



JOHN + SARAH



## Dear Friend,

To start, we're so incredibly grateful that you'd take a moment to consider our family. We can't possibly imagine the depths of all the emotions you've been experiencing in this season of your life. It would be the greatest honor to be given the opportunity to welcome your baby into our family and hearts. We've been praying for you and the beautiful child you're carrying and have complete peace with whatever you choose. Know that if you choose adoption, your love and sacrifice will forever mark this sweet baby.

With Love,

*John + Sarah*



# Our Story



## in John's words

We first met at a church we were both attending. I (John) had seen Sarah before but was so struck by her beauty (seriously!) that I was way too nervous to say anything to her. After a few creatively planned dates and thoughtful afternoons together, Sarah was convinced she'd never meet anyone like John. We dated for 9 months before John proposed on a dock full of Lilies, which led to a dreamy wedding on a hot summer's evening. **Now 10 years in we choose to love each other more every day.** And, we LOVE to spend time and have fun together: we try to go on a date night once a week, we flirt a lot, and love to make each other

laugh. We have surrounded ourselves with friends and family that encourage, challenge and support us throughout the different seasons of marriage. We have worked to be good communicators who process life on the "same team" in every situation.

We both have a relationship with Jesus and are so grateful for everything He has done for us. We feel so blessed to have our two boys biologically and add Astoria to our family through adoption. **We have so much room in our hearts and home so we are excited to grow through adoption again!**



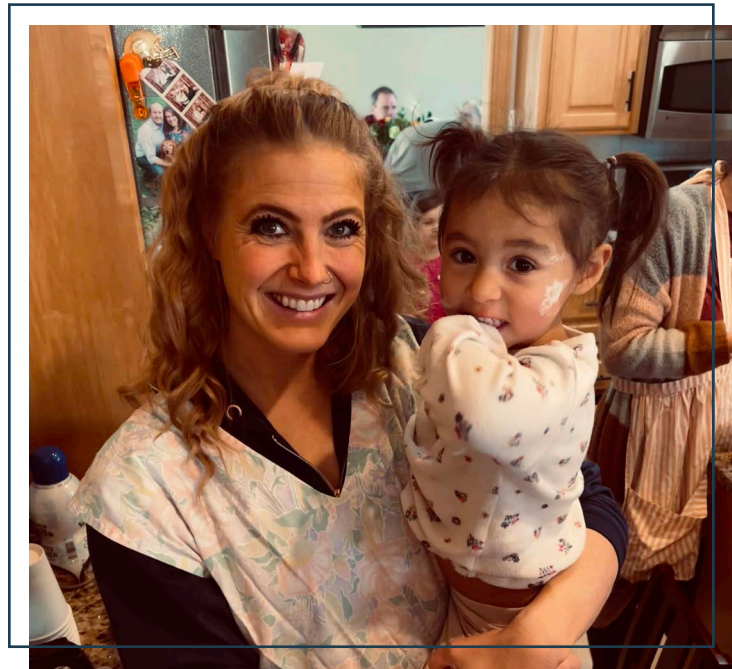
**"We love easily, live life with tons of joy and laughter, and encourage each other like crazy!"**



# Meet Sarah

by John

Sarah is the most incredible person I have ever met. **She is witty and smart, kind and caring, an amazing mother, a highly sought after confidant, athletic and artistic, and she's absolutely gorgeous.** She's the best baker I've ever met, which creates problems when trying to cut back on sugar. She's never lost to me in a game of HORSE and she has never lost a thumb war, ever. **I love that she can be dancing goofy in one moment and then in the next can be helping someone process the depths of who they are.** Sarah is incredibly gifted in counseling and leading others. She has an infectious personality that makes you want to know her more.



## More About Sarah

**Age** 34

**Occupation** Stay at home mom

**Favorite Movie** The Greatest Showman

**Favorite Place** Anywhere outdoors and near water

**Can't Live Without** My family, sunshine, and Cheetos

**My Perfect Day** It would start with sleeping in, donuts and coffee with the family, a summer morning in the pool, and a family hike with picnic in the evening.

"Sarah is so fun yet so deep, is full of life, and loves so well!"

- John

# Meet John

by Sarah

John is the most amazing man I've ever met. He loves and serves our family more intentionally than anyone I know. **He is brilliant, funny, fun-loving, athletic, goofy, and loves Jesus so much.** He wakes our family up in the mornings with ridiculous songs sung in falsetto while flipping pancakes and ends our days with family wrestling time where he pretends the kids can overpower him 3 to 1. **He takes joy in everything he pursues and everyone in his life feels known and loved by him.** He's a horrible dancer but he has no idea and I'll never tell him. Our kids all think they're his favorite and his love for them is incredible. We're all so blessed to call him husband, dad, friend.



