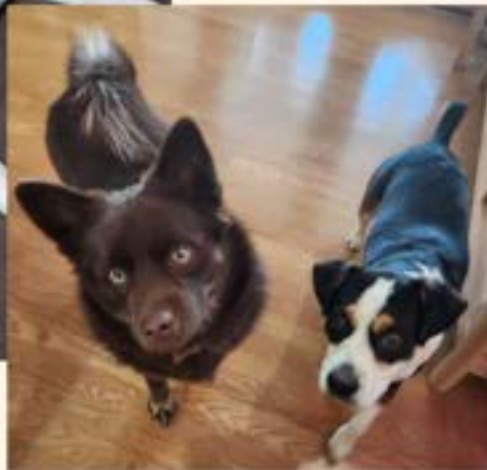


KIM & JUSTIN



EVELYN, VALERIE, CECILIA, WALTER, JASMINE



THANK YOU

We understand that adoption is a deeply difficult and personal choice. We promise to provide a loving and caring home for your child.

As foster and adoptive parents, we know the benefits of open communication, building and nourishing relationships with families. We pledge to be here for you now and in the future to support you and your child's relationship at whatever level you desire. We will raise your child to be loving, kind, and generous - with the knowledge that they have 2 sets of caring parents backing them up.



ABOUT US

We value always being there for each other and our kids. That is why Kim loves her **work-from-home** job and Justin has always been a **stay-at-home-dad**. When Evelyn was struggling with anxiety, Justin was able to keep her home from school, take her to an extra therapist appointment, and then out to lunch to talk alone about coping skills. Evelyn appreciated having her feelings validated and getting needed individualized time.



Papa (aka John), Kim's father, is also always around. Having **3 adults at home in a multigenerational household** has been a huge blessing for our family. Papa loves to spoil the kids with their favorite treats, whether that's nutter butters or freshly baked cookies. Last summer, the kids loved picking grapes from the garden. Papa helped them smash, squeeze, boil, and add lots of sugar to make grape juice and popsicles. Your child will always have their grandfather at home to share stories of growing up in a large family - he should know, he has 15 siblings!

We are **experienced parents** - nothing scares us.

Our first experience at parenting came when Valerie showed up unexpectedly at 25 weeks, just 1lb 5oz! We fought with her through 4 surgeries and 110 days in the NICU. Our rough journey with her leveled any concerns we had about parenting challenges, and made us stronger together. We

continue to welcome complex foster children into our home that need well versed advocates. No matter what obstacles are placed in front of us and your child, be they physical, developmental, or emotional, we will be there to break them down.



KIM

Kim spends most of her free time **sewing, cross stitching, and quilting**. She gets great delight in making handcrafted items. When Kim learns of an employee or coworker having a child, she is quick to hand stitch a blanket and send it to them. Kim wants everyone to feel seen and loved through personalized gifts. Every friend, family member, coworker, and foster child has something that she has tenderly stitched.



Kim is incredibly **patient**. Not only is Kim patient with the kids, but with the animals and her husband as well. When we were working on adopting our oldest child, Jasmine, Kim had to wade through massive amounts of bureaucracy, dropped calls, and unexpected canceled visits. The whole process took over a year of daily/weekly interactions, but Kim stuck to it because she knew her family was worth it. Your child will have a parent that will **never give up**, persevering through the hard times.



Kim is the **organizer** of the family. She is a **master of scheduling** all appointments, obligations, parties, and a million other things a family needs to do. This spring we got just hours notice that bad weather would delay our trip unless we left immediately, 24 hours early. Kim had the master packing list printed, helped everyone pack up in an orderly manner, and got us to the ferry with minutes to spare. We enjoyed our vacation with nothing forgotten because of her trustworthy planning



JUSTIN



Justin is extremely **strategic and silly**, which is why he **loves board games**. Justin has a huge collection of board games and enjoys planning game nights with friends and family. Every Saturday we play a campaign game with 2 of Justin's brothers.

Justin enjoys leading these games, teaching, and helping the group plan tactics. Your child will get to learn math, strategy, being a good winner and loser, and how to have fun together - through board games.

As Justin adds to his board game collection, he frequently is **painting miniatures** and board game pieces. Justin has honed his craft, learning new methods and getting feedback, to paint beautiful and realistic miniatures. For the past year he has been painting a large number of figures so that each of our friends can have their own customized army to play a big Warhammer 40K battle.



Justin is **thoughtful and sees the individual**. He remembers everyone's favorite things and always picks the perfect gifts. For our 8th anniversary, Justin spent weeks secretly writing and recording a love note to me on CD. He loaded the CD in my car stereo so that it would play when I got in for my drive to work. It was sweet, kind, loving, and exactly what I needed during a stressful time at work. Justin will affectionately care for your child and see them as an individual.



BECOMING A COUPLE



We met in elementary school when our younger brothers became best friends - and they still are today. Our relationship blossomed when both of our fathers coached our younger brothers' football team together and we sat in the bleachers each afternoon doing homework and chatting. We dated through high school and college, and got married a month after graduating.

We both have always wanted a big family. We see the **benefits of having many siblings** to help each other along. When Walter recently broke his foot, each of his siblings helped him - Cecilia getting him cereal in the morning, Evelyn carrying his books to class, and Jasmine helping him keep his room clean. Our children care deeply for each other and look forward to supporting a younger sibling.



Our journey to grow our family has had many **twists and turns**. After Valerie's early arrival, we opted to grow our family through foster care and adoption. When we met Jasmine, she had already had 4 failed adoption placements and was so in need of caring advocates. Just a few weeks after Jasmine came to our home, we found out Kim was pregnant with twins! After the twins were born, we finalized Jasmine's adoption and went from a family of 3 to a family of 6 in just 1 year! We are again seeking to grow through adoption, so that we can continue expanding our love permanently.

