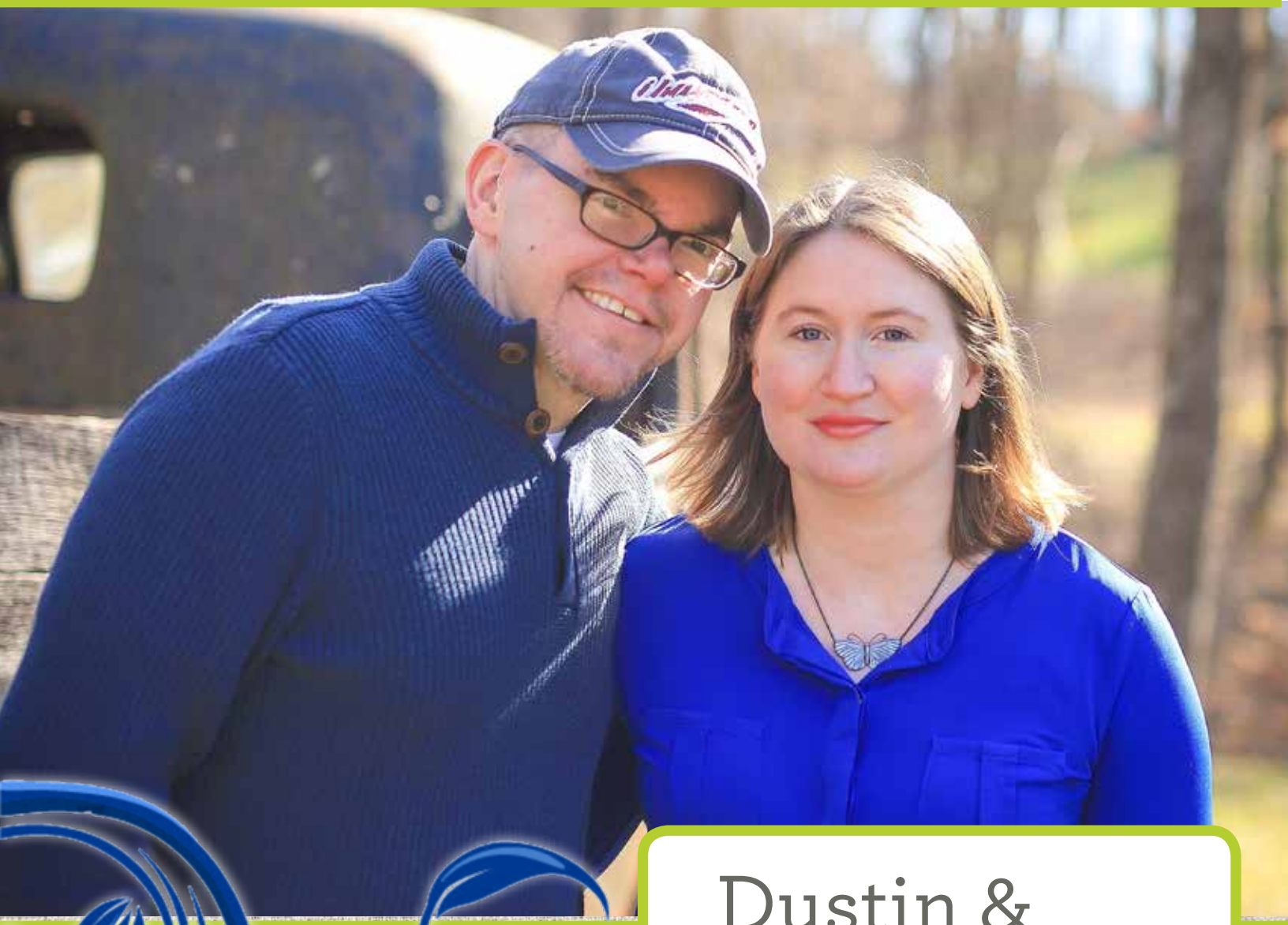


Dustin & Meredith

About Us

Although we grew up in the same town, we did not meet until Dustin relocated back to our home state and we both attended a weekend bonfire at Dustin's brother's house. Dustin's first wife had passed away unexpectedly, shortly after his son, Hunter, was born and shortly before he returned to Ohio. While neither of us were seeking anything romantic, we quickly became very good friends and found ourselves spending a tremendous amount of time together, building a solid foundation of friendship, which would become the basis for a life-long partnership. Eventually, we began a romantic relationship and were married in May of 2010. Meredith mothered Hunter as her own from the time she and Dustin began dating and she legally adopted him after they married. The legal adoption finally put on paper what was already true in our hearts. While Meredith wishes they never had to endure the loss, she is grateful to have the opportunity to be in their lives in the capacity of Wife and Mom, and they are very grateful to have her.

