

dawn + chris ♥





about us

We met through a group of mutual friends singing karaoke about 12 years ago. Chris noticed Dawn right away and asked his friend about her. Our mutual friend arranged for us to meet again and we were immediately smitten. Chris called Dawn the very next day on her way to work. We knew right away that we had found something special. After about 1 and a half years of dating, Chris proposed to Dawn on the beach in La Paz, Mexico. We were married in October of 2007. Time certainly does fly when you are having fun. We are truly best friends and share all of life's highs and lows and all the mundane things in between as a true partnership. On weekends we enjoy attending church, going to community events and festivals, trying new restaurants, and hosting friends and family for a barbecue or brunch. We are always up for an adventure and love to travel. Some of our favorite spots have included New York City, San Diego, a Caribbean Cruise, Mexico, and Montana. However, we also enjoy the simple pleasures of a yearly trip to Pennsylvania on Lake Erie every summer. We look forward to this time of hanging out at the beach front, fishing and eating ice cream on those warm summer days. Family is the most important thing to us, and at the end of the day, we love being home in our cozy house kissing our kids Good Night. Our home is often full of family, including our parents, siblings, nieces, and nephews, and every one of them is thrilled to welcome a new child of any race, any gender.



Celebrating the marriage of our friends!



Downtown Trolley on Mother's Day



Food Truck Alley



Enjoying a stroll through one of our city's parks



Date night!



who is Dawn

Written by Chris: Dawn is the most amazing wife, and I am truly blessed to have her as my partner in life. She always puts family first and is the best mother to our children. She is very organized and has a great fashion sense. She loves to exercise and ensures our weekends are full of fun activities. She has a personality that is fun to be around and makes friends easily and quickly becomes someone they trust and confide in. She works hard to maintain quality friendships and enjoys getting lunch or coffee with them. Dawn has worked part-time for over ten years so she can ensure she spends as much time as possible caring for the family. She regularly participates in school activities and volunteers for field trips and in the classroom. She takes the time to research the activities for our children's interests, such as sports or cooking classes. She loves to entertain friends and family in our home, and it is not uncommon to have friends or family stop by 1-2 nights per week. Dawn's sacrificial love of others and her dedication to family are just a couple of the reasons that make her the most amazing wife and partner.

who is Chris

Written by Dawn: Chris is the best husband and father a family could ask for. He is a hard worker and always puts his family first. I love that he is equal parts handyman and businessman. He is often found playing in the dirt with the kids. He finished his bachelor's degree while working to provide for his family and is now pursuing his MBA. He has a shining personality and rises to the top in everything he does. God has truly gifted him with an amazing way of connecting with people. He can easily relate to small children, teenagers, the elderly, a CEO of an organization, or anyone in between. He makes me laugh all the time, and I couldn't imagine navigating life with anyone else!

Dawn's Favorites

Marketing Representative

Parks and Recreation

Any great salad! -
Taco, Cobb, Greek salad

Reading, trying new recipes,
shopping, and exercising

Silly bedtime stories
with my dad



Occupation

TV Show

Food

Hobbies

Childhood Memory

Chris's Favorites

IT manager

The Office

A really good burger
and French fries

Hunting, fishing, bowling,
and lifting weights

Saturday morning pancakes
with his dad and camping
with his mom



OUR family + friends

We both have amazing and supportive families. Dawn's mom and step-dad and all 3 of her siblings live within a 15 minute radius. We love doing life together and on the weekends we are often meeting up to swim together or go for ice cream or have a BBQ. We also attend church together on Sunday's. Dawn's older brother has a son and a daughter and they are the oldest of the cousins on her side and just adore all of their younger cousins. Her sister has 2 boys full of energy and joy and her younger brother just welcomed our newest member, another sweet baby boy! All of this group is very supportive of our adoption plan and are very excited to have another child to love on. Chris's family lives about 4 hours from us but we don't let the distance keep us apart for long. We manage to see some portion of his family about every other month and remain very close. Chris's older brother has a teenage son and daughter who are the becoming such incredible young adults! His sister has one daughter who will be attending kindergarten in the fall and is equal parts princess and country gal! His younger brother was recently married and does not have any children yet. Chris's family is very supportive of our plans to adopt and is over-joyed at the possibility of embracing another child!



