

Hello! We are Tim and Corinna. Thank you for taking time to read our letter. We are grateful and humbled that you would consider us as parents for your baby. We know this is a difficult and heart-wrenching decision for you. We admire your courage. It's hard to imagine you could get to know us just by reading this letter. We would be happy to answer all of your questions – in person (We'd love to meet you and find out more about you, too), by telephone, or through Steve and Joel Kirsh. We want to do whatever feels most comfortable to you.

We have a 4-year old little boy named Evan. We have been trying to have another child for about 3 years. A couple of years ago, we had a miscarriage. As we have evaluated our options, we have decided to adopt. It's been exciting to learn more about the process and to think that we could soon be a family of four!



We guess a good place to start is how we met. Both of us were living on our own and starting our careers. We enjoy telling people about our courtship because I pursued Tim, which seems contrary to my reserved personality. Our church was starting a post-college ministry, and we were both interested in helping. We ended up on the same committee, which I was co-leading with another guy. While I was aware that this guy and Tim were friends, I didn't realize that they were practically next door neighbors. Whenever we would talk about who would contact who about meeting times, I would immediately volunteer to call Tim. This seemed odd to Tim, since his friend (and neighbor) could just tell him in person. So, obviously, he knew I was interested in him. Well, we dated for 6 months, were engaged for 6 months, and then got married! It's hard to believe that was nearly 14 years ago.



Our marriage has been awesome. We are truly best friends and work well together as a team. We learned something during our pre-marriage counseling that has helped us in our marriage - it is not Tim's job to make me happy, and it's not my job to make him happy. That may seem odd, but we believe that our hope (and our happiness) is in God alone. We have that same belief

about children. We don't rely on Evan, or any other children we are blessed with, to bring us happiness. Children are a gift and a privilege from God. During this process of trying to have another child, we have really examined our hearts to ask why we want to have another child. We want to make

sure our motives aren't selfish. While we want Evan to have a sibling, we also believe that we have so much to give. I don't mean just material things - but love, security, guidance, fun and grace. We have been blessed beyond anything we have ever imagined. We want to share these blessings with another child. We hope you find comfort in knowing that we would love your baby and raise him or her in a home filled with love, laughter and grace.

Being parents has also been awesome. I still remember the first time we saw Evan. We didn't know we were having a boy, but we had already chosen his name. It was easy to come up with a boy's name. Evan means "God is good", which is something we say often around our house. Parenting isn't easy, and we don't pretend to have it all figured out, but we have approached it as we do everything else....as a team, with a sense of humor and with a lot of prayer.

The first thing we learned about parenting is that you can't take yourself too seriously. We laugh at ourselves all the time. We are analytical people and like to have things pretty well figured out in advance. Well, parenting is one of those things that you can't completely prepare for. Just when we think we have something figured out with Evan, he moves into another "phase", and there we are learning again.



Tim is a wonderful man, a loving husband and an incredible father.

What first attracted me to Tim were his smile and his positive personality. I knew he would make a great Dad, and I was right. Tim is a big kid at heart. Evan looks up to Tim and wants to be just like him. It is not uncommon for Tim to finish mowing the backyard then ask if Evan wants to drive the mower around with him. Evan absolutely loves it. Often times, they will sit in a tree together in our backyard and just play and hang out. They also enjoy wrestling...Evan thinks that Daddy is a much more exciting opponent than me. I guess it's a "guy" thing.



Last winter, we had a lot of snow and Tim built a snow fort in our backyard. This wasn't just any snow fort...it had tunnels and multiple entrances. Evan loved it, and even when Evan went inside to take his nap, Tim was still out there making the fort bigger and adding more tunnels. They enjoyed running around and hiding in the fort as they threw snowballs at each other. When we go to the park,

Tim is the Dad who is running around, going down the slides, and chasing his son. Even before we had Evan, Tim was a kid magnet. We would hang out with our friends and their kids would want Tim to play with them. My nieces still prefer to play with Uncle Tim because he will swing them around, carry them on his back, or willingly lie down on the driveway and let them outline him in sidewalk chalk. Tim

also enjoys playing golf, bowling and reading. Tim and I love to golf together. Before we had Evan, we would travel around and golf frequently. Now, we enjoy golfing as our “date night”. It’s great to have something that we enjoy doing together. We have also started taking Evan along to golf with us. It was funny because on the way to the golf course the first time, we looked at each other and said, “What are we thinking? This could either go really well or be a total disaster.” Luckily, it went well, and we’ve enjoyed watching Evan learn to golf. We look forward to being a “foursome”!

