

# Kevin and Christina





# Hello, We're Kevin and Christina



Thank you so much for taking the time to get to know our family. We are humbled and greatly impressed by your courage in choosing to make an adoption plan for your baby. In our eyes you will forever be a hero for giving your baby the gift of life. We want you to know that we understand just what a critical decision you are facing at this time and to that end you are in our family's thoughts and prayers.

Our lives are full of children, they are our passion! We choose to focus most of our time, energy and resources on children, both ours and others. We believe that children are a gift from God to be celebrated and also that all children come into a family, in one way or another, through love. One thing we are certain of is that we have excess capacity in our hearts and home to love another child.

Put most simply, our desire to adopt is this; we long to open our hearts and our home to a child who needs to be embraced by our love. Adoption is something that we have dreamed about for many years, since before we were even married. We have three biological children but adoption has always been a part of our hopes and dreams for the future of our family.

If you choose us to parent your child that decision will always be celebrated and remembered as a wonderful part of our families story. We will forever share with our children about the selfless and loving sacrifice you made to give your child the best life possible. Thank you for considering us for this awesome opportunity.









# My Husband, Kevin



Kevin is my best friend and the person most dear to me in life. I am honored and grateful to have shared 16 happy, wonderful married years with him. My heart still flutters when I see him come into a room, even after all this time! When he comes in, and looks my way I am filled with warmth and love. Kevin makes me feel special and beautiful and loved every day!

Kevin is the most kind, loving and trustworthy person I know! He is faithful to his word and keeps his promises. He strives for success in all of his work. He is a man of integrity and honor and is a blessing to all around him. Kevin has an optimistic and positive outlook on life and he carries that into our home. We don't have to wonder what mood he will be in when he comes home from work because we know he will be smiling and happy to see us all! In everything he does, he is one who strives for love, acceptance and peace.

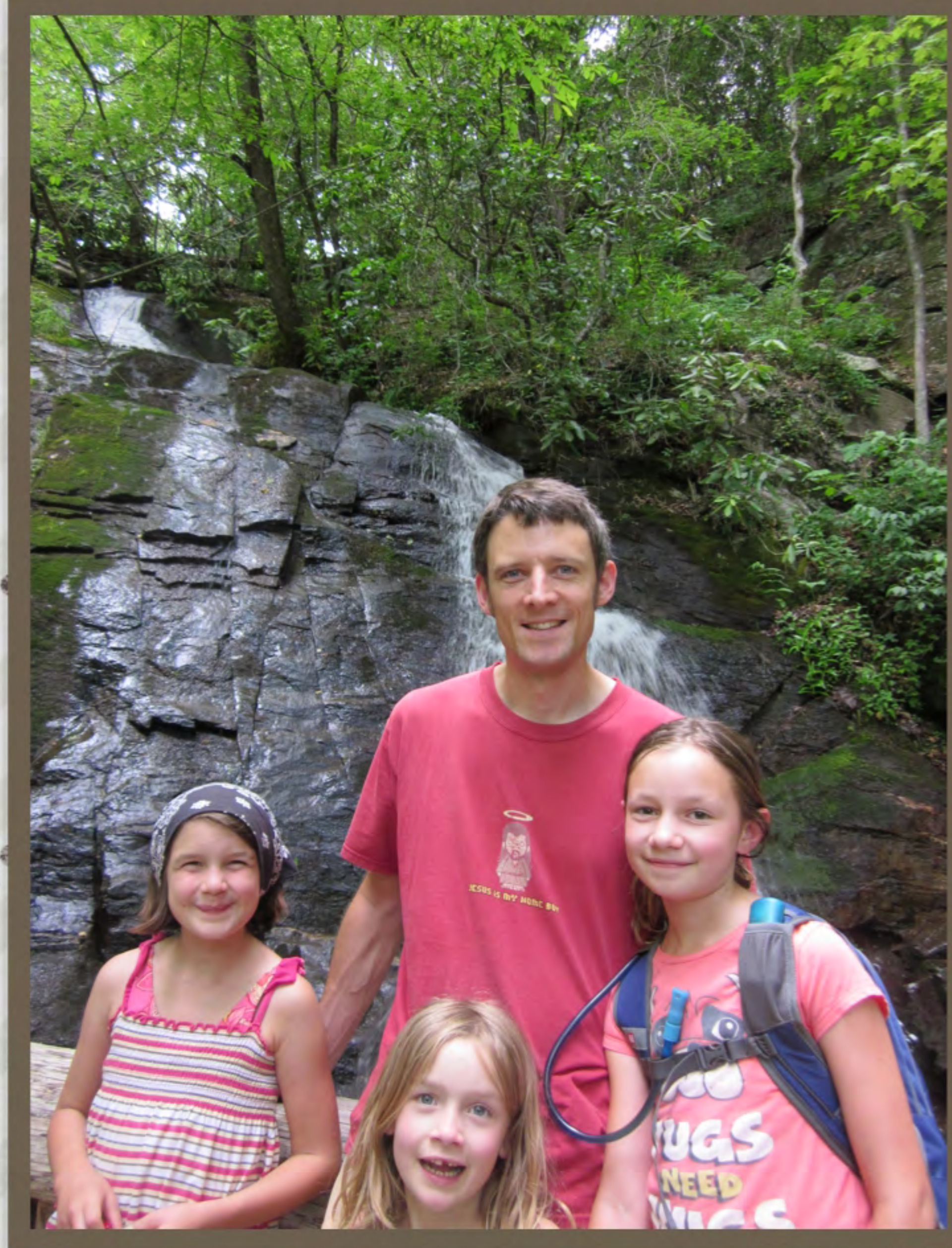
Kevin provides well for our family. He provides love, affection, grace, and fun, as well as meeting all of our physical needs. He works hard for our family, and seeks God for wisdom every day on how to lead us and care for us well.