Chris's brothers



Neighbors and friends celebrating NYE



Mother-son outing playing laser tag



Sunny Sunday's are for cousins and the ice cream stand



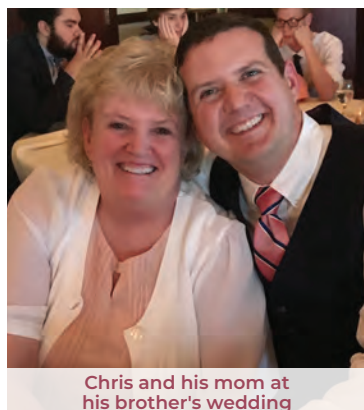
Girls night with Dawn and her sister



Dawn's dad and his favorite son and son-in-laws



Dawn and her sister-in-law in Mexico



Chris and his mom at his brother's wedding



Cousins coloring eggs



Dawn's brother and sister-in-law and their new baby

our KIDDOS

Our Daughter: In 2009 we became parents for the first time and welcomed a beautiful baby girl. She has a tender spirit and is becoming such a wonderful little lady whose kindness always makes us proud. She loves all animals, but cats are her favorite. She loves crafts and reading, and when we check on her at night after bedtime, she is often found asleep with a book in her hand and her kitty snuggled up next to her. She has a special gift in loving everyone she meets and is excited to welcome a new brother or sister.

Our Son: In 2012 after an ectopic pregnancy and a miscarriage, we welcomed our son to the family. He is all boy all the time but has a sweet side that is unparalleled. He is fiercely loyal and loves jumping, climbing, playing dodgeball, baseball, and video games. He is also excited to have a new brother or sister.

Our Cat: Christmas 2017, we decided to add a kitten to our family. Stella has been a real blessing as she immediately bonded with our daughter. Stella has a very shy demeanor and hides when all the cousins come to visit or if there is too much excitement going on! When the house is quiet, and Dawn is at home waiting for our kids to get off the bus, you can hear the familiar sound of the bus's brakes a few doors down, Stella rushes to the door to greet them. She is always with our daughter at bedtime, and it's so sweet to see them together. Our son is an early riser, and every morning, she comes out to the living room with him for a morning snuggle.



our HOME

Our home is located in a very quiet but urban subdivision. What we love most about it are the mature trees that provide shade during the summer and its proximity to our church, parks, and shopping. There are bike trails that run throughout our community, and we enjoy riding our bikes together. Our community is filled with a diverse group of people that include many young families. Our kids are often found in the yard playing with their friends in the neighborhood. We can always call a neighbor if there is any need, big or small, and they are always willing to lend a hand or a cup of sugar. We feel our community is very welcoming and enjoy our life here.

dear birth parent,

What can we say to a woman who is making such a difficult decision to give someone else such a precious gift? Well, we are not sure we have the words, but we will try. First, we want to thank you for taking the time to get to know a little more about our family. We couldn't be more excited to expand our family through adoption. When we look through photos of our life to share with you what we hope to convey in this snapshot is a strong sense of love, laughter, and family with our Christian faith guiding us along the way. Your baby is going to have amazing siblings and so many cool cousins! Our families are so excited to gain a new member, and he or she will be eagerly welcomed by his or her sister and brother as well as Grandparents and Aunts and Uncles!

LOVE,
chris + dawn



why ADOPTION?

Being parents is the greatest joy of our lives. We always wanted to have 3 or 4 children, but after two difficult pregnancies, we decided that expanding our family biologically was not the best choice for us. We feel strongly that adoption is a beautiful way to add to our family. We have a lot more love to give and could not be more excited to add another precious child into our heart and home.