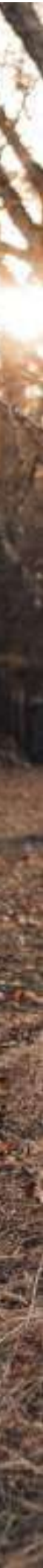


*Krista and Carey*







*Hello - Hey! Hi,*

Honestly, what greeting is appropriate to use for such a short, complex letter from people you've never met? Our names are Carey and Krista, and we want to thank you from the bottoms of our hearts for taking the time to consider us as a potential adoptive family!

We recently came across this quote and we find it holds so much raw truth: "Becoming a mother leaves no woman as it found her. It unravels her and rebuilds her. It cracks her open; takes her to the edges. It's both beautiful and brutal, often at the same time." While we cannot begin to imagine the journey, you are brave enough to embark on, and the ways that motherhood is challenging or changing you, we want you to know that you are not alone in it. We are praying for you and your child through every difficult decision you face, and we want nothing but the best for you both regardless of what your decisions may be.

While we may be strangers today, we hope that we are able to provide you with a sense of comfort as you read through this book, and that we are able to give you a glimpse of who we are as people, as parents, and as a family!

We want you to know how genuinely excited we are for the possibility of growing our family through adoption, and we are so humbled you are choosing to use your time to consider us as an option for an adoptive family.

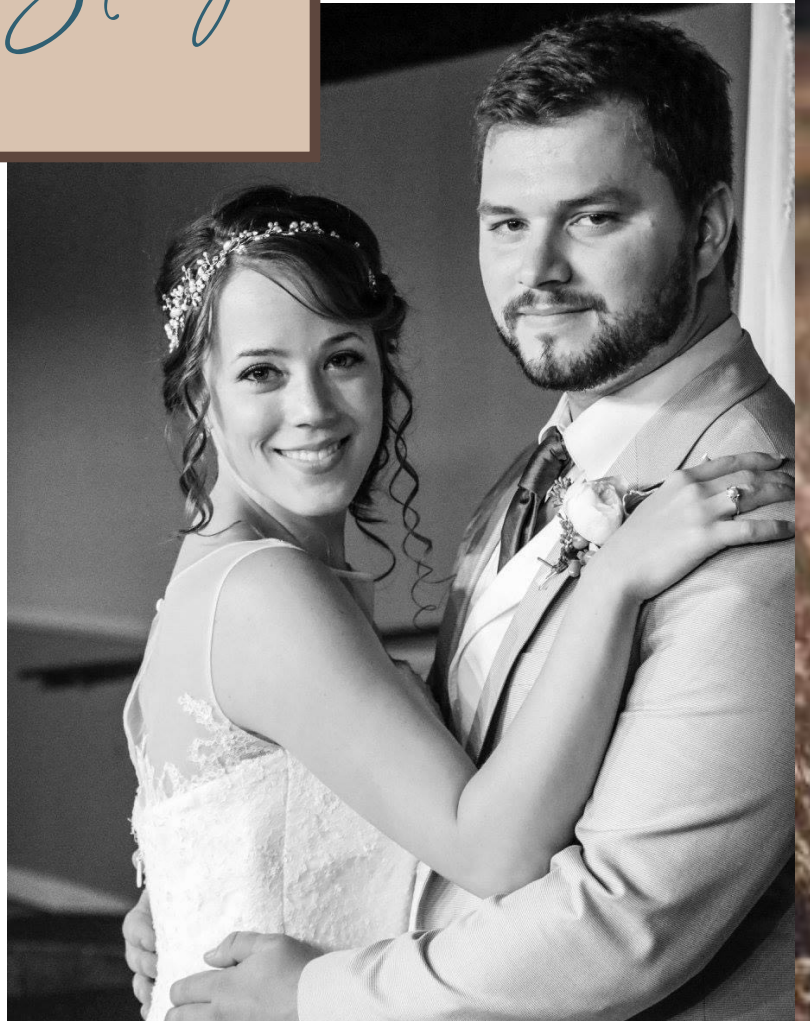
It is with grateful hearts that we close this letter, as we are so appreciative of your time. We will continue to pray for you and your child and wish you all the best.

*Sincerely,  
Carey and Krista*





*Our Story*



*Believe it or not,*

we met on a blind date set up by a mutual friend of ours at a local bowling alley! When we met, I (Krista), went to shake Carey's hand and he moved in for a huge hug. He's had my heart ever since, and while our relationship is stronger than that day, we are seemingly NO better at bowling!

