

MIKE + CAROLINE

and Judah too!





hello

*We're Mike, Caroline,
& Judah*

Thanks for taking the time to learn more about us! Our hope is that through this book, you'll get a good glimpse of who we are; the love we have for our family and friends and the space in our hearts to add to our family! We don't know the details of your family, but we can imagine the weight of the decisions you're making. We pray for you and already have so much love and respect for you!

With love,
Mike and Caroline



Why **ADOPTION**

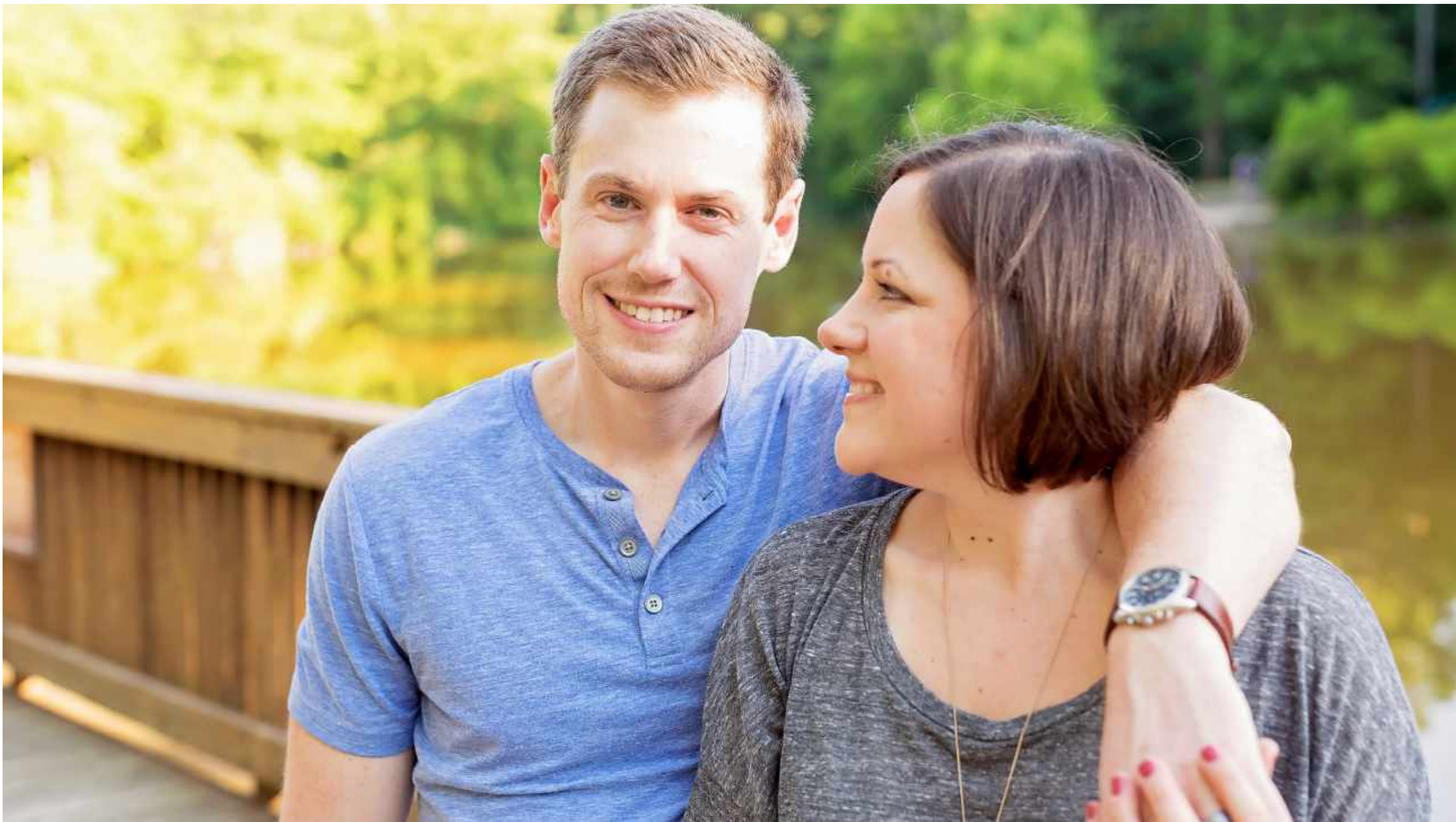
After trying unsuccessfully to get pregnant and experiencing multiple miscarriages, we started the adoption process and became parents to the most amazing kid! Our family didn't just grow by one, his birth family is extended family who we love dearly! Even though we didn't grow a baby in the traditional way, our hearts sure did! We have an open relationship with our son's birth family where we do visits and send many pictures/texts and would love to have the same again.

