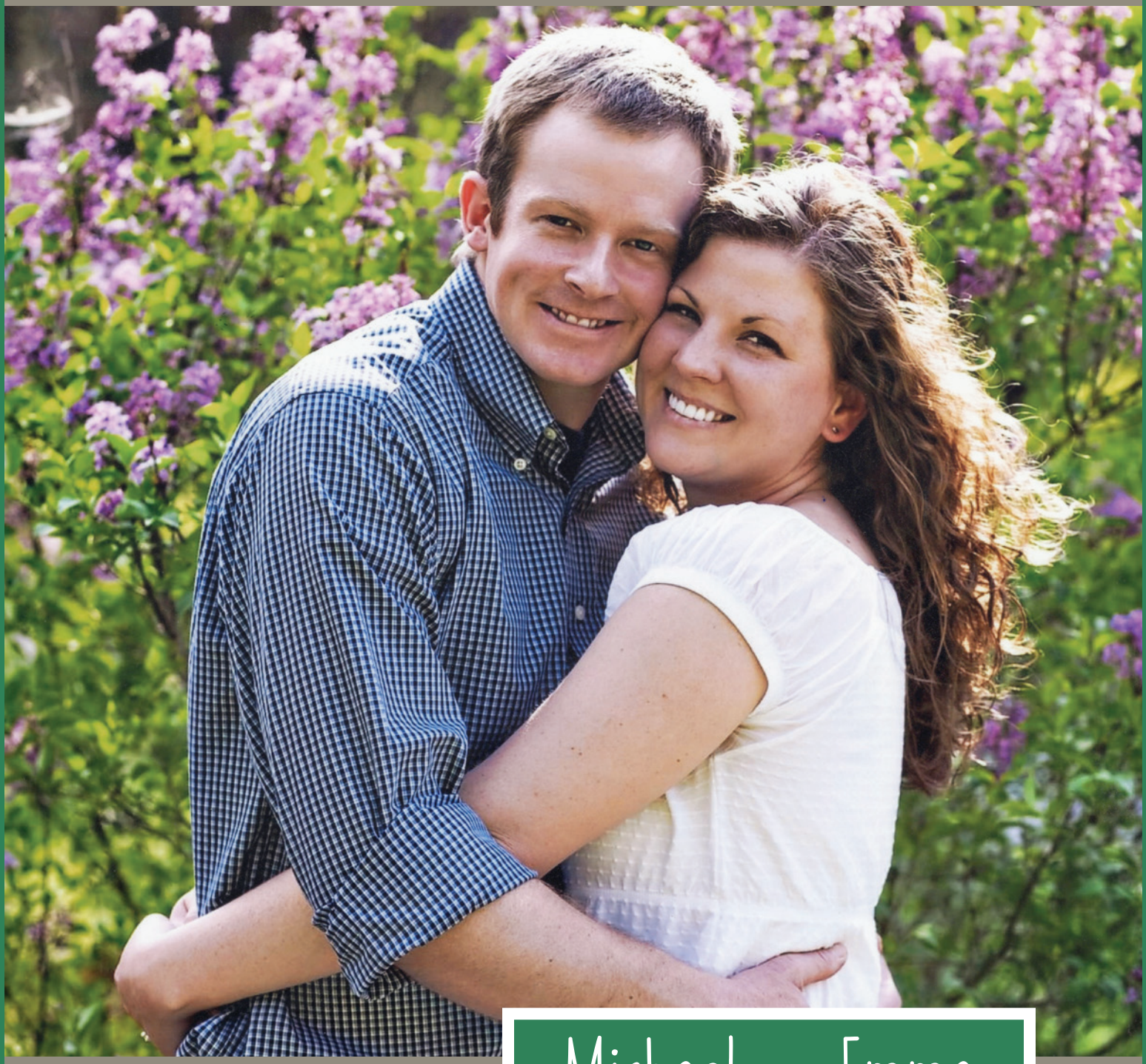

Michael and Emma

About Us

We met 15 years ago in college and started dating a few months later. We've loved and supported each other through all of life's ups and downs since then. We are looking forward to the next phase of our life in our desire to adopt and raise a child together.

We are best friends, and we make a great team. We can be found discussing all kinds of things on our daily walks with our dog Sadie–sometimes news, sometimes plans, sometimes food, sometimes just quoting The Office. We love to laugh together, and we feel it's important to always have a house full of laughter and love.

We both love exercise and the outdoors. We both love bicycling; Michael goes on long rides with his friends frequently, and Emma rides her bike to work or to run errands along the beautiful riverfront bike path. We both love a challenge, and enjoy pushing ourselves to accomplish hard things that require discipline like marathons and bike races while still maintaining a balance with work and family life.