We went on to date for five years and have been married for eight. We have had the opportunity to grow up together in a lot of ways, especially once we started to raise kids together. We are so excited to be on this journey of life together and can't wait to see where the rest of it leads us.





## Meet Krista

My name is Krista; sometimes Carey calls me Faith (my middle name). I used to be a registered nurse but after my youngest son was born, I made the transition to be home full time with my kiddos. Realistically, I chauffeur, cook, and clean 24/7. But I do love to paint, go to the gym, sing (in the shower) and dance! I am a little silly, a little serious, and probably everything in between depending on what I am doing.

I love to travel and have a heart for mission work. My passion for people goes beyond the nursing field. I've been to El Salvador and Honduras several times on mission trips, one being a medical mission trip. I also know a little sign language! Carey and I have a "secret handshake" that involves the "I love you" sign in American Sign Language. I love "big" with my whole heart, and my kids and family are my entire world!







## Meet Carey

My name is Carey. A nickname that has stuck over the years is Care Bear, given to me by my childhood best friend (We are still friends to this day). I am 33 years old. Krista and I actually have birthdays that are one day apart which make it fun to celebrate together every year.

I am self-employed and have run my own gutter protection and home improvement business for several years. In between work I like to spend time with my family playing games or watching movies. I like to play pool, play guitar, and grill out. I (not so) humbly admit that I make a delicious steak!

My kids have been known to convince me to jump on the trampoline quite a bit, as well, so I may have some newly acquired gymnastic skills! I love the Lord and my family, and being a father is my favorite job that I have.







## *Krista by Carey*

As I watch the way Krista plays with our children and nurtures every “boo-boo” (and believe me, 3 boys mean a lot of boo-boos), I’m reminded I couldn’t ask for a better wife or mother to my children.

*She is selfless in her love, as she puts our needs before her own.*

She will be the first one to fight for you and advocate on your behalf, while at the same time being your shoulder to cry on when you need someone to listen to you. She is beautiful in all ways: from her smile to her compassion for taking care of people. I admire the sweet, silly, and loyal mother and wife that she is...She also puts on a great dance show in the kitchen while she is jamming out to her music while she cooks and cleans!

## *Carey by Krista*

Carey loves and provides for our family in the most indescribable ways. He is an entrepreneur and has been running his own successful business for several years. This gives him a flexible schedule, allowing for his presence at any school functions, family vacations, and even at home when the children are sick. He is very involved in everything that they do, and he is very supportive as a husband when I need extra help! While he has mastered and loves all things “boy dad” (ie: playing in dirt, wrestling, and riding four wheelers), every ounce of me knows how wonderful of a dad he would be to a little girl, too, if given the opportunity.

*I know this by the way he loves and takes care of me.*

He is attentive and takes the time to do little things like braid my hair, spoil me with treats, and makes sure I feel cherished and beautiful every chance that he gets. He has even painted my nails a time or two, but don’t tell him that I told you! His family is his whole world, and he would do everything in his power to always protect us and love us with his whole heart.



# Jacob - Joshua - Jesse



We have three biological boys: Jacob (6), Joshua (5) and Jesse (2). They are just as rambunctious as they are cuddly!

They have so much love for one another and still have so much more to share with another little sibling. They love the idea of being big brothers again.

Our oldest two boys go to a private Christian school close to our home. The boys especially love the animals they have at their school as “pets”, and the friendships they have been able to make.



**Jacob** is in first grade and loves to go to ninja (gymnastics) class! He is very methodical and has an engineering type mind. He loves to build projects and create things!



**Joshua** is in pre-k and loves to swim and eat sweets. He is very shy upon meeting, but quickly turns to the goofball of the group. He likes to make you laugh.



**Jesse** is only 2 but he has a personality as big as his brothers! He likes to copy his big bros and go wherever they go! He is calm and “go with the flow”.

All of the boys have wild and free personalities, but they LOVE to LOVE. They each snuggle big and treasure family time above all! They always want to do things as a family, no matter what it may be.





## *Finding our Forever Home*

We moved to our “forever home” in May of 2022 (fun fact: after living in a camper as a family for about 6 months)! Stability is important to us, and we wanted to make sure the children had a place they called “home” with all of their memories growing up.

We live on 5 acres in an “up and coming” rural city. Our home has 5 bedrooms, providing us with ample room to not only house our family, but to welcome guests at any point! We are fortunate to be able to have the space to host many gatherings for our family and friends. When we welcome another child into this family, we have room for him/her to have their own room and bathroom! (If it’s a girl, I am sure she will appreciate the space from her “stinky” brothers! haha) The boys have a favorite climbing tree on the property! We also hope to get a few small cattle/farm animals in the future to roam in the backyard. We have an in-ground pool and hot tub in our backyard where the 2 oldest boys have learned to swim. They love to jump in and see who has the biggest splash, have swimming races, and especially loves when Carey throws them around in the air while playing.



