

# Chris & Gretchen



## Hobbies & Interests

Christopher likes to read mystery books, play video games. Gretchen likes to read magazines, cookbooks. We enjoy playing board games, card games, taking walks, riding bikes, going bowling, watching movies.

## Occupation

Christopher: Food service worker at a hospital. Gretchen: Home manager for 3 residential group homes.

## Education

Christopher: high school diploma and culinary arts degree. Gretchen: high school diploma and some college.

## Religion or Belief System

Christopher was raised Catholic, Gretchen was raised Methodist. We attend a United Methodist Church. We believe in treating people with love and respect and acceptance of everyone.

## Pets

Two cats.

## Children in Home

None.

## Our Story

We met online through a mutual friend, after communicating online for a short time, we met in person and really had a special connection and started dating. Christopher grew up in Westland, Gretchen grew up in Ypsilanti and Westland. Christopher proposed and gave Gretchen his grandmother's wedding ring. We married in 2017 and Gretchen moved into Christopher's condo in Westland and made their home together. We are excited to welcome a child into our family, making our family complete. A child will be such a blessing to us, we have so much love to share.

## What Brought Us to Adoption

We had tried for over 5 years to conceive naturally, then pursued fertility treatments, which ended with 2 miscarriages. We have always wanted to have children and after all fertility treatments available to us without a successful pregnancy we knew there was a different plan for us. After the 2nd miscarriage we began the discussion of adoption and this led us to the decision that adoption is the path meant for us to follow. Growing our family through adoption would be such an honor for us.

## Our Hopes, Open Adoption & Relationship with Birth Family

We believe that adoption will be a positive way to add to our family. We have increased our knowledge about adoption since we first discussed adoption and have learned so much during the process. We plan on being open and honest with the child about their adoption story and answer any questions they have, and include the birth mother in their life. Open communication and relationships with the birth family as they are an extended party of our family because without them and their difficult decision we would not be able to grow our family.



These individuals have met all requirements of the State of Michigan and Catholic Charities Washtenaw County to become adoptive parents, may fit your situation and are waiting to welcome a child into their home. If you would like more information about this family, please email [pregnancy@ccwcwashtenaw.org](mailto:pregnancy@ccwcwashtenaw.org) or contact Chandra McKibben.

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