They will know their adoption story from day one, including the immense love they have from so many (us, their birth and extended families, friends, etc.) We're excited to grow our family through adoption again!

A special Note from Caroline:

I knew one day we'd grow our family through adoption; I worked in the adoption field for a number of years, nannied for two children who joined their family through adoption and have a birth mama in my family. Adoption was always a normal part of my life.





our story

We met more than 16 years ago in graduate school, when we worked at the same hospital. Our first date was a movie night watching *March of the Penguins* (we can't remember who picked that movie, but we didn't pay much attention; we were much more interested in getting to know each other.) We clicked right away and started dating.

Mike proposed a year later. He transformed his living room into a dance floor surrounded by rose petals. It was pretty magical! We got married in July, 2007 in upstate NY (Caroline's hometown). We love being goofy and laughing a lot, being parents, and challenging ourselves to continue to learn and grow.



MEET

Caroline

- + Age: 41
 - + Education: M.A. Counseling
 - + Career: Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
 - + Religion: Christian
-

IN MIKE'S WORDS:

Caroline is loving, loyal, spontaneous, kind, and a great mom! Watching her become a mama, reading to, playing with, and teaching our son has been pretty amazing! She brings energy and enthusiasm to all that she does. Her gifts are many: interior design, crafts, art, and an ability to remember every 90's R&B song. I knew I wanted to marry this girl soon after we started dating and it has been the best decision I've ever made.



INTERESTS:

- + making art
- + reading
- + being outdoors (walks, hiking, etc.)
- + exploring new places, & traveling
- + being a mama - teaching, playing with and watching our son grow
- + eating good food

FUN FACTS:

- + From upstate NY - lets go Buffalo Bills!
- + I LOVE family dance parties - from the alphabet song to some good pop/dance music - we dance to it all!
- + I'm silly & love to laugh, and make others laugh too!





Meet **MIKE**

- + Age: 39
 - + Education: M.A. Counseling
 - + Career: Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
 - + Religion: Christian
-

IN CAROLINE'S WORDS:

Mike is kind, wise, athletic, smart, and LOVES being a dad! He's king of tackling/wrestling, racing, playing ball, and tickle monster. He's laid-back and brings a sense of peace and comfort to our family. He is perfectly content chilin' with our son in front of the fireplace or racing him down the street. He's a HUGE sports fan and loves to teach Judah all the sports! He's a hands-on, active daddy who cuddles just as much as he plays hard!



FUN FACTS:

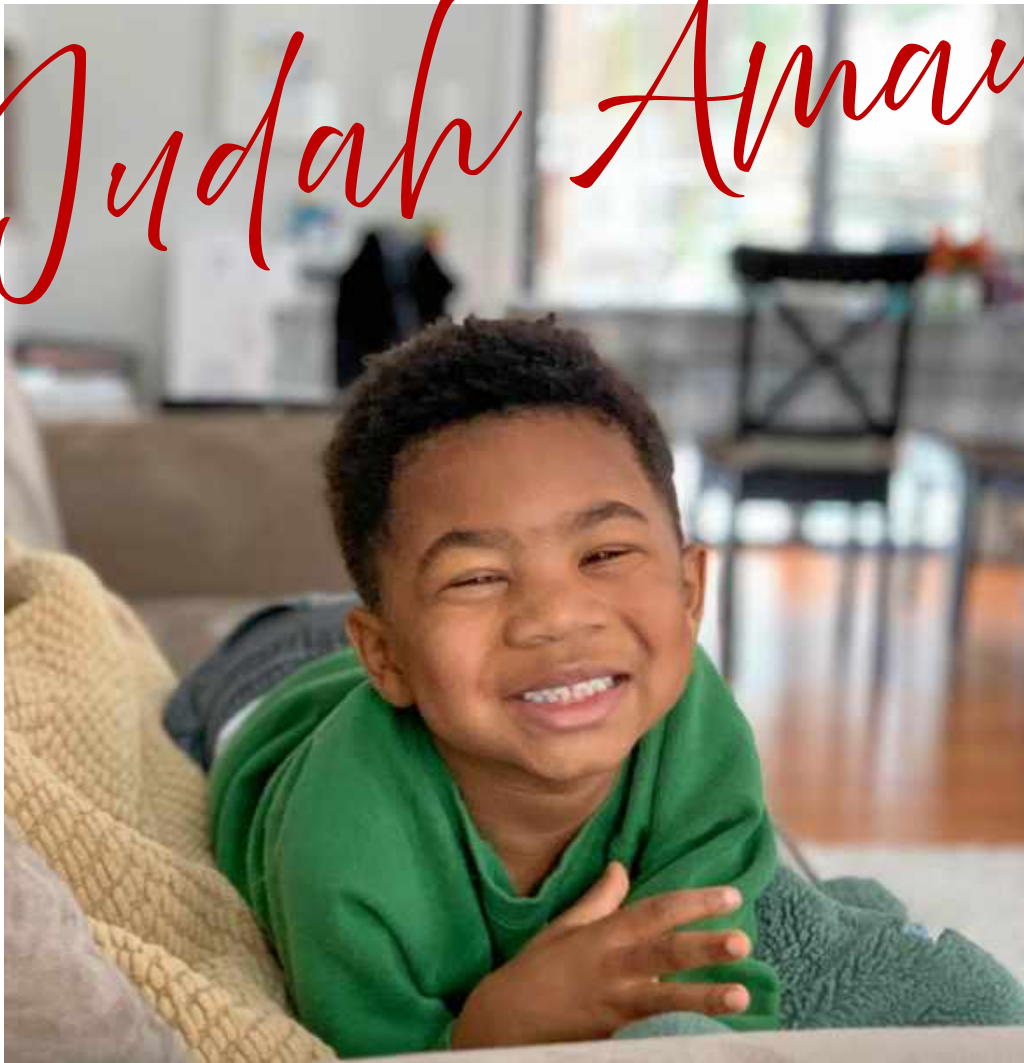
- + from Virginia
- + I Appreciate a balance of fun & peace and calm
- + I Love being a daddy - especially playing ball (all the sports), wrestling, and racing

