enjoy taking photos, especially of our pets. I also love going out shopping or for dinner with friends.



I have always wanted to be a mom. I look forward to being the one that someone looks to and wants when they are sad, happy, hurt, confused, and every other feeling. I want to be someone a little one looks to for unconditional love and support. I look forward to experiencing all of that and watching the world through the eyes of a child as they grow and learn.

My greatest prayer is to raise kind, compassionate kids who love Jesus and have a heart for making the lives of the people around them a better place.

meet josh

I work for a software company as a database specialist for our support team, which I absolutely love. My job is very flexible, has generous time off, and I look forward to taking paternity time off when a baby joins our family.

I love to learn new things and I have a lot of hobbies. I love woodworking, disc golfing, reading, playing video games, building/working on computers and electronics, spending time with friends, camping/hiking, hunting, fishing, playing my bass guitar, horseback riding, and listening to music. I'm also hand-wiring a new computer keyboard right now. I also really enjoy helping friends with construction projects. I'm building a professional recording studio for a friend right now, which has been a really cool project. Of course, I also love spending time with Keni- watching movies, playing video games together, going on walks, and just being together in general.

More than almost anything else, I love helping people. I am a hard worker, but I love putting work "away" to spend time with family and friends. I can be very goofy and I love to laugh and joke around, but I know when to be serious too. I am equally outgoing and introverted - I enjoy spending time with people but I love alone time also.

Favorite food:

Mac and cheese

Dream trip?

I'm Portugese and would love to visit Portugal someday!

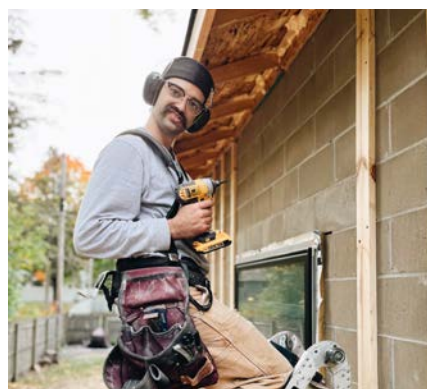
Favorite sport:

I've played soccer my whole life



I pray that our children will grow up happy and healthy, learn to always show love and respect to others, and put their trust in Jesus for everything. I pray for them even now before they may even be born yet.

I am so excited to raise a child. Watching them grow, teaching them how to walk, and ride a bike, and helping them through all of life's ups and downs will be the greatest thing I ever do.



more about kendra *(from Josh)*

Keni is loving and supportive, very loyal to her friends and family, always looking out for other people, and wants nothing more than to provide love and care to a child. **She has a strong faith, she makes me laugh, she's a wonderful listener, and we never get sick of spending time together.** We respect and love each other always, and there's no one I'd rather spend my life with.

Keni has always wanted to be a mom. She has very strong maternal instincts and is super caring with children. She loves to quietly read books to our niece, nephews, and our friends' kids, but she won't shy away from a good-hearted pillow fight either. Keni is an incredibly caring person, going out of her way to love others. When my best friend is out of town for work, Keni goes over to help his wife with their three kids. She also loves watching our niece and nephews. **She is constantly thinking and praying for the birth mom of our future child.** She's always thinking about her and wondering how she's doing, and praying for her through everything. We are so excited to meet her someday, and I know Keni will be a fantastic mom.





more about **josh** *(from Kendra)*

Josh is fiercely loyal and hard-working. He is driven, passionate, and insanely smart. He loves learning and I swear each day he surprises me with something he has learned either in his job working in IT or just for fun. I am always in awe of his talents, which are too many to list. Having a construction background, he is a very talented builder, and he has flipped not one but two homes (and an RV) for us to make them beautiful and homey.

Josh is extremely easygoing, this is one of the things that drew me to him. He is steady and consistent and everything I needed in a partner. **Josh is reserved and quiet, often thinking deeply before speaking as he is always intentional in what he says.** But, Josh is also incredibly goofy and has me laughing every day.

He has the biggest heart and is the most patient and loving man, which makes him such a wonderful husband- and I believe someday, an incredible father. Whenever we are with our friend's kids or our niece and nephews, Josh will get right down on the floor and play with them, read any book brought to him, and praise any piece of artwork given to him. I believe **Josh will be a very patient and loving father, parenting with the kindness, playfulness, and gentle firmness a child needs to grow and learn.** I have no doubt his hard-working attitude will continue to ensure we are always able to provide a stable and secure space for our future child to thrive in.



our life together

Our favorite evenings are spent together on the couch watching a show, hanging out with our pets, and just being together. When we aren't busy doing home projects, **we love spending time outdoors, disc golfing, horseback riding, or just taking our dog for a walk around the neighborhood.** Since we live in Minnesota and the winters are long, we also enjoy watching a TV series or movies on those extremely cold days when outdoor activities aren't really an option. We recently took up playing Fortnite together as well this winter. Although Kendra is TERRIBLE at it, it's fun to play something together!