Kevin is adventurous! He loves to be outdoors, travel, and experience new cultures. Some of our favorite times with our children are spent going for walks, discovering new cafes, drinking coffees and hot chocolates, enjoying yummy treats, and having fun.

Kevin is an incredible father. Our children know that they can trust him completely. He is so patient and kind, and actively engages with our children. He is very affectionate and gives great hugs! Anytime I see him with a sleeping baby or toddler in his arms, I am amazed to see how they respond to his quiet, peaceful nature. I love watching him sit with the girls, or our friends' children, reading books, coloring, or playing lego. He gets right down to their level, sitting on the floor to engage in whatever activity. He loves wholeheartedly, he forgives quickly, and he makes things fun!

Any child that joins our family will be blessed to call Kevin "Daddy"!











# Our Lives Together



When we met it was definitely “love at first sight”. It was Sept 1995 and we had travelled from different sides of the globe to attend a six month Christian discipleship school in the middle of the English countryside. We met each other on the first day while passing on the staircase and life would forever be the richer because of that moment. The school didn’t allow dating, so we spent every spare minute with each other forming a lifelong friendship. As it became increasingly futile to deny what God was creating between us we were given special permission to pursue that relationship. Our first date was on Valentine’s day 1996 in London when we went to the local pub.

Following that school Christina went home to California for the summer and in a world before email we mailed a letter to each other every single day for 10 weeks. We were engaged later that summer and married in Bath, England in May 1997. Our wedding took place in an old Art Deco movie theatre surrounded by friends and family from all over the world.

We moved to USA at the end of 2009 and celebrated our 15th wedding anniversary in 2012. We have 3 beautiful children, Grace, Rose and Pearl and we can’t wait for all that the future holds for us. We love having adventures as a family; moving countries, long camping road trip vacations, picnics at the zoo, filling our house with laughter and friends, sleeping under the tree on Christmas eve, daddy daughter dates, bike rides at dusk, family games nights on the Wii, or afternoons on the carpet playing lego together.

