

It is such an honor to meet you! We are so excited and grateful to get this chance, even through a letter. You're already one of the bravest people we know, and knowing you will read this is truly a humbling experience. You've decided to consider a beautifully hard journey, but one we know has been based out of immense love for your child. We hope you feel a family filled with love through the pages of this book, and catch a tiny glimpse of our lives and our hearts. If you find comfort in our family, we want you to know we will dedicate our lives to loving your child, to seeing their dreams fulfilled and creating a family of love and joy together. We will never claim to be perfect, but we are confident that our love does not begin or end with DNA.

We want you to know that if you choose us, we are promising a life and home filled with deep love, connection, and gratitude. We welcome a relationship with you and know that it will be the very best for your child to have an ongoing relationship with you. We look forward to having conversations with you getting to hear your heart for what this would look like, and continuing to grow together.

Thanks so much for taking the time to read our little story. We can't wait for our turn to get to hear about YOU. Our family is not complete, and we hope to include both you and your child in it.

Robby & Hannah

OUR STORY

How We Met

The truth is that we met because I (Hannah) got frustrated! I was staying at my aunt's after being evacuated from yet another California wildfire, and was disheartened at being 32 and still single. I'd sworn off dating apps, but decided to give it another shot, cuz why the heck not? I opened up "When Coffee Meets Bagel" and there was a message from Robby. His profile contained a picture of him with Gandalf, and being the huge nerd I am, I knew I had to message him back right away! He just had a warmth to his smile and kindness in his words.

Being nerds was probably the biggest thing that attracted us to each other and made us get along from the very beginning. I (Robby) planned extremely nerdy dates (like a Harry Potter treasure hunt through town) and impressed Hannah by loudly doing a Gollum impression in the middle of a restaurant. We connected so quickly and asked one another... "where have you been hiding!"

We know we're ridiculous, but we wouldn't have it any other way, and it's allowed us to continue to have a lot of fun together. Both of us being older when we met, we talked deeply about our lives, emotions, plans and dreams from the very beginning, and both have a huge appreciation for emotional health and connection. That led us to only dating for 6 months before we got engaged. We knew we'd be together forever even way sooner than that though.



amazing years













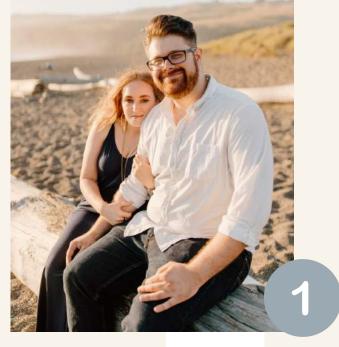


I had to change my proposal plan several times because it was spring of 2020, and the world had closed due to covid. It was May the 4th (Star Wars Day, of course) and we went for a walk where we were taking magical bookish photos for Instagram, which was a hobby of Hannah's at the time. Robby pulled out a new copy of Lord of the Rings and said it was a special book for her to use in her photos. But when she opened it, the book was hollowed out and inside was a ring I had carefully placed inside! She was shocked in the best possible way and with a huge smile on her face said YES! We will never forget how special that day was to us and how it was the beginning of a beautiful journey together.





We have been married for 4 years, and our desire and commitment to connection and "being right with each other rather than right" gives us a strong marriage. We both enjoy several of the same kinds of things, but more than just common interests we have a shared common goal: each other. Even when we are in conflict, we are each very quick to realize that maintaining love between us is more important than pretty much anything else. We will never give up on championing one another and lifting eachother up when life is hard. We are in this for life, and find immense amount of joy in our relationship. We believe a strong family requires a strong marriage and it's something we work at so that our children can have a great role model of love.





De Proprise...

THAT YOU ALWAYS BE A PART OF YOUR CHILD'S STORY AND OURS.



TO PROMOTE AND EMPHASIZE YOUR CHILD'S HERITAGE, TRADITIONS, AND CULTURE.