## Life in our active community

We love that our house is nestled where it is, providing the feel of country but close enough to our city (15 mins)! Our community is young and active and has much to offer children! Family nights out consist of our going to our favorite Mexican restaurant so the kids can eat all the cheese dip their hearts desire.



We love the church family in our community and have been attending for several years. The church is about 20 minutes from us, while the kids' private school is about 15 minutes from home but only a couple minutes from Carey's office! It has been a wonderful town to raise our children in, and we look forward to raising another in our forever home.

## Our day-to-day life

includes both Krista and Carey taking the boys to school as a family and getting coffee after dropping the older two boys off at school. Our go to if we don't make it at home is Dunkin Donuts- usually Jesse gets a treat while we are there too! Carey then goes in to work while Krista stays home with their youngest child. While everyone is away, Krista and Jesse get lots of time to snuggle, do flashcards, run around outside, eat snacks, and play games! Krista has been teaching him all things baby, so that he knows how to be "Mommy's Big Helper" when the time comes to introduce another little one to their time at home before getting the older boys. He is ready and excited to read with, rock, and help feed bottles to his new sibling, and he talks about "baby" all the time in anticipation! Once Jesse and Krista go pick up Jacob and Joshua from school, the afternoon usually involves playing outside, doing homework, and studying, eating dinner as a family, and then bedtime! In certain seasons the kids have extracurricular activities like cross country or "Ninja Training". Occasionally we get to play a family game if time allows, and in this season of life that's usually Candy Land or Uno. They do like a good round of "charades" too and have gotten quite good at acting :)





# Our Pets

Our family has two pets: a goldendoodle dog, Nala Bear, and a big orange cat named Charlie. Sometimes we call him Charles and the boys laugh hysterically for some reason.

Both pets like to think they are the most important in the household, but they love having the kids snuggle on them 24/7. We hope to include some small farm animals in our family, soon, too!

Our dream is to have a highland cow, which the boys have already presumptively named "Lorelei".





## Traditions

Some other traditions and things we like to do seasonally are Strawberry Patch Picking, Pumpkin Patches and fall festivals. We have also found a love for “drive through safaris” where we get to drive the kids through a farm and feed all of the cows, donkeys, ostriches, goats, pigs, etc.! We usually take a trip to Texas (Poppa Wolf’s Ranch) with Krista’s Family once a year, and a trip to Edisto Island in South Carolina with Carey’s Family once a year.



Every Easter we have a big family meal with our extended family. Usually, we will do family easter egg hunts and egg decorating with all of the boys (cousins). We always have an EMPTY golden egg. We remind the kids that the golden egg- the BEST egg- is empty as a reminder of Jesus' tomb being empty and us receiving the BEST gift of salvation from the sacrifice, He made for us.



St. Patrick's Day the boys like to set up "traps" to try to catch a leprechaun. Of course, the leprechaun is never caught, but Carey and I leave out little gold coins or green/ St. patty's day treats for the boys that were "left" by the leprechaun. They get a bit creative with their traps!



Birthdays are big in our house! Every year we throw themed birthday parties for the boys. Some of which have been Fishing "O-FISH-ally ONE", Farm "Oink, Cluck, Moo- I'm TWO", and Dinosaur "THREE-rex", etc. Usually, we have coordinating family t-shirts to match the birthday boy. Krista LOVES to party plan and decorate and make crafts, so she really goes overboard with the themes. But the boys love it, and it makes for great memories as a family.



*Holidays are always the best memories made!*



For Halloween, we usually try to make our own family themed costumes. One year that Jacob was really into racing we became his “Pit Crew” while he walked around like a Race Car Driver carrying a gas can as his candy bucket. The year that Krista was pregnant with Joshua, we were a construction crew. Krista was “Under Construction”, Carey was “Mr. Fix It”, Jacob was “Mr. Break It” and we wheeled him around in the stroller that we decorated as a crane that had a sign that read “Caution: BUMP ahead” pointing to Krista’s Baby Belly.



We have several Christmas traditions: Matching pjs, Christmas cookie baking day with extended family, advent ornaments, and tree decorating. We go to our local Christmas parade down town and watch all the floats, while the kids favorite is collecting all the candy thrown.



