Janien & Luke

About Us

Hi, we're Luke and Janien. We have been married for 14 years and have always desired a large family. Early in our marriage we found out we were not able to have biological children due to infertility. Since we had talked about adoption even before we were married we quickly jumped into the process. We have two children, Emma and Samuel, who joined our family through adoption and they have been such a blessing to us. For some time now we've desired to grow our family more and we are so excited to welcome more children into our home.

As a family we value quality time and love being active outside or playing board games together. Another favorite activity is reading chapter books out loud while Emma and Samuel color or play legos. Our recent favorite books were Peter Nimble and the Fantastic Eyes and the Tum Tum and Nutmeg series. We love visiting local parks and going on hikes and bike rides through trails. Traveling is a big part of our lives and one of our favorite beaches to visit is Hilton Head Island because they have bike trails all throughout the island!

Our faith is very important to us. We are Christians who believe that our hope for life after death is not in ourselves, but in that of God's salvation through Christ Jesus. We hold family devotions after dinner every night, pray with our children before bed, and attend and serve in our local Church. Our goal for our children is to raise them to be kind, compassionate adults who gives back to their community.

About Luke *by janien*

Luke is the most tenacious person I have ever met. He is a very positive person and looks at the world through a lens that is full of possibilities. He has a heart for others and pays attention to the small details of other's lives. Luke is an amazing father. He is very mindful about how he spends his time between work and home and always makes sure to spend time with family. Our children's favorite tradition with him is Saturday morning "coffee/ hot chocolate" dates. Each Saturday morning they alternate and go for a one-on-one "coffee" with Luke. He looks forward to continuing this tradition with more children.

Occupation: CEO of Logistics Company
Education: Bachelors in Business and Accounting, CPA license
Favorite Dessert: Snickerdoodles & Tiramisu
Favorite Activities: Softball, biking, good food, lifting weights
Favorite Movie: Chariots of Fire
Fun Fact: I would love to have a cattle farm of my own one day.

About Janien *by luke*

Janien is so good-natured. She balances my adventurous, dreamer personality with her down-to-earth, sensible nature. She's humble and kind, enjoys people of all sorts, and loves having a good time. She prefers sharing experiences with people like a creative meal or attending an event. This permeates into her love as a mother. She loves going to countless parks with our kids, exploring our city with them, and making memories. She's gentle and playful and authentically enjoys spending time with our kids and extended family. Janien is a loving mother who sacrifices her desires for the children and I know these qualities will spill over into her relationship with our next child.

Occupation: Stay at Home Mother
Education: Associates in Business Management
Favorite Dessert: Ice Cream or fruit
Favorite Activities: Biking, hiking, rock climbing, cooking, reading, puzzles
Favorite Movie: The Sound of Music
Fun Fact: I was born in South Africa and immigrated to the USA when I was 12. I still have family in South Africa and we hope to take a trip as a family someday!

Our Family

Our extended family is quite large. Luke has 7 siblings! There are currently 17 nieces and nephews ages 3 months to 15 years old between our families and we enjoy spending time with them. The local family gets together for birthday's and field trips together and out of town family often visits throughout the year, especially around the holidays. Luke's parents live a mile from our house and we can bike or walk to their house when the weather is nice. Janien's parents live 12 minutes away and we enjoy going to their pool in the summer. We have a large support system and our families and friends are excited that we are adopting again and will welcome more children with open arms.

Janien's family at Thanksgiving

Park with Luke's Grandmother

Riding scooters to Grandma Lolli's house with cousins

Reading time with Grandma Lolli

Ice Cream with Aunt Bee

Christmas with Cousins

Cousins trip to Gatlinburg with Luke's brother and family

Coaster in Branson with Janien'sparents (Oumi and Oupa)

Visit from Aunt Caitlin, Uncle Andres, and Joy who live in Peru

At Grandma Lolli's house visiting with out of town cousins for 4th of July

Our Home

We live in a four bedroom, two and a half bath, quad-level home. We have a fenced-in backyard with a patio, large tree with a swing, and a shed. We love spending time in our backyard together whether playing baseball or the kids packing their adventure backpacks with their binoculars and magnifying glasses and pretending to be explorers. Our street is a quiet cul-de-sac, and we love riding bikes, scooters, and playing with the neighbor kids. The kids are always eager to help in the kitchen and we make many meals together while listening to music and dancing in the kitchen. Our city has so many great parks and we take full advantage of them any time the weather is nice. We also have a zoo and children's museum pass and love to have field trips to both!

Dear Birth Parent (s)

We can't begin to imagine the love, compassion, and courage you must have to consider placing your child into another loving home. We're sure your decision comes with much love for your unborn child and wanting to see them thrive. We want you to know we see how selfless and unconditional that love is and realize this decision does not come easily. If chosen we want you to know that your child would know how much you love them. Our two children have joined our family through adoption. We love them so much and would love to have more siblings for them to grow up with. Adoption is not a hushed topic in our house, and we talk about our children's birth families and their birth stories openly. If we are the family you are looking for, we want you to know we are so thankful and will love and care for your child unconditionally. Your child will grow up in a safe, active, loving home with a wonderful extended family.

With Love Luke & Janien

Why Adoption

For some time now we've been desiring to grow our family. We are not able to have biological children due to infertility and we have been blessed with our two children through the beauty of adoption. We know the importance their birth families have in their lives and we value being open with their stories to help them learn more about where they came from. We are open to a child of any gender and race and would love to learn more about different cultures to care for children who may have different backgrounds. We have so much more love to share with more children and would love to welcome more children into our home!

Building Blocks Adoption Service Inc.