TO RAISE THEM IN A HOME FILLED WITH LOVE, SAFETY, CONNECTION, NURTURE, JOY, AND FUN, AND THAT HE OR SHE WILL BE TREASURED EQUALLY AS ALL OTHER CHILDREN.

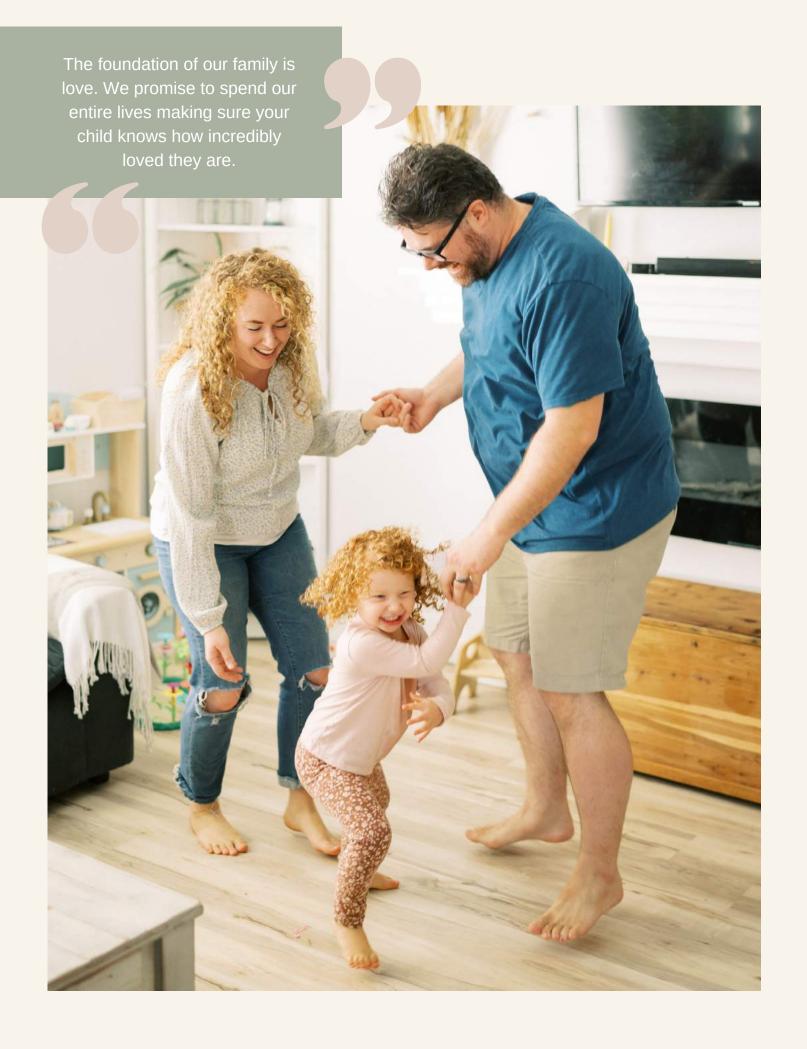


THAT YOUR CHILD WILL GET TO EXPERIENCE LIFE TO THE FULLEST AND THEY WILL ALWAYS BE PROTECTED AND PROVIDED FOR.

TO ALWAYS TRUTHFULLY ANSWER YOUR CHILD'S QUESTIONS ABOUT ADOPTION IN AN AGE-APPROPRIATE AND LOVING WAY.



De proprise that our word is our bond; we truly mean all of this.



OUR HEART FOR ADOPTION



GROWING OUR FAMILY

Our daughter was a honeymoon baby and a wonderful surprise! We got pregnant again when she was 7 months old (another surprise) but soon after had a tragic loss. After 2 more devastating losses, we did not get pregnant again. The heartbreak of the miscarriages only worsened with the pain of suddenly and strangely not getting pregnant after it had been so easy for a while. We've seen doctors and learned nothing is wrong, making it more confusing. The hardship has brought us closer as a couple and shown us the intense love and value of family.