Michael is a construction engineer and majored in Civil Engineering. He loves teaching and sharing experiences he enjoys with others, whether it's a favorite movie, a new mountain bike trail, or inspiring them to try a sport he loves. He looks forward to sharing that with our future children. Michael enjoyed coaching both high school and college level rowing teams. He is engaged in his community through volunteering for our city planning commission.

Emma is a registered nurse who has worked in many areas of medicine. She loves connecting with patients and trying to make their day easier when they are going through hard things. She loves to cook and is trying to become a gardener. She loves to run, hike, and explore the outdoors.

We love to learn new things about the world and explore new places, especially on foot or by bike. We look forward to sharing our adventures with our future children and seeing places, new and old, through their eyes. We plan to adopt two children. We both grew up with siblings and want our children to share that experience as well.

We have worked hard and lived modestly in order to gain financial security, paying off student loans and other debts, and planning for the future so that when we have children we can focus on our family instead of being controlled by work.

fun facts

Michael

- Once built a canoe out of concrete, but it sank.
- Has a special talent for recognizing voices.
- Was an extra in the movie October Sky.
- Rode a bike with one gear. from Seattle, WA to Portland, OR in one day.

Emma

- Played Mary Poppins in a musical in high school.
- Can say the alphabet backwards really fast.
- Ran a 50 mile trail race.
- Knows all the words to The Lion King.

Our Home

Most of what makes a house seem like home is friends and family. In our community, we have established close friendships that make our location a home. We live in a quiet neighborhood, a few blocks from the high school and about 1/2 mile from the riverfront walking/biking path. On the weekends this path is filled with families walking or riding bikes to the park to swim, picnic, play volleyball or soccer, or kayak. We have developed many friendships with people of different backgrounds and interests, some with children, some without. We love having friends over for dinner or having them drop in to borrow a tile saw or a bike part. We have wonderful neighbors with whom we trade vegetables from our gardens and watch each other's pets while on vacation.

our dogs

about michael

(written by emma)

Michael is the kindest, most thoughtful person I know. He is a loyal friend, and he's the kind of person who will drop everything to help a friend or stranger in need, no matter the time of day or night. He's driven (he was a college athlete) and both inspires me and encourages me to be driven as well. He's both strong and sweet, and so fun to be around. He has great dad wisdom–he knows how to fix stuff and throw a football and hang drywall, and also how to be a kind, loving person and a thoughtful, considerate, supportive husband. He has a heart for animals (I'm pretty sure we would have 10,000 dogs if we had the means). Since we were first dating, I have been looking forward to being a parent with him–he will make an amazing father.

about emma

(written by michael)

Emma is wonderful. She's the perfect match for me; the right amount of smart, silly, and caring. She's my best friend. Obviously I'm biased, yet others tell me she is strong, kind, and independent. She is driven to repair/maintain her car and mountain bike; she wants to be capable of doing it herself. She's a nurse because of her loving and nourishing demeanor. She has a large family and loves spending time with cousins, niece, and nephews. Despite her strength and independence, she makes me feel needed. She has so much love to give.

Our Family

We both grew up in loving, supportive homes. Both Michael and Emma's parents are recently retired and looking forward to spending more time with us. Michael has one brother and one sister. Emma has one brother. We have one niece and three nephews who adore their grandparents. Though our family is spread out geographically, we are still a close family. We talk frequently on the phone or video chat. We both have large extended families. All of our family embraces our choice to adopt, and they are looking forward to sharing their love with our children.

Emma and her parents

Emma's brother and family

Emma and our goddaughter

Michael's parents, brother, and us

Hiking with our goddaughter

On vacation with Michael's family

Piggyback ride for our godson

On vacation with friends

Emma with her brother's family

Emma and family

Dear Birthmother,

Thank you for taking the time to consider us in your adoption plan. We look forward to learning more about you and sharing more about our lives if you are interested in learning more about us.

We are unable to have biological children, and we are indescribably thankful for the opportunity to adopt so that we may have children to share our love and our adventures with. We know our future children may have different backgrounds than we do, and incorporating their backgrounds is important to us as we watch them grow and develop their identity. Once given the opportunity, we are committed to loving and providing for our children unconditionally. We will meet all the joys and challenges that parenting may present with patience, kindness, and tenacity.

We hope you find what you are looking for, whether or not that is us.

sincerely,
emma + michael

Why Adoption?

We want to teach, love, provide for, and have a positive impact on a child's life. Since finding out we are unable to have biological children, we have embraced adoption. We look forward to having the privilege of adopting children and becoming parents.