Meredith grew up in a very loving home with her parents and her older brother. She has always maintained an extremely close relationship with both of her parents. She has always been passionate about helping others and thoroughly loves her job, where she is in her 11th year of working as a Psychotherapist. Fortunately, Meredith's and Dustin's jobs provide such financial security that she now works part-time and very much looks forward to spending a tremendous amount of time bonding with her future child, as her light work schedule provides the flexibility to ensure lots of family time!

Dustin grew up in his home with his parents and was the youngest of 6 children. He has 4 older brothers and 1 older sister, with whom he maintains very good relationships. He works as a Civil Engineering Designer and is so great at his job and that he has become the "go to" person that his coworkers seek out to resolve any issues for them. His job provides the family with financial security, excellent benefits and the flexibility to ensure that family is always the number one priority.

About Dustin

Dustin is absolutely my best friend and my soul-mate. I love his thoughtfulness and his great sense of humor. He will go out of his way to find new and wonderful ways of surprising me to remind me of just how much he loves me. He is known by our friends and family for his quick wit and his vast knowledge of plants and animals. Dustin is also very athletic and outdoorsy, and can fix or make anything, yet he balances these things with his skills as a flower gardener, photographer and an artist. Dustin is very well rounded and an excellent balance of a perfectionist with a very relaxed and laid back personality. I love to watch Dustin teach our son about sports with such gentleness, kindness and patience. Dustin always sees the good in people and I love that about him. One of my favorite things to see is Dustin holding and interacting with our friends' babies. I love that he is so nurturing and selfless in caring for others.

We love the outdoors and spend a lot of time hiking, biking, boating and fishing!

We enjoy traveling to new locations on our family vacations each summer.

About Meredith

I will never forget the first time I met Meredith, it was a bonfire at one of my brother's home. A car was pulling up the dark drive and my brother said "There's Meredith." I was expecting some "older" woman to get out of the car, I could not have been more wrong. She blew me away at first sight and as the night wore on, the conversation just magnified it. We talked for hours, and as everyone else moved inside we stayed by the fire talking. It was pretty clear we shared an instant bond and we have never lost that, it builds every day. Meredith is truly "Wonder Woman" without the costume. She is always thinking about her family, everything she does is with the good of us in mind. I have to remind her that it's okay to have some time for herself and take care of herself from time to time. Meredith works extremely hard at her job, picks up Hunter on her way home, gets him going on his homework and starts dinner. By the time I get home, 5:15 most days, dinner is done or nearly done, Hunter is finishing homework and we have the evening to spend together. Meredith was born to be a mother and the bond she and Hunter share is something I am so grateful for. She has this ability to be able to understand Hunter and give him exactly what he needs.

Our Home

We are very blessed to live in a beautiful home! We live in a newly remodeled two story home that has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and a half-finished basement. On the back of our house, there is a large deck, where we enjoy many cookouts with friends and family. We also enjoy having fires and making s'mores in our fire pit during cooler evenings. Our home is located in a rural, cul de sac with 5 other homes surrounding us. We often times see children playing outside at our neighbors' houses. We live 1 mile from a major park system, where many options are available, including hiking trails, biking trails, horseback riding, fishing, boating, kayaking, camping and both nature centers and historical landmarks. We live in close proximity to a variety of both fine and casual dining experiences, as well as shopping. We live in a small town, but are in close proximity to larger cities on all sides, which provide excellent opportunities for us to participate in a variety of educational and cultural experiences. We live close to several great playgrounds, an amazing daycare, an outstanding school district and an exceptional local hospital.

Our dog, Nemo enjoys cuddling with the family.

Boots is a very lovable member of the family.

Scout is very lovable and and enjoys cuddling and playing with the family.

Traditions

Meredith and Dustin have many family traditions. Every fall, they take their son to a local pumpkin patch, where they each pick out a pumpkin and take them home to carve. Then, in the days following Thanksgiving, they go to a local Christmas Tree Farm, where they enjoy finding the perfect Christmas tree, which they pick out together and bring home to decorate, as a family. Throughout the holiday season, there are many family gatherings with members of their extended family. Another important tradition is attending church at a local Christian Church every Sunday. Their faith in Christ has become central to their lives as a family. They spend time praying together and always maintaining open and loving communication with their son regarding any questions he has about the faith or about anything, in general.