INTERESTS:

- + the outdoors & working out
- + hiking and biking
- + reading
- + following sports (especially Michigan Wolverines - Go Blue!)
- + spending time with my family!

Judah Amayri

I'M 4 1/2 YEARS OLD!



He's kind, strong, super smart and he CAN'T wait to be a big brother! He helped prepare his sibling's room by sharing his books, stuffed animals, and toys and thinks about them often when shopping: "I need to get another one for my baby sister or brother!"



I love playing outside & practicing my Ninja Gymnastic moves!



Favorite Superhero:
Black Panther



We're very intentional about honoring our son's ethnicity, race, & culture!

It's important to us to make sure we do all we can to create an environment that encourages a positive racial development.



Judah & his Barber: Golden!
*We also have a great salon specializing in girl's ethnic hair!

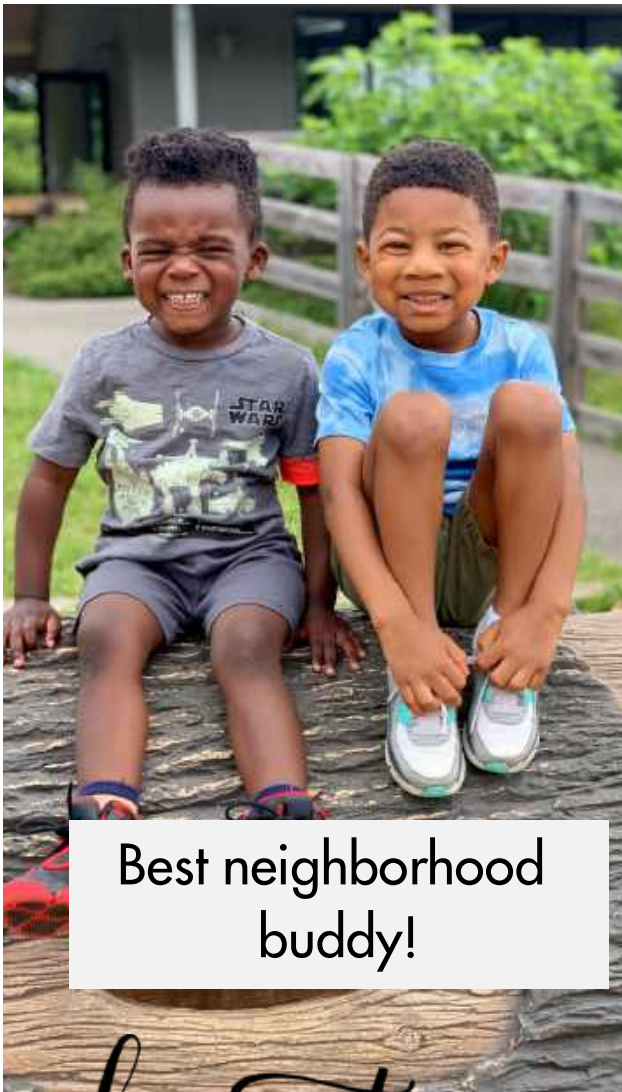
Mentors who are racial mirrors

Very diverse Preschool - focuses on quality education & maintaining representation in staff & everything they do!