We make a point to see all of our family over this season. Usually, we have 3 different Christmas gatherings, one at Nana and Granddaddy's with Krista's whole family; One with Mimi and Papa and Carey's whole family; and one at our own home with intimate family traditions on Christmas Eve/Christmas Morning.



Christmas Eve is the boys' favorite. We look forward to wearing our matching Christmas Pajamas (they change every year). We have a Christmas Eve present we let the boys open that has Hot Chocolate, our Christmas hot chocolate mugs, Popcorn, Candy Canes, and cookies to bake for Santa. We watch "The Star" every Christmas Eve and read the Christmas Story before everyone goes to bed, waiting for the magic of Christmas morning!



On Christmas morning, aside from Christmas presents and stockings, we sing happy birthday to Jesus and have a small slice of birthday cake to share!

# Meet our Families



Krista's family is made up of her parents Paul and Cindy. She has a younger brother, AJ (Uncle Tony) and his wife (Aunt Tori). Krista's grandparents are Rick and Diane (Gan-Gan and G-pa), Kelly (Gi-Gi), and Frank (Poppa Wolf).





Carey's family is made up of his parents (Steve and Stacey) and his two siblings and their spouses (Uncle Chris and Aunt Trish, & Auntie Victoria and Uncle Mike). We have 3 nephews on Carey's side: Tristan, Colton, and Atlas. So, our family is full of boys at the moment. Carey's grandparents are Ken and Sandy, and Arlene and Cecil.



We are very close to all our family, extended family included. Most of our family lives close by, thankfully. This makes it easy and super fun to plan family events and get together. We typically have an annual family vacation to Edisto Beach in South Carolina with Carey's family. They have been going there for close to 30 years and have established fun traditions like crabbing, shark fishing, and having contests to see who can find the most shark teeth on the beaches! We love to have frequent family cookouts and game nights. Usually the aunts/uncles will bring their pack n plays for the nephews and people will end up spending the night at our house! We have started a new tradition where we play Kickball in our backyard on Thanksgiving. Next year we plan to incorporate "family team shirts". We are blessed to truly have an amazing support system around us and make so many special memories with the ones we love!





We look forward to sharing all of these and so many more with a new addition to the family. If a little girl enters our currently “all boy” world, Krista is especially excited to introduce her to the women of the family traditions (thanksgiving cooking day, Christmas cookie baking, getting nails done together, Christian Women’s Conferences as a family, etc.). Carey is looking forward to Daddy/Daughter dates and dances. Jacob, Joshua, and Jesse look forward to picking her flowers from the yard, teaching her how to climb trees, and protecting her with all of their little beings! If we are blessed with another boy to the crew, we are all excited to integrate all the exciting boy things we already have come to love. Some of these are monster truck shows, camping/exploring in the woods, riding 4-wheelers, fishing, and wrestling with each other! :)



As we write this letter, our hearts are full of many different feelings and emotions, most of which revolve around you and your child. Adoption, to us, is not about getting a child for our family, but being able to give our family to a child. We want to be able to extend the love of Jesus and our family to a child, and we want to give the fullest life possible to that child. We have always wanted a large family and have thought it would be wonderful to be able to adopt one day, if we could.

With our boys getting bigger, We (and they) feel as though they are at good ages for another sibling, so we thought what better time than now?! We have prayed over this decision and feel like now is the right time for our family.

*Adoption, both exciting and emotional, will help us complete our family in the most special, sweet way.*



We are a family that values time spent together, whether that is at home, traveling to different states, trying new restaurants, or playing new games! Our family is built on our Christian beliefs and a Biblical worldview.



## "goodbye" for now

We understand how overwhelming it might be to be thrown all this information, yet it probably still doesn't seem like enough at the same time! While we wish we could tell you everything you need or want to know, we do promise you these things if you were to choose us as adoptive parents:

- Your child will be loved more than imaginable, just as our own, and fully for who they are- not who we want them to be.
- They will be raised to fully embrace their story and will be taught to treasure where they came from and the journey that has brought them to where they are. As a birth mother, you are a part of our family as well, and your child will always know that we respect you and that you have a special place in our hearts.
- They will have so many opportunities in this world, as long as we can give it! We live for our children and want to give them as many opportunities as possible to enjoy and experience this life to the fullest!
- We will do everything we can to have all of our children, your child included, grow up to be well rounded, respectful, and kind human beings.
- We promise to nurture and raise your child in a way that glorifies God.
- We will always pray for you, and we will always pray for your child. We will forever be humbled and grateful for the journey you chose to be able to give your child a life that you wanted them to have.

It is with the humblest hearts that we say "goodbye" for now. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us!

Sincerely,  
Carey and Krista