Meredith's Favorites:

Color: Blue
TV Show: Gilmore Girls
Movie: It's a Wonderful life
Food: Cheese Pizza
Vacation: Disney World and Cape Cod
Hobbies: Boating on their pontoon boat, kayaking, hiking, biking, fishing, reading, cooking and spending time with friends and family.

Dustin's Favorites:

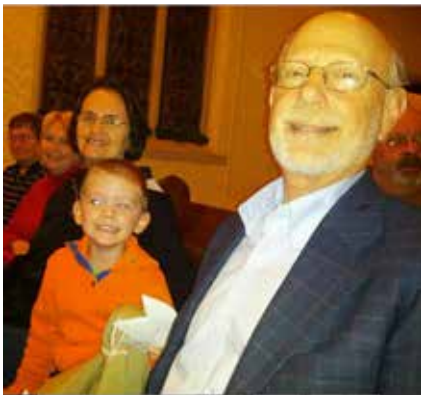
Color: Blue
TV Show: How It's Made
Movie: Saving Private Ryan
Food: NY Strip Steak and Scallops
Vacation: Gatlinburg, TN
Hobbies: Boating, fishing, hunting, biking, running, watching football and basketball, and teaching our son about sports.

Our Family & Friends

Meredith is very close with both of her parents, who live less than 10 minutes from their house. They get together with her parents, brother and sister-in-law to celebrate every special occasion and holiday. Her parents have fully embraced their roles as grandparents and they are very excited to welcome a new child into the family through adoption.

Dustin is very close with his brothers and they get together frequently. Unfortunately, his father passed away in 2002, and his mother has significant health issues which require that she reside in a nursing facility. Even so, he strives to provide for his child and future child the same steadfast, unconditional love and gentle guidance that his father provided for him throughout his life.

Another member of our family, who is very much looking forward to welcoming another child into our home is our 9 year old son, Hunter. He has been asking for a younger sibling for many years. There have been times when Meredith was picking him up at Daycare and she didn't see him in the "big kid" area, but when she looked in the "little kid" area, she found him with several small children on his lap, reading a book to them, as they sat together in a rocking chair. He is always first to ask to hold his baby cousins and the babies of our friends. He has always wanted to be a big brother and he is always taking younger kids under his wing when we are at social events. He is beyond excited about becoming a big brother through adoption.



Hunter with two sets of his grandparents.

Our son with some of his cousins.

Our closest friends.

Dustin's brothers, cousins and their wives at the family farm.

Here we are after a 5k Run with some friends.

We love spending time on our pontoon boat with family and friends!

Dear Birthparents

Hello! Thank you so much for taking the time to visit our profile. We understand and respect that you are facing some very significant decisions regarding your child and we want you to know that we are praying for you throughout this process. We hope that reading our profile will tell you more about us and the overflowing love, nurturance and support that await our future child.

Meredith has a Master's degree in Clinical Social Work and she loves her job, where she works as a Psychotherapist/ Counselor for both children and adults. Dustin has a degree in Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) and works as a Civil Engineering Designer. The financial stability and security provided by both of their jobs has allowed Meredith to scale back her hours to part-time so that she is able to devote more time to their son and future child.

We are so looking forward to adding to our family through adoption and we hope that these pages are helpful in learning a little more about us.

With Love,

Dustin and Meredith

Why Adoption?

Adoption has always held a very special place in both of our hearts. We believe that we are all God's children through adoption, regardless of race or ethnicity and we believe there is beauty and so much value in all races, cultures and ethnicities. We are very open and willing to adopt a child whose racial, cultural or ethnic heritage differs from our own and we would value our child's heritage and teach our child about their heritage. We are passionate about adoption because we both come from extended families that have grown through adoption. Even while we were dating, we had many conversations about one day adopting a child. Meredith has some possible fertility problems and we decided that rather than pursuing having a child biologically, we would rather bring a child into our family through the beautiful act of adoption. We feel that God has blessed us with a very privileged life, so many wonderful resources, an amazing support system and a family that is overflowing with love. We believe that adding to our family through adoption is only natural. We are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to share God's grace and unconditional love with our future child and we are so excited for the opportunity to grow our family through adoption.

We enjoy many outdoor activities, including zip lining at a wild life park.

We enjoy running in local 5k's to support local charities.