## More About John

**Age** 38

**Occupation** Account executive

**Favorite Book** Voice in the Night by Surprese Sithole

**Can't Live Without** Coffee, bike rides, and of course Taco Bell

**My Perfect Day** A drive into the city with the family to grab coffee and donuts before heading to one of our favorite hiking places nearby followed by a family bike ride while the sun sets.

"John loves deeper than anyone I've ever met and makes every room he steps in more colorful than it was before." - Sarah

# Milo, 6

**Occupation** Karate machine (he likes to make up his own karate moves even though he's never had lessons)

**Favorite Place** His back woods where frogs and worms live

**Can't Live Without** Hugs (he loves to give them out and receive them)

**My Perfect Day** Wake up to an already made breakfast of french toast and donuts; go out exploring and talking about the zoo he'll run someday; bike ride to McDonalds where he'll eat 2 cheeseburgers and however many fries he wants before riding back to our house for a bubble bath



# Luca, 4

**Occupation** Professor of dragons & comedian

**Favorite Place** Mall of America

**Can't Live Without** Breakfast sausage

**My Perfect Day** Wake up to a breakfast of sausage and cereal followed by scooter races down the hill; talk about dragons while he builds with his toys before eating orange chicken and going on rides at the Mall of America



# Astoria, 3

**Occupation** Warrior princess

**Favorite Place** Africa (even though she's never been)

**Can't Live Without** Snacks (she'll even eat tons of vegetables as long as they're called 'snacks')

**My Perfect Day** Wake up to a bunch of chocolate pancakes where she can put as much butter and syrup on as she'd like followed by cuddle time, trying on her dresses, a "battle fight", unlimited snacks, a nerf war at her daddy's office, and learning how to ride her bike!



A summer day in the backyard

## Our Home & Community

We're a Minnesota family and we live in a kid-friendly neighborhood. We're close to the city, but still have a very large yard that we use a lot for grass volleyball, baseball, family walks and any outdoor games. Directly behind the house is a fenced in area with a swimming pool and behind that is a large field and woods that extend quite a bit. In the summertime, the kids are able to run around and explore the trails we have in back. And in the winter time, we use a long incline to the backyard to go sledding. Sarah has a knack for making things beautiful, cozy, and peaceful.



A winter's day in MN



Sarah loves to cook!



Our nearby park



Family hike closeby

# Our Extended Family + Friends

Sarah has a super strong relationship with her parents and siblings. Her siblings and their spouses often joke that they are like the family in the TV show Parenthood. They are tight knit and love spending time together, which is often full of laughter. They also have conversations and listen to one another when hurts or disagreements arise, allowing them to come out stronger than they were before. Her parents are amazing grandparents that love our kids so well. Sarah has two older brothers and one younger brother. All are married and have kids so there are a ton of cousins!

John's parents love their grandkids so much and jump at the chance to watch them. Our kids call them "Mimi" and "Marco" (a name randomly chosen by our oldest for no reason). Time together looks like laughter, occasional games, and tons of food. John has a brother and two sisters, all of which are married and have kids, so again lots of cousins! He also has a grandma who just turned 100 years old but has the energy and spunk of a 60-year-old!



Tractor ride with Papa



Ladies on Sarah's side



Best friends



We have a very solid community of friends. Most of these are families from our church that are similar in age and life season to us. One of our best friends was adopted himself. As an African American man adopted into a white family he has encouraged us in the process of adoption and has provided so much great advice that he wished his adoptive parents would have had.

We like to do kid friendly activities (splash pads, playgrounds, swimming, and outdoor games in warm weather; sledding, snowball fights, and indoor crafts in cold weather), talk about deep things that matter in life, and just all around have fun. Keeping with the theme of family competitiveness, we love card games, board games and any type of games.