Our lives are always packed full of love, but there is definitely room for one more!



# My Wife Christina

My wife Christina is the most selfless, sensitive person I know. She is forever laying down her desires and plans for the good of those around her and no one more than for her children. Sensing that our girls needed extra security after moving them here from England she embarked on home schooling. Spending her free time preparing and teaching them every day just so that they might benefit from that individual time and contact with Mom.

Children are drawn to her; it is unbelievable how babies she has never met will feel immediately at ease in her arms. Toddlers who have never left their parents will come and be at peace around her. I am continually in awe of how she exudes a maternal spirit in all that she does and how she is fueled by spending time around children, it is what she lives for!

Christina is the person I most want to be with in the world. The only person I can share everything with. She is so humorous in ways that she never sees which makes her even funnier. She is a truly unique person, loving, kind, compassionate, perfectly equipped to be a mom. I am so proud of her, so glad she is my best friend and wife.

Christina is a 'home builder'; she doesn't give herself enough time for the projects she cares about because she is cooking dinners from scratch every night, sewing clothes with and for the girls, creating crafts for Christmas, hosting parties and baking cakes for everyone's birthday. She creates an atmosphere in our home where all people are welcome and once in the door most people feel comfortable staying a while.

She has worked in a kindergarten, as a chef and a waitress. She helps lead the kids work at our church. But right now she is definitely a full time Mom, teacher and friend to our children. If chosen I have no doubt that your child will be loved unconditionally and deeply by Christina.









# Our Children

*Grace* is 12 years old. She is the quietest of the three, she is learning ballet and loves diving into a good book or movie. Grace can be shy and introverted, but when she is confident in her situation she turns into a natural leader with a massive heart of compassion for others. Our friend's young children are all drawn to Grace. She is their role model and such a great child minder. Just like her mom she will happily sacrifice her time and desires to care for a group of toddlers. She is a hard and diligent worker, an absolute pleasure to have in our family.

*Rose* is 10 years old, very musical, artistic and outgoing. At all ages Rose has been the child that will make friends wherever she is. Other kids just seem to be drawn to her and she quickly becomes the party leader. She has a strong sense of humor and a desire for outdoor activities, but still it is through music and creativity that she expresses herself best. Rose is learning the piano as an outlet for that creativity and has spent time being mentored by established female artists from our church. Rose also loves to spend time caring for other small children, she is very passionate about animals and the stranger the better!

*Pearl* is 7 years old, despite being the youngest, in many ways she has the strongest character of all three. She is fiercely independent, but balances this with the strongest need for close physical affection from her family. Pearl is the wildcard and joker in the pack; we never know what is going to happen next with her. She often has those around her lost in laughter.

This year Grace and Rose joined a Christian school where they are taught in regular classes 3 days a week and work from home the other two. Pearl was still eager for more time with Mom so she continues to be homeschooled, spending one day a week at a Christian enrichment school.

All three of them are desperate to meet the newest member of their family. This is something they have desired and prayed for over a long time.









# Our Family



Our situation is fairly unique with a small extended family spread around the globe. Our girls have always been very close to Kevin's parents who lived close to us in England and have been a constant in their lives. Leaving them behind to move to USA was the toughest thing by far. But they have made the effort to travel here every year to spend extended time with the girls. We skype with them most weeks and they are always emailing back and forth, so that relationship is as strong as ever. Kevin's elder sister is married and lives in England. She has two girls of similar age to Grace and Rose.

Christina has a grandmother and uncle remaining in California. Her parents immigrated to New Zealand 12 years ago and were swiftly followed by her sister who is now married with one son. Despite the distance there is frequent contact over skype and by email

Our children have always known a very close and large group of 'extended family' friends intimately involved in their lives and ours. Some of these friends have been around since before they were born and are true uncles and aunts to them. 'Family' language is often used to describe churches, but we have never experienced before a community of friends that are as supportive, compassionate, welcoming and caring as these guys. Help or support is always right around the corner. At Thanksgiving we regularly host 20-30 friends at our house for a feast. Our friends routinely invite our kids out for special treats, sleepovers, shopping trips, and coffee dates. It is like they have a host of older cousins just waiting to pour love over them while also being surrounded by a tight knit group of their peers wherever they go.