In 2021, we had the opportunity to sell our home and take an extended RV trip along the west coast. We were both able to do work remotely during COVID, so we packed up the pets and hit the road. **We spent three months seeing places like the Grand Canyon, Red Rock in Las Vegas, NV, and we even lived for a few weeks in the middle of the Redwoods in northern California.** We had so much fun and made some really incredible memories. We were also able to spend time with extended family, which was a huge blessing. Besides that trip, our travels are mostly to see Josh's family or up to the camp we met at in northern Minnesota where we still have a lot of friends. We spend every Sunday and Wednesday doing church activities and the rest of our evenings are filled with home projects, hanging with friends or just relaxing with "the boys" (our dog and two cats) at home.



Together is our favorite place to be





meet "the boys"

Ozzie, Kevin, & Derek

We have three pets, two cats and one dog. **Ozzie is our almost 14-year-old cat** Keni rescued when he was 11 weeks old. He is very lazy and prefers to spend most of his day sleeping around the house or eating.

Kevin is our 3-year-old Miniature Schnauzer, we have had him since he was 12 weeks old. He is the sweetest and goofiest pup and LOVES everyone. He is great with people and kids of all ages. Our niece loves to carry him around (in the most awkward fashion) and he couldn't care less. He will be a great playmate to any child!

Derek is the baby of the group at just over a year old. We rescued him in September of 2022. He is your average juvenile cat - sweet and cuddly one moment and running around the house with the zoomies right afterward. He is cautiously curious about kids at first, but he is super friendly to everyone he meets after an initial assessment.





our extended family

We are very close with both of our families and everyone is ecstatic about the arrival of our adopted child(ren). Josh's parents are especially excited as this child will be their first grandchild!

DNA doesn't make a family, love does

Keni's parents, Dan and Gwen, have been married for over 40 years. She has one older brother, Kyle, who is married to Amie and they have three kids: Nace (9), Norah (7), and Neil (1). They all live about ten minutes away and we see them often. We have brunch together every Sunday after church where we eat great food, laugh, and hang out for a few hours. It's great to have regular time with them where we get to build those relationships and spend time with our nephews and niece.

Josh's parents, Mark and Janine, will be married for 40 years this year! They recently moved to Texas where his dad is the worship pastor at a local church. Josh has two brothers in Michigan: Ryan and Scotty. Scotty has been married to his wife, Jenny, for almost three years. We see Josh's family a few times a year and stay connected with lots of video calls.



our home

We live in a busy town in Minnesota. Anything and everything you could possibly need is within a few minutes drive. We are blessed to live in a wonderful school district and there are also private and charter options for families. There are several parks and playgrounds within walking distance of our house and a lot of others nearby. Winters can be long and cold, but the summers are great and we enjoy taking our pup out for walks around the neighborhood when the weather is good! In addition to parks, **there are so many great community programs for children and families to be a part of.** Many of our friends are part of weekly mom's groups which Kendra hopes to join with our future little one. There are a number of indoor play cafes, a children's and science museum, as well as two zoos within a short drive of our home.



Although there are many amazing places to live in the US, we would agree with the sentiment "Midwest is Best!" and love the Midwest feel of our area.

We currently live in a townhouse with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. We bought it almost two years ago and have been updating it with a brand new kitchen, main level bathroom, and new flooring throughout. We have a side yard and a very nice park right down the street with a playground and walking path. The main roads are lined with sidewalks which makes going for a stroll safe and fun.

This is a great place to raise a family!



our values

01

faith in Jesus

Our faith is the most important thing to us. We were both raised to have strong Christian morals and values, and we have carried that into adulthood. We value our church community and the friendships we have built there. We value honesty in all things, working hard, and seeing our commitments through to the very end.



02

kindness

Everyone has bad days and we give people the benefit of the doubt, even when we are mistreated. Showing kindness and respect to everyone is one of the easiest things you can do to help brighten the world around you.



We want to give our children the opportunity to be raised in a culture of love and fun!



03

strong relationships

The American Dream of having tons of money, a huge house, and lots of cool things doesn't appeal to us. Of course, we want to be financially stable, but finding joy in helping and spending time with other people is more important than chasing success. Our friends and family are incredibly important to us and we highly value those relationships.



04

laughter & fun

We always try to find room to tell a joke or be goofy (even on bad days). Life is all about perspective and you get to choose your attitude. We always try to keep it light and have fun!





thank you

Not a day goes by that we are not thinking and praying for you.

We are praying for your heart and clarity of mind during this process. As you choose the best plan for you and your child, we pray you will feel certainty and peace in your decision that will ease the stress and pressure you are most likely feeling. We pray for support, in whatever way that looks for you; a family member, a friend, or a partner. We pray that you have someone rooting for you and supporting you in person as we support you from afar by lifting you up in prayer.

We admire your strength and courage more than we could express here. **Know that if you choose us, your child will always know their story and of your incredible love for them.** We pray you will want to know us as much as we want to know you!

We know you will be an incredible blessing to your baby and, if you choose adoption, to that family as well.

Thank you for considering us!

with love,

Josh & Keni

some journeys
take you farther
from where you
came from, but
closer to where
you belong

ron franczell