African American medical professionals

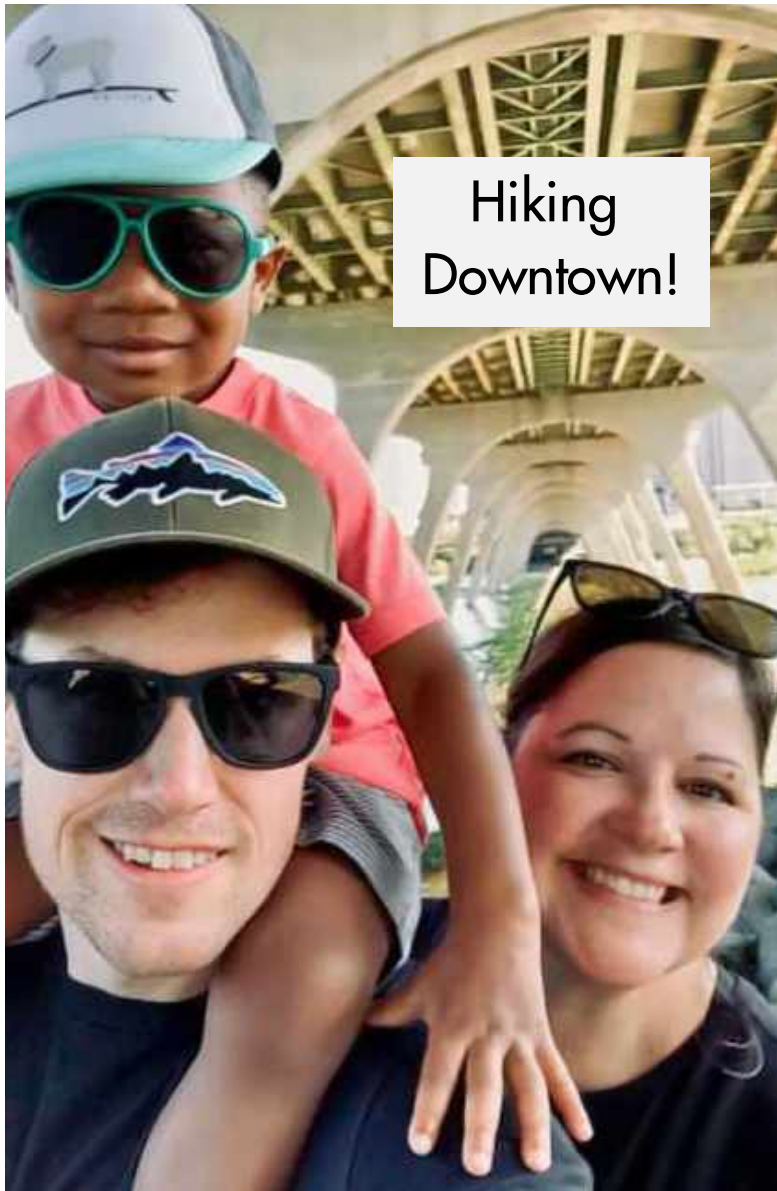


Date night



Best neighborhood buddy!

fun times



Hiking Downtown!



Pool Fun!



The "Turtle park"



Halloween



Hiking



Our 1st Garden



Bike ride!

Caroline's Family



Cousin fun at grandma & papa's fire pit!



Float rides with Aunt TiTi & mommy at grandma & papa's pool



Tractor rides with papa

- + Super close
- + Loud & silly
- + Annual summer trips to Grandma & Papa's house in NY



Batman day with papa

Mike's family



Annual beach trip



Cousin Fun at family's lake house



Grammy & Grandpa

OUR HOME



- + Diverse, family friendly neighborhood
- + Annual holiday events & block party with food trucks
- + Bike/walk to park & playgrounds

We love our neighbors who've become some of our closest friends! Most days we ride our bike to the cul-de-sac and play with our friends.



Future nursery



Playroom

OUR COMMUNITY



in OUR FAMILY



- + Our FAITH is an important part of our everyday life, it brings value, purpose and strength.
- + We strive to show LOVE to each other & others. Love brings dedication, passion, and happiness to our home. We apologize and forgive, show kindness, and extend gratitude in our home.
- + We always strive to LEARN & GROW, strengthening our confidence in new things and appreciating different perspectives/experiences.



THANK YOU
for taking some time to get to know us!





