



*Isabella + Mark*

# Hi there,

WE ARE MARK AND ISABELLA, AND WE ARE EXCITED TO GROW OUR FAMILY THROUGH ADOPTION AGAIN!

## ... *Our Story* ...

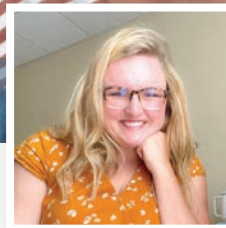
Our family lives in a cute, blue house in Northeast Ohio. We met in our freshman year of college, in 2011, at Indiana Wesleyan University. We became friends pretty quickly and did just about everything together. After two years of dating, we were married in 2015 at our local church in front of our closest friends and family. Becoming husband and wife was one of the best decisions we have ever made. Married life has been incredibly rewarding and full of laughter.

In 2019, we were blessed with our sweet girl Sophie through adoption. Then, our Andrew came to our family in a whirlwind few days in early summer of 2023. Becoming parents to these two has been the greatest gift of our lives. Sophie and AJ have an incredible love for each other that grows each day, and we are so thankful that they have each other to share their experiences and to share with their new sibling to come. We work hard to connect them with their different ethnic heritage and with their families as much as we can.

## ... *Our Beliefs* ...

Both of us were raised in Christian homes and have worked to create a family culture that is centered around our Christian beliefs. Our relationship with Jesus has called us to love others deeply and to serve other people with what we have been given. We are dedicated to raising our children in a Christian home, and we hope that through this, they might come to be loving and kind people who make their little part of the world a better place.





... *Mark* ...

Mark is an athletic trainer which means he helps student athletes with injuries and recovery. The kids at the school love “Coach Mark.” He loves to watch sports and spend time with the kids playing all kinds of made-up games. You can find him watching Ohio State football faithfully during the fall time and helping make Bella’s mini homestead and gardening dream come true.

**5 WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBE MARK:  
LAID-BACK, THOUGHTFUL, PLAYFUL,  
HARD-WORKER, JOYFUL**

... *Bella* ...

Isabella or Bella as most people call her, is a part-time therapist (less than 15 hours a week) and full-time mama. She does in-office mental health therapy for adults and adolescents and loves to come alongside people when they need extra support. Her job makes her a strong advocate for mental and emotional health. The rest (and the best) times of her week are spent loving on and caring for Mark, Sophie, AJ, and their home. Her favorite hobby is gardening and tending her suburban homestead.

**5 WORDS THAT BEST DESCRIBE BELLA:  
EXTROVERTED, FUNNY, EMPATHETIC, PASSIONATE, NURTURING**



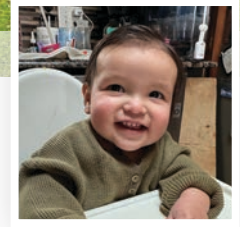


## ... *Our Home* ...

Our little three-bedroom, blue house sits on the end of a quiet cul-de-sac. We live there with our two dogs, Owen and Lewis, and our three cats, Emily, Tyler and Peter. One of our favorite things about our home is the great yard and the woods behind the house. We have a swing set with a double slide where our kids can spend their summers swinging and playing outside. Our yard has several raised gardens for vegetables and cut flower as well as our little flock of chickens for eggs and snuggling. We are blessed to have amazing neighbors and live in a safe area. Our area has several parks, farmers markets, and a huge metro parks walking trail that we enjoy.

## ... *Our Family* ...

Family, both traditional and friends who have become family, is extremely important to us. Our parents, siblings, in-laws, nieces, and nephews are a huge part of our heart. Both of us have truly integrated into each others family and have a special relationship with each person. We are very lucky to have great relationships with in-laws, and we are grateful Sophie and AJ have the deep love of their grandparents and aunts/uncles. If we could write and tell you the wonderful things about every person we consider a part of our support system, we would need a whole other book just for them. These are the people we trust most in life. If there is one way we have been blessed beyond measure in our life, it is in the area of support and love from friends and family.

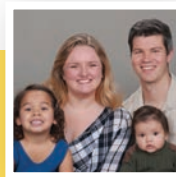


## ... *Sophie* ...

Sophie is the light of our life with her sassy and sweet personality. You should seriously hear her laugh! Sophie is a quiet soul with lots of deep thoughts for a 4-year-old. You will often find Sophie playing dress-up or playing with her cat. Her family and close friends are her whole world. It has been a huge joy as she has begun preschool and watching her enjoy her role as a big sister.

## ... *AJ* ...

Andrew or AJ as we call him, is our sunshine. He started smiling within weeks of being born and hasn't stopped. We can tell that he is going to be a great big brother with a sensitive soul and a love for silliness. His favorite things to do are eat cheese puffs, take long naps, and play with his music toys. When music is playing or Mommy starts to sing, he immediately tunes in and listens.



## *Our Commitment*

WE ARE COMMITTED TO BEING A FAMILY WHO LOVES UNCONDITIONALLY AND INTENTIONALLY. WE ARE COMMITTED TO STICKING OUT THE BAD DAYS, NO MATTER WHAT COMES, AND PUTTING OUR FAMILY LIFE FIRST. WE ARE COMMITTED TO GENTLY GUIDING OUR CHILDREN INTO BEING WHO THEY ARE CREATED TO BE. OUR COMMITMENT TO YOU IS THAT WE WILL SUPPORT YOU IN WHATEVER YOU COME TO BELIEVE IS BEST FOR YOUR LIFE AND THE LIFE OF YOUR CHILD. WE COMMIT TO GOOD COMMUNICATION, HONESTY, AND ADVOCATING FOR YOUR NEEDS. WE COMMIT TO BEING PART OF YOUR SUPPORT SYSTEM. THANK YOU AGAIN FOR TAKING TIME TO LEARN ABOUT US.

*Mark, Isabella, Sophie & Andrew*

## WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONNECTING WITH YOU

If you have any questions for us or would like to speak with us about adopting your child, please contact your case worker at Open Arms Adoptions by calling 330-697-4751 or 614-349-1510.

