



# Derek & Katie

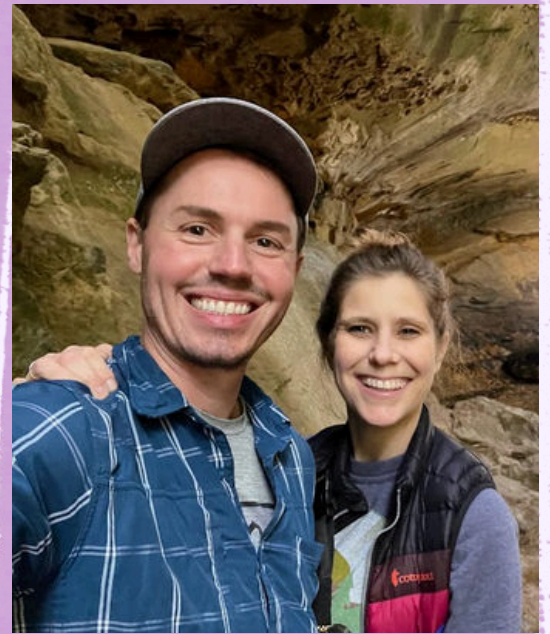
# Hello,

We are Katie and Derek, and have three fun-loving, energetic boys: Leo, Elliott, and Simon. We live in a suburb, centrally located in Columbus on over an acre, with woods and a small stream running through our property. When we moved into this home, we chose it specifically because it is perfect for raising children. It's a quiet street with plenty of neighborhood kids for our children to play with. We are an active family—our kids are always outside playing, exploring, and getting dirty.

We are blessed to be growing our family through adoption once again. In 2019, we adopted our oldest son Leo at birth. The following year, we had our biological son, Elliott, and last year, we welcomed our third son, Simon, biologically. We love having our children so close in age, as they have become best friends.

We have maintained an open adoption with Leo's birth family, sending frequent photos and updates and occasionally meeting up. We feel very fortunate to have a good relationship and are open to that same level of openness again. Even though we have been through the adoption process before, we know that every situation is different. We are honored that you would consider our family and promise to love and support you and your baby the same way we do all of our children.

We understand this is an incredibly difficult decision, and we thank you for taking the time to learn about our family.



# Katie

After we adopted Leo when he was born in 2019, Katie left her marketing job to stay home full-time. She is passionate about motherhood and frequently hosts groups of moms in our home to talk through the ups and downs of being a mother in everyday life.

Even though life is busy with three little ones, she loves staying home with our children and always has fun adventures planned. She loves going with them to local libraries, farmer's markets, playgrounds & parks, and the zoo. Her favorite hobby is cooking. She learned to cook from her dad and has so much fun making meals for the family. She is already teaching our kids the joy of cooking, by having them help make Saturday morning pancakes. Her favorite things to cook are grilled salmon with mango salsa, honey mustard chicken, and beef tacos (a family favorite!).



# Derek

Derek absolutely loves being a dad. If you were to ask him what his primary job is, he would answer, "Raising my kids!" He currently serves on the board of a non-profit that focuses on helping dads to be active in their children's lives. Aside from that, Derek is a passionate entrepreneur.

In 2011 he started a software company that he grew for 10 years, and after successfully selling the business in 2021, he started our family business renting out cabins in Hocking Hills, Ohio. Derek has lots of outdoor hobbies, including cycling, kayaking, paddle boarding, water skiing, backpacking, and hiking.



*Leo*

Leo loves riding his bike as fast as he can, collecting bugs he finds around the yard, and going fishing with his Popop (grandpa). His favorite foods are pickles and popsicles. He's a fantastic big brother and is so good with babies.

*Elliott*

Elliott is a very busy boy and always looking for a project. He loves coloring, hiking, building things, and running fast. He's very curious about mountains and space. Elliott's favorite foods are beef tacos and waffles.

*Simon*

Simon is doing everything he can to catch up with his big brothers. He's rolling all over and trying so hard to crawl. Right now he's putting everything in his mouth and hasn't decided on a favorite food.

## *Our Business, Family, and Traditions*

We started our family cabin rental business in 2022. Derek renovates cabins, while Katie manages marketing and guest communications. Leo and Elliott help with small tasks, and Simon enjoys watching them. Derek's parents and sisters live nearby, allowing cousin playdates and sleepovers. Katie's parents host the older boys for weekend getaways, and her sister often joins for dinner. Our traditions include Taco Tuesday and Friday family pizza night, attending church on Sundays, summer vacations at Lake Michigan, and cutting down our Christmas tree in December.



### **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 texting or calling 330-697-4751 or 614-349-1510