Adoption has always been in my heart (Hannah's). When I was 20, my aunt and uncle adopted their youngest daughter from China after years and years of waiting. It was an amazing experience getting to watch their entire journey from the beginning and see the fulfillment. My cousin is now 17! They have been a pillar in sharing their love and heart of adoption with us. Lifelong family friends adopted their youngest child, and my mom has 8 adopted cousins! We also have adult friends who have adopted and feel we have this beautiful community of support teaching us so much. I've learned so much about the pain and beauty and healing of adoption through watching so many stories of friends and family.

When we were dating, I brought my heart for adoption up with Robby because it was so important to me that he was on board with that. To Hannah's delight, I (Robby) was/am! I've always considered adoption to be an amazing ideal, and now I realize how it's not just an ideal but a passion to be present and available to provide for and raise an adopted child. It's been a dream of ours from the beginning, and we always knew it would be a part of our future and our story. We're thankful that your child will grow up with friends, family, and a community with other adoptees to relate to.

WE WILL TAKE TIME EACH DAY TO LET OUR CHILD KNOW HOW MUCH WE LOVE THEM, HOW SPECIAL THEY ARE, AND HOW MUCH THEY ARE WANTED

WHAT MAKES US TICK



Correction

From our marriage, to our parenting, to our friendships, we seek connection and relationship over agreement. In conflict, this looks like choosing to be right with one another instead of being right.



Authenticity

We want to feel that we can be our truest selves with each other and to give those around us the same opportunity—there's space for all emotions, even the not-so-pretty ones and we can work through it all together!



Honor

We believe in "a culture of honor" and it is one we have chosen to implement into our family. We live with the mindset that everyone—no matter if we agree with them or not—deserves to be treated with respect and honor as a human being that God deeply loves.



Fun

Our desire is to create an atmosphere of childlike joy in our lives and home—living life to the fullest with fun and laughter! We romanticize the ordinary every way we can, whether that's spontaneous adventures, baking a special treat for no reason, or dancing in the rain.



Hannah

Loyal
Imaginative

Funny



Being home

FULLTIME AS A MOM IS A GIFT

I'm extremely lucky and blessed to be able to be a stay-at-home mom. As long as I can remember, that's been my dream! Since I was super little, every single game I played involved being a mom with lots of kids and centered around family.

My favorite thing is being a wife and a mom most of all! Creating/creativity is probably my favorite hobby, and that can look like a lot of different things. I absolutely LOVE writing! I've completed a 5-book young adult fantasy series that I was in the process of publishing before deciding to pause in order to dedicate my time to being a mom. Before having my daughter, I loved taking magical book photos for a little corner of Instagram affectionately known as "bookstagram." Decorating and organizing is another favorite hobby, whether it's cleaning out a closet, rearranging my living room, or getting more St. Patrick's Day decorations from Hobby Lobby. I love including my toddler in these things and watching her joy with the seasonal decor, too! My favorite nerdy fandoms are a source of GREAT joy in my life, whether in books, movies, or shows. I love amazing stories—reading, watching, and (hopefully) writing them. Another big interest and passion of mine is health and holistic living. I'm always studying and learning, and incorporating more into our lives. What are some of your favorite hobbies? Do we have any in common?







IN ROBBY'S WORDS...

OH, MAN. Well, the first thing that comes to mind is her constant dedication to our connection and relationship. I never have to doubt that she wants the best for me and the best for us. She is always looking for ways to help our family be healthier, and frequently sacrifices her free time—what little she frequently has—diving into health and nutrition so we can be our healthiest and happiest selves. She has supported me to pursue life consulting as a career change, and whenever work or other things are stressful, she is a compassionate shoulder and hug away. Even when we disagree on what our next steps are, I feel completely safe knowing she has my back and is on my side. She is incredibly talented at loving well. She is also an AMAZING event planner and loves making a big deal out of holidays and birthdays.