Birthdays with Cousins



Cuddles with Marco



Luca loves Mimi's doggies



Double date with friends



Dress up time

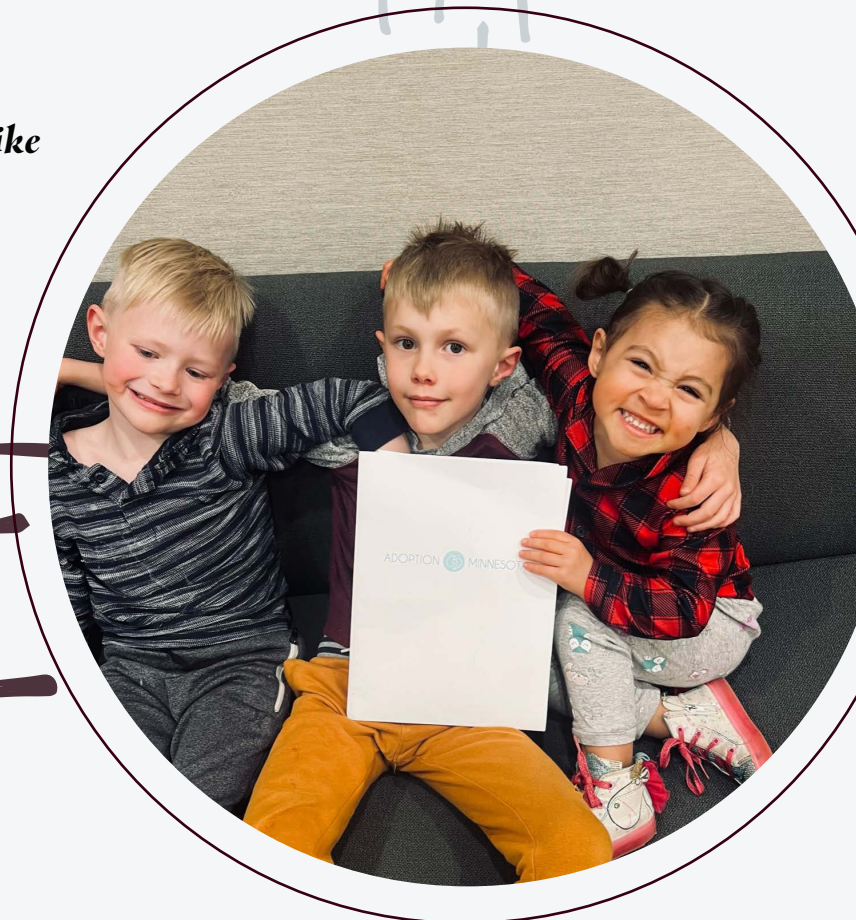


Family hike with friends



# WE PROMISE

- ♦ *to raise our children in a home full of love*
- ♦ *to take joy in who our children were naturally created to be*
- ♦ *to have so much fun with them*
- ♦ *to build them up and encourage them like crazy into what they show interest in*
- ♦ *to hug and kiss them a lot*

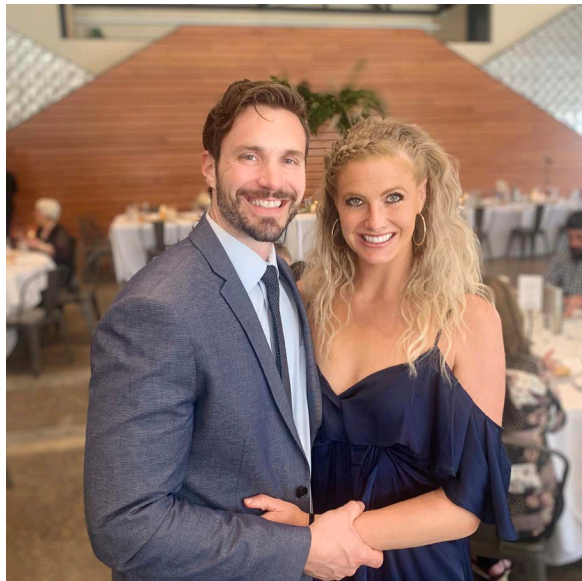


*Home study approved!*

## WHY WE ARE ADOPTING

Sarah has always had a heart for adoption. John was open, but it wasn't something he had to do. After we had our first child, however, John prayed that if God wanted him to have a heart for adoption, He had to supernaturally do it. The next day his mind was transformed and his heart was set on adoption. Fast forward a couple years later and his heart is still bursting for it.

We adopted Astoria in March 2020 and it has been our joy to have her in our family and love on her. It would be an honor and our joy to adopt again.



At a wedding

♦ **John has officiated numerous weddings for friends and family (a few have even been in our home!)**

Mommy and Luca date



- ♦ **John and Sarah go on the same exact date every year around Christmas time**
- ♦ **On weekends and after hours, John loves to bring our kids and their friends to his office for epic nerf battles and freeze tag games**



Nerf battles with friends

- ♦ **We love to take our kids out separately for 1 on 1 dates, which usually involve a sugar rush**
- ♦ **We love our family dance parties. We think our kids already have better moves than John does.**



Mud fight

- ♦ **John and Sarah are very competitive. Neither will let up in a mud fight!**
- ♦ **Sarah loves to go all out on birthdays and holidays for the kids**
- ♦ **Every year on the day after Thanksgiving Sarah's family gets together to make lefse**

Family lefse day



Family hike

- ♦ **Favorite pastimes as a family are frog hunts in the backyard, bike rides around town, dance parties, and tickling/wrestling together**
- ♦ **John and Sarah have an obnoxious amount of Christmas attire that they make friends wear when they come over during the Holidays**

Dressing "up" for Christmas



# Fun Facts About Us



*Thank you...*

We really appreciate the time you've taken reading this profile and considering us as a family for your son or daughter. It is an incredible honor that we do not take lightly. So thank you, thank you, thank you.

*John +  
Sarah*

