

ELIZABETH



Our thoughts are with you as you decide what is best for your child. We appreciate how much you love this child as you consider your next steps. If you select us, we want to be there for you. We hope to develop a meaningful relationship with you if you wish.

Why we chose adoption

Before getting married, we dreamed of a family with children. After trying for several years, we discovered we are unable to have biological children. For the past three years we have enjoyed every moment of parenting our son, Maxwell, adopted in 2015. We both continue to be excited about adoption and mindful of its challenges. We strongly feel that the relationship and bond we develop with our child is independent of any genetic link.

Elizabeth and Jim

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iving near St. Paul, Jim is a research scientist in agriculture for the University of Minnesota. Elizabeth is a high school science teacher and loves working with diverse and energetic youth.

Jim is optimistic and adventurous, while Elizabeth is loving and open-minded. We met as Freshman in college chemistry, little did we know we had chemistry together! Our relationship started as best friends and has grown into a fun, fulfilling marriage. We have built a loving, warm life together.

The addition of our son, Maxwell, has been the greatest joy and gift to us that we could have imagined. We love the quality time our family spends together with evenings at the park followed by bedtime stories. We are excited at the prospect of growing our family and welcoming another little one into the love and joy this family shares.

ABOUT OUR EDUCATION Turnella

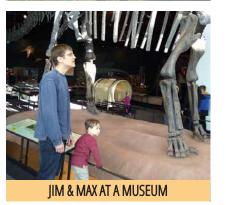
im studied abroad in Tanzania while Elizabeth studied abroad in Nepal and those experiences fueled our love of travel and other cultures. From scuba diving in Mexico to spending days on the beach of Lake Superior pushing sand around with Maxwell to backpacking in the Grand Canyon, we often seek out new adventures. We love sharing new places with Maxwell and hope to do so with another child.



WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME A CHILD INTO OUR HEARTS AND ARMS!



ELIZABETH & MAX AT THE CABIN



A SUCCESSFUL SCUBA DIVE

WHAT WE LOVE

We are very active and love to find fun activities:

zoos, museums, parks and time at the cabin. We both prioritize exercise and enjoy working out together. Jim plays the Native American flute. Elizabeth loves to cook.

Nature and Cabin: We

share our love of our outdoors/nature with our child while hiking, swimming and camping. Weekends at the lake cabin are spent with family and friends swimming, boating, building sand castles with the children or just sitting around the fire.

MEET MAXWELL

singing and stories. He has lots of his own other children. He and his daddy love to "drive" the car and squirt each other with the hose. He also loves baking with Mommy and adventures to the science and children's museums. Maxwel



ENIOYING THE WINTER WONDERLAND

Ofim says ELIZABETH IS...

Loving: She finds joy in doing little things for others, such as caring for ailing grandparents or teaching Max his colors. She is a patient, loving mother to Maxwell. She makes delicious meals to host our friends and family. Increasingly those get-togethers center around the growing number of children in our greater family.

Encouraging: She is enthusiastic in helping others reach lifelong dreams. She has supported me through years of research and schooling. Her students receive generous letters and recommendations.

Adventurous: Despite a fear of being under water, she learned to scuba dive - which we love to do together when possible. I planned an ambitious 'honeymoon' trek in the Grand Canyon in January and Elizabeth triumphed.

Thoughtful: She surprises me daily with small things. From small gifts to shoulder rub after a long day, she finds ways to make sure I am appreciated.



FUTURE BIG BROTHER, MAX



WE'RE BEST FRIENDS!

OUR PROMISE paren

- → Unconditional Love
- → Spirituality and Christian faith
- → Openness about their adoption
- \rightarrow Your important role in their life
- → Financial support to pursue higher education
- → Encouragement of their big goals and dreams



WE LOVE SKIING ADVENTURES

Elizabeth says JIM IS...

Generous: He loves to give his time, talent and gifts to others. On the weekends, he has planned and planted numerous rain gardens or native plantings for friends and family. He can make each person he encounters feel incredibly special.

Passionate: He works to make a difference and inspires others to do the same. Jim brings out the best in people and his sense of purpose is infectious.

Funny: Jim has a fantastic sense of humor and can make anyone laugh! I often hear his and Max's contagious laughter throughout the house. He finds humor everywhere.

Spontaneous: He surprises me and Max with fun activities, flowers or outings to show his love. He is up for adventure at any time.



we are so fortunate to be surrounded by friends and family in Minnesota.

We celebrate holidays and birthdays together. On the weekends in all seasons we spend lots of time together at the cabin.

There are many family traditions including wood splitting and blueberry picking at the cabin, lefse making around Christmas and summer cookouts by the lake.

We are blessed with five nieces and one nephew plus many cousins. Jim's two cousins are adopted and the family is looking forward to embracing more children through adoption.







GRANDMA, MAX AND HIS COUSIN



GRANDPA & GRANDMA WITH GRANDKIDS



JIM AND HIS BROTHERS

where we LIVE

e are so lucky to live in a quiet St Paul suburb in Minnesota. *Near many parks, zoos, museums, great schools and a short drive to the cabin, we love where we live.* We live in a kid-friendly neighborhood, biking around the cul-de-sac. Both of us enjoy gardening - tending to a large vegetable garden, flower gardens and native plants to attract butterflies and bees.

one last THANK YOU



Thank you for taking the time to read our letter. As you decide what is best for your child, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

We have a lot of love to give and your child would be the most important thing to us. We are open, caring and honest people and would love to meet you. We appreciate you considering us.

Elizabeth and Jim

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