Our family traditions include extended camping vacations, with time spent in national parks, as we are determined to explore this country with our children. As members of the zoo we often spend Sunday afternoons visiting our favorite animals. Summers are spent at the pool, either at friend's houses or the community facilities. Cold or wet weekends are often spent baking cookies and playing board games with sometimes a kitchen dance party thrown in for good measure.

On Christmas Eve we gather to share the Christmas story, pray and then the kids are allowed to stay up as late as they want watching movies with sleeping bags under the tree. Christmas is spent opening stockings in the morning, cooked breakfast, church and then an afternoon of gift giving and walking the dog before a big meal.







# Our Home and Community



Our house is of a raised ranch style and is incredibly deceptive as it looks just like a cute little 2 bed home from the street and then people can never believe how much space we have inside. The top floor is definitely the social heart of our home. You enter through a large dining room that is always busy between kids doing homework, creating crafts or drawing. We also regularly get together for board game sessions with family and friends. Not forgetting of course meal times; it is a core value that we always share meals together as a family. The dining room leads directly into an open kitchen and from there into the lounge. We love to cook and fill our house with friends, so this area of the house is always full of good smells, warmth and laughter.

There is a raised deck adjoined to the lounge which overlooks the back yard, but it is in the lounge where the real fun happens. It is very typical for the girls to hijack this area, using the piano and keyboard to create a new musical production, or a dance performance, or simply turn it into a store or lego city. And in the summer the front step is definitely the place to go for ice cream.

The basement is finished and includes a Movie/Games area and walk out access to the back yard. In total there are 4 large bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms. Our house is also home to Eddy our 5 year old Labradoodle, Amira the Rat, 2 Beta fish and a tropical fish aquarium.







# Our Future





Our plans for the foreseeable future are to remain in Kansas City. We feel extremely settled and at home here. Our church community is a strong factor in our desire to stay because we consider them to be an extension of our own family. Most people within the community are at similar points in their life journey, having young families with many babies and children in and around our lives. We are excited to continue walking out this life journey with them. We were also recently commissioned as church leaders and Kevin is the chairman of the church stewardship board.

As committed Christians, living this out in our community is at the core of who we are as a family. God is central to our present and future. We believe that the Bible gives the best handbook and guide for raising children and teaching them how to act and respond to the challenges of life. We can therefore think of no better way to raise our children.

In England, all three of our girls spent time in the public school system. Moving to the United States afforded us an opportunity to do something we had always dreamed about: to take some time to homeschool our girls. For the past two years, all three of them have been homeschooled full-time. This last year Grace and Rose moved into a local Christian school. Our intention is that all of our children will transition into the 3 day a week Christian school where they will stay until the end of High School. This school runs K-12 and currently has over 200 students. In our opinion they have created a unique environment of encouragement and support within the context of a quality education. We are confident that our children will develop strong positive friendships throughout this time and that they will also exceed academically while having every opportunity to grow in character and gifting.

If our children express a desire to continue onto college we will support them with every resource available to us, be it emotional or financial. We see the need in this generation for children to attain a high quality education and also for them to have the opportunity to gain that life experience. However we believe that the bigger need is for our children to be supported in the pursuit of their dreams and goals; whatever those may be.

We would like to thank you for reading our profile. We have so much respect for you and are praying for you during this time of decision making about your child's future. If you should choose us to parent this child, we want you to know that we will always celebrate and remember this moment as a wonderful part of our family's story. We will forever share with our children about the selfless and loving sacrifice you have made to give this child the best life possible. We will remember to pray for you often, and we will always consider you a part of our family.

*God Bless You, Kevin and Christina*