One of my favorite things about her is her dramatic expressions of her internal world. The way she tells stories in a bombastic, dramatized way is thoroughly entertaining, and she is possibly one of the most strongly-willed people I know. It's a really good thing we always agree on everything, right, dear? Just kidding—but she is super strong and has a wonderful heart for justice, fairness, love, grace, and connection. I feel safe with her and I trust her with my everything. She pulls through as a mom, a wife, and a friend constantly, and there is no one I know more loyal. Also, she writes really awesome books, and I love her storytelling. It's good stuff.

As a Mom

Hannah is fantastic at getting down at our daughter's level and playing with her in her world and the way she best understands it. She has no inhibitions about being silly and goofy and being a shamelessly loving mom. She sets healthy and great boundaries while also being loving, kind, and quick to apologize. She is truly a star mom, and I look forward to more children seeing her that way.

She is amazing with our daughter and with our friends' kids. I frequently find her sitting on the floor in our kitchen with our daughter playing some random spur-of-the-moment games that Ayla created on the spot. She is incredibly involved and has an amazing heart for kids. She is compassionate, collaborative, and tries to include Ayla in most everything she does.

Robby



Goofy

Listener



My Career

My job is basically telling doctors how to do their jobs so

they don't get sued. That's the super short/jokey answer at least. What I actually do is patient safety. I have the opportunity to work from home, so I still get to spend a lot of time with our daughter and my wife even if I'm still working. This has provided enormous flexibility. Also, I'll get time off for paternity leave even for adoption, and I have a wonderful boss who has always been very understanding and kind.

Well, you've probably gathered we're both huge nerds by now, and that is definitely true of me. I am the "Dungeon Master" for our Dungeons & Dragons group, and I thoroughly enjoy the prep for the game. I have a 3D printer and I get to create all of the miniatures we use for the game (and sell some on Etsy). I also have always enjoyed video games and have picked up audiobooks over the last few years. I'm also an oddball because I love emotional health and will read emotional health/self-help books... for fun! As for time with my family, I enjoy going on walks with the three of us, playing creative games with our daughter, and playing board games with my wife.







IN HANNAH'S WORDS...

One of my most favorite things about Robby is that though he is extremely intelligent, logical, bookish, and could live life fully from his head, he chose instead to pursue living from his heart, from a place of love over logic. I even shared this in my marriage vows because of how much I admire him for it. He is strong-willed and opinionated, but he will be the first person to admit when he's wrong and apologize. I've never met anyone else who would so quickly admit when something I've shared has changed his mind, which I think is an incredibly humble and admirable quality. He's funny and creative and is never without a ridiculous pun that makes me roll my eyes. He's definitely goofy and I often tell him he has the humor of a 12-year-old... or 5-year-old... depending on how ridiculous he's being. I love that he's not only my husband but my best friend, a wonderful listener, unfailingly kind to me, but I can and do talk about everything with him. He also does most of the cooking, which is extra wonderful as it's not my strong suit! We make most things from scratch, and he's always planning delicious, healthy meals and perfecting his fabulous sourdough recipe. And, I'm forever grateful for the amazing massages he gives me, sometimes nightly, bless him!

As a Dad

Robby is an incredible dad, and it brings me ceaseless joy watching him love our daughter so well. He shared parenting duties from the very beginning (from blowout diapers to midnight feedings), gets up in the night to rock our daughter back to sleep, and often gets up early with her so I can sleep in a bit longer. I don't know if I've ever seen such an involved dad. I always find him sitting on the floor beside her, fully in her world, his phone put away, engaging with her on eye level. Usually with a cup of coffee in his hands. He's extremely gentle, especially with her heart and feelings. I love watching him give our

daughter "tickle kisses" upon her request, which is simply trying to kiss her neck while his beard tickles her and she squeals in delight. I dearly love hearing him talk about how excited he is to adopt, to have more children, and to grow our family this way.

OUR

Kidde

AYLA

OUR DAUGHTER IS A PRECOCIOUS, CHEEKY, LOVING, EMPATHETIC, AND CREATIVE CURLY REDHEAD NAMED AYLA OASIS.