Once we had Evan, Tim made an important decision as it relates to his career. As a sales person, the higher-paying positions are typically those where you cover a large territory and travel a lot. We have seen friends and family that have pursued this and the negative effects it has had on their families. Tim wants to be a Dad that is not only a provider, but is also involved in his kids’ lives every day. As a result, he is working for a local IT firm and travels during the day to surrounding counties. He is home virtually every night and doesn’t have to bring his work home with him. I cannot tell you how much I admire him for this decision. He is so wise. Any child would be blessed to have a father like Tim.



Corinna is a caring, loving person who continually strives to support our family and others. I love to watch her with Evan, whether

they are playing with superheroes (and going through the same battle scene for the 100th time) or pretending to be a customer at Evan’s store. She is so patient and caring. I know that our children will be well prepared for life because of her love and commitment to them.

Corinna also made an important decision about her career when Evan came along. She is a CPA at a local accounting firm. Since Evan was born, she has worked part time. She loves her job, but she is even more dedicated to being a great wife and mother. I don’t know how she does it, but she does an awesome job balancing her schedule.

Corinna enjoys playing golf, reading and cooking. That last one is funny because for a long time, she really hated cooking. Before kids, we would eat out constantly. Our running joke was that our house didn’t need a kitchen because we hardly used it. Over the past few years, she has really grown to love cooking. Now, she will see a recipe on Food Network and will be excited to try it out. At first, she would always have to follow a recipe to the letter, not wanting to deviate from it at all. Now, she will experiment with substituting ingredients, not take exact measurements, etc. She’s come a long way!

Evan is an energetic, fun, imaginative, little 4-year old boy. He enjoys playing outside and swimming and loves superheroes. He has a gentle spirit and is so generous. We have a neighbor with a boy his age, and whenever the little boy comes over to play, Evan cannot let him leave empty-handed. Evan offers him toys or snacks to take home with him. It is so cute. Evan is also a thinker. He often asks us questions that really make us wonder how his little mind works.

Lately, he has been saying, “You know what I was just thinkin’ about?” There’s no telling what he will say next, but it usually involves some well-thought out plan about going to the ice cream store or going out to eat for dinner that night.

We are excited for Evan to have a baby brother or sister. He will make a great big brother. Recently, while picking Evan up at preschool, one of the caregivers was telling another mother that I was Evan’s mom. She came up to me and said that her daughter adores Evan. She is new to his class, and Evan has been so kind and gentle with her. What a cool thing to hear someone say about your son! We are so proud of him.



We live in a great neighborhood, on a cul-de-sac where there are a lot of kids. Even though there are a wide range of ages, they get along so well. In fact, for the past



couple of summers they have organized a summer Olympics event. It’s fun to see their imaginations at work as they come up with events and have medal ceremonies. Then, we end the day with a cookout with all the families. It’s not uncommon for us to be outside playing and go talk with our next door neighbor on the front porch, borrow a cup of some cooking ingredient from someone, or mow each other’s lawn or plow snow from their driveway while they’re gone.

My parents, as well as my brother’s family live about 45 minutes from us, so we see them often. My brother and his wife have two girls, ages 8 and 5, who enjoy

playing with Evan. My parents are retired and absolutely love being grandparents. They take every opportunity to spoil their grandkids. In fact, my mom has a sign in their house that says, “Grandma’s my name and spoilin’s my game!” We think it is so important for our kids to have a close relationship with their grandparents. Tim’s parents are in the process of retiring and moving south to warmer weather. We won’t see them as often but hope to vacation in the area to stay in touch! All of our family and friends are so excited about our adoption and having a new baby to fuss over.

We hope by reading our letter you can see that we don’t take this decision to adopt lightly. We love being parents, and we are so excited to have another child. We will raise your child with the same love and dedication with which we are raising Evan. We know, too, that this is a difficult decision for you. We’re sure you are wondering what the right choice is for your baby. We will always be grateful for you and admire your

courage. Whatever your decision will be, we know it will be the right one because it is made with love. We want your baby to know as he/she grows up that his/her mom made the most selfless decision because you love him/her so much. We will be happy to send you updates and pictures along the way. If you would like to talk to us or even set up a time to meet us, please call Steve or Joel Kirsh at 800-333-5736.