Ayla's always been very logical and understands pretty advanced concepts, even before she could talk. She loves asking "Why?" and trying to understand how everything works and where it comes from. Though she loves people, she tends to sit back and observe first, in a much more introverted way (like her parents), but once she warms up to you, she will talk your ear off! She's been obsessed with babies for months now and always has a baby doll with her wherever she goes. Most of the time she pretends to be one of our various mom friends and her doll is whatever baby is most on her mind that day (or moment, depending on her mood). We've been talking to her about adoption in as best 2year-old language as we can, and she's so excited about having a baby of our own. Just yesterday we were talking with her about it and told her she would be a big sister. With wide eyes, she exclaimed, "I get to be a big sister?!" We melted.













FAMILY TIME

All of us love spending afternoons at my (Hannah's) parents' house. Not only does Ayla adore them and they have a million toys for her, but they have a wonderful backyard that's a toddler's dream. This spring they're going to put in a whole playground, so it's going to get even better! In the summer, we love taking family walks along the river trail and then ending with time at the river, feeding the ducks and geese, skipping rocks, and wading in the gorgeous water. One of our favorite things about where we live is the nearby river, lake, and mountains, and so many walking trails and parks, which provide a fantastic variety of things to do in every season. We love taking at least one special trip each year (this past year we traveled to visit my (Robby's) sister's family in Ohio, and then we went to Oregon for Comic Con. (Ayla really enjoys adventures, minus the fact that we all got the flu in Ohio!)











HOME SWEET HOME

We live in a lovely, brand new home in a quiet neighborhood with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms, and lots and lots of windows that let in natural light. It has a cozy electric fireplace and a big, open floorplan, which we love. There's lots of light and space for all my (Hannah's) beloved plants. We really enjoy the dining room space where we can share our breakfast and dinner together as a family, and then still feel connected to whoever is cleaning up cuz the kitchen is a part of it. One of our favorite things is Ayla's "learning tower" where she can reach the kitchen counter and help bake or cook with us. Our backyard is simple and bright with the perfect amount of space for all of Ayla's outdoor playthings (playhouse, trampoline, slide) and our patio furniture. In the summer, we love to have our morning drinks (Ayla enjoying her warm milk that she calls a "babycino") out there together while we watch the sunrise. The lawn's just big enough to play our chase games where we run around like crazy and try to catch one another! We're so thankful and love our home and the nearness to so many parks and walking paths.

OUR BIGGEST PRIORITY IN LIFE IS TO CREATE TIME FOR OUR FAMILY TO BE TOGETHER, BUILD STRONG BONDS, AND AND USE OUR ENERGY LOVING THEM WELL.



OUR COMMUNITY

We were both born and raised in sunny California, and though we live in a different town than either of us were raised in, we're thankful to still be in this beautiful state—but somewhere rural, with access to rivers, lakes, and mountains. And the ocean is still not too far away! Along with the multicultural population because of our church, there also are lots of local family and cultural events—plays, parades, holiday feasts and parties, incredible Christmas light shows, boutiques, bazaars, performances, etc. Last year we attended an amazing event at the city convention center, which had been turned into an avenue of the nations where people from all over the world (places like Tanzania, Pakistan, Korea, and Brazil) had booths sampling traditional food from their countries! We love that it feels very safe here, that there are several amazing schools, access to nature, parks, and waterparks. It is a beautiful, safe, and family focused community we are so grateful to raise of family in!









TRADITIONS



My (Hannah's) mom made a big deal out of all the holidays—not just the big ones—while I was growing up and it's something I still love to do! One of my very favorites is **St. Patrick's Day**, because, when I was little, my mom started a tradition of having a high tea with my Irish grandmother. We've kept it going all these years and now I'm adding the tradition of a secondary tea party specifically for moms and littles so Ayla and I can enjoy it with all our friends! We make a big deal out of Valentine's Day, handmaking Valentine's and cookies for friends and family and going on deliveries. Easter is almost as big as Christmas except the presents are all hidden and you have to go find them. Birthdays always have a theme that everything is centered around and I start planning months in advance. It took me (Robby) a long time to convince Hannah that all I really want for my birthday theme each year is pizza! As Ayla and our future children get older, we look forward to making a big deal out of Halloween like my (Hannah's) family did growing up, turning our whole home and yard into a giant harvest festival and historical recital with costumes, archery contests, races, and an epic candy hunt! I'd love to hear more about your favorite holiday traditions and any unique holidays you celebrate and incorporate them into our family traditions, too!

WE CELEBRATE BIG! WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR ANY TRADITIONS YOU WOULD LOVE TO SEE IN YOUR CHILD'S LIFE AND CELEBRATE THEM TOGETHER EVERY YEAR.







We love being parents

From the very beginning, we have both worked to be connected, patient, and gentle parents. We always answer needs and never let our daughter "cry it out." We believe in consequences over punishment, and finding natural consequences instead of punishing disobedience in a way that causes disconnection. We never spank or leave our daughter alone in a time-out. We talk through things that have happened and try to include her in daily life in "toddler-friendly" ways. As best we can, we love to take a Montessori approach to life, live slowly, and enjoy nature and natural learning. Being parents feels like what we were made for, and we love just being together as a family, enjoying and creating life and home and connection together.

OUR FUTURE

We love where we live, and for the foreseeable future, hope to stay and plant our roots here in this town. Our plan is to buy a home with a little more land, where we can have a garden and raise ducks and chickens (like I, Hannah, did as a kid), and maybe even a cow. We're looking for somewhere with more space for kids to be kids, to use their imaginations and run and play and get dirty and do all the wonderful things childhood dreams are made of. We know the future is out of our control, but our heart and dream is to have a country home full of children— hopefully a mix of adopted and biological. Though Hannah would still say she wants 6 kids, I (Robby) will find a way to talk her into no more than 4! Beyond that, we want to grow in love and connection as a couple and a family. I (Robby), plan to start and grow my life coaching business, as I am just beginning a class for it, and continue my Etsy shop. I (Hannah) want to mostly focus on being a mom, learning homesteading, writing, holistic living, and pursuing my creative outlets. We'd definitely love to travel more once our kids are a bit older and do a lot of hands-on schooling by exploring nature and visiting historical locations.



Our Amazing Family

Hannah's Family... My parents are Ray and Jan, and they live only 10 minutes from us, which means we get to see them all the time—sometimes daily! They are our most amazing support system, babysitters, friends, and bring so much joy to our lives. My mom, who Ayla calls "Eema" might just be her favorite person! I have two younger brothers, Ethan and Seth. We sadly don't ever see Seth as he moved away, but Ethan lives locally and is the fun, loving uncle every kid dreams of. My Aunt Diane is like my second mom and always has been. My middle name is "Diane" after her and I wear it proudly. She only lives an hour and half away and we try to see her and my Uncle Steve as often as possible. I've never heard of a kid or who didn't adore her and her famous cookies. My cousin Claire on my dad's side is like the little sister and I never had and she and her husband—also named Robby—are some of my favorite and funniest friends. Growing up, Claire's parents (my aunt and uncle) never failed to make me laugh, but also deeply inspired me by their adoption of my younger cousin, Daphne. We also have many extended family members and friends who are as close (or even closer) than family, but it would take too long to mention all of them!.



Robby's Family... is much larger than Hannah's with my 8 nieces and nephews! My parents are Tom and Debbie, and they recently moved to Idaho, so we don't get to see them very much now. My sister, Sarah, is 13 years older than me and almost more like an aunt in some ways. She's married to Andrew, and together they have 6 kids—Amiel, Alison, Rachael, Daniel, Charis, and Timothy. They live in Ohio, and though all my nieces and nephews are way older than Ayla, are the sweetest cousins to her. My brother, Jimmy, who is 11 years older than me, is divorced and has two daughters, Kaylyn and Emily. As everyone lives in different states, it's hard to see them very often, but we are thankful when we get to.



WHEN WE GET TOGETHER

We're so blessed to get to see my (Hannah's) parents nearly every day, and often my brother Ethan, and just do life and community together. We're thankful for the local friends we've made, too, who also bring such joy and community. I (Hannah) love hosting big, thematic celebrations and am thankful for friends and family who value them enough to travel long distances to come. The majority of guests who came for Ayla's 2nd birthday party traveled at least several hours to get there! And we're even more blessed by the genuine love, support, and prayers of family and friends walking through all seasons of life with us—the joys as well as the darkness and grief. After the long, painful journey we have had with miscarriages and waiting and waiting to grow our family, you can only imagine the joy and celebration already happening with our families and friends when we've shared with them the exciting news that we're adopting. So many of our friends have told us that they're extra excited because they want to adopt, too!









































EDUCATION

Our hope and dream is to homeschool. Hannah was homeschooled all the way through high school and it was amazing. Robby wished he was homeschooled and even tried presenting his parents a "financial plan" at 8 years old to convince them to homeschool me instead of spending money on private school and daycare. We love the individuality homeschooling gives, the time and attention for each child, the time freedom, alternative learning options, and the ability to go and do things as a family and learn on the way! It also fits in well with a slower-paced, homesteading-ish lifestyle. We know every situation and child is unique, though, and we will be flexible depending on the needs of each child as they grow. There is an incredible private school here in town that would be our next favorite option.

We will not force college on our children, but we will support, encourage, and pay for it for any child who wants to go. We want to help nurture each child and his or her individual dreams and goals and support those emotionally and financially.

We will be present for our children in every life season letting them know we believe in them fully and will support them in their dreams

We will raise all of our children with our belief in the goodness of God that we have experienced in our lives. We are so grateful for the kindness God has shown us, and we strive to show that kindness to others and teach our children to do the same—to see the great value Jesus has for every single person and to treat them with that kind of amazing love. We have a wonderful church community that is incredibly adoption-friendly, where some of our friends have already adopted. It is a community that respects and empowers children of all ages to pray for others and values their voices.

WHAT WE BELIEVE





WHAT MATTERS

Family matters most, and we prioritize our life around building fun and inentional connection. We love being apart of a large diverse community. We seek to acknowledge the good in people and focus on that, giving each person encounter—including we ourselves!—the benefit of the doubt. It is important to us to seek connection, not agreement, and be authentically ourselves in a way that honors the good in ourselves and others. We desire to create a playful atmosphere for our children to be just that...kids! We want them to explore, get their hands dirty, play outside, and enjoy all the magical moments of growing up.

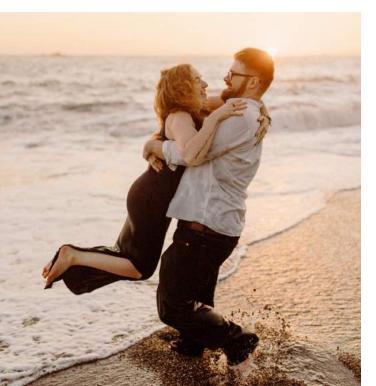


OUR CATS



We have 2 cute cats named Zuko and Elfie (though Ayla has renamed them "Guta" and "Etta"). They really love to hang around Ayla, especially when she gets ahold of a string or cat toy to dangle for them.









THANK YOU FOR BEING YOU. IF YOU FIND COMFORT IN US, WE PROMISE TO GIVE YOUR CHILD A LOVING, NURTURING, CONNECTED, INTENTIONAL, JOYFUL, FUN, NERDY AND SLIGHTLY SILLY FAMILY. WE PRAY FOR THE GREATEST COMFORT AND BLESSINGS OVER YOU. OUR FAMILY CAN'T WAIT FOR ITS NEW CHAPTER, THE ONE WITH THE PRICELESS PIECES WE HAVE BEEN MISSING.





ROBBY HANNAH AYLA