OUR HOBBIES

We love **adventures** and experiencing new things together. We love challenging ourselves with new and harder hikes. Last fall we went back to one of our family's favorite state parks and hiked the outer rim of the largest cliff in the state. It was scary, thrilling, and satisfying to finish the hike. Your child will join us in these adventures and marvel at nature's beauty.



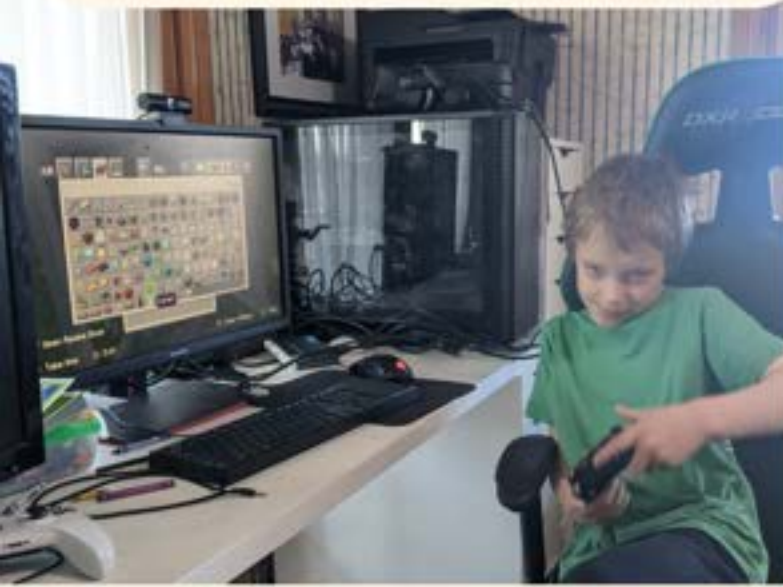
Board games play a major part in our social circle. We host friends and family board games days each month. We also bring board games to every family gathering outside our home. At Thanksgiving we play Werewolf, a game where everyone accuses others of being the werewolf in the village. It is great fun to see aunts, uncles, and great-grandparents argue and laugh about who is acting the most suspicious.



One of our fondest memories in high school together is working on set design and stage crew for plays and musicals. We have a deep appreciation and **love for Broadway** shows. We have a yearly subscription for all the Broadway national tours in our big city. When Frozen toured Kim took all the girls and grandma along to see the show. The girls were blown away at the live music, amazing costumes, and the singing.



OUR KIDS



Our children **love technology**. Each of our children has their own tablet and gaming computer. For a previous Father's Day, Kim bought Justin all the parts for a new computer to run the VR headset and games for the kids. Justin spent the day building the computer with Walter, talking about all the parts, and troubleshooting when they ran into issues. That summer Walter went to computer programming camp, where he explained to all his peers the importance of RAM and graphics cards.

Creativity is talent that we nourish in all our children. Jasmine's bedroom walls are decorated with her drawing and artwork. Evelyn is sketching, animating, designing, and coding her own video games. She consults with Walter on the best coding techniques and shares her games with her friends. We will **encourage artistry, innovation, and creativity** in your child.



Having a large family means that our children **always look out for each other**. Last summer was the first time Cecilia went to overnight camp. We sent her to the same camp ground as Evelyn. Although Cecilia and Evelyn were in different cabins, Evelyn went over to Cecilia's cabin the first two nights and sat with her when she was feeling nervous and homesick. Cecilia's counselor was in awe of our siblings' bond. Cecilia had an amazing camp experience and is excited to go again this summer. Your child will have so many loving siblings that will help them through the tough times.



CECILIA



EVELYN



VALERIE



JASMINE



WALTER



OUR FAMILY



We have a **huge extended family** because Kim's grandparents had 16 children! This huge family includes many adopted relatives. When we adopted Jasmine and started learning sign language, it was such a benefit to have Kim's aunt and deaf cousin help us learn. Having so many relatives means there is always someone to talk to about a specific topic and get advice.

Our extended family includes **multiple cultural backgrounds** and celebrates many global holidays. Kim was excited to manage a new team this year from Taiwan and loved learning about their culture. This spring we celebrated Lunar New Year and the year of the dragon with lots of red decorations, dumplings, and Taiwanese treats. Your child will grow up knowing their heritage and celebrating traditions that are important to you.



Our family is extra **goofy and silly**. We love to tell jokes and laugh with each other. During Kim's last birthday, Justin made waffles for dinner (one of Kim's favorites). Throughout the entire dinner all that was said was "waffles." Justin and the kids had whole conversations of just "Waffles, waffles, *waffles*, waffles." Dinner ended with everyone on the floor laughing. Your child will grow up laughing, joking, and embracing their silly side.

VALUES

We were both raised Catholic and loosely follow Catholic traditions. Both of us feel that **doing good in the world and being kind to others is** more important than any one religious belief system. Our 4 younger children attend a highly diverse private Catholic school. Cecilia loves learning about the Saints, while Walter is firmly atheist. Our version of grace at dinner is stating 3 good things that happened today that you are thankful for; acknowledging that the good you put into the world will return back to you.



Our home is **elaborately decorated for every holiday**. We have a blow-up Easter bunny, 13-foot skeleton for Halloween, life size nutcracker, and “Christmas” lights that stay up inside all year-round, changing colors to match the season. For Halloween we had a big party with all our friends and family dressed up, lots of candy, and decoration galore. Even the dogs had costumes!

Our parenting philosophy is **love, consistency, and natural consequences**. The kids know that Saturday is laundry day and they need to bring their dirty clothes to the laundry or they won't have clean clothes. When Walter forgot his shoes on the way to school, he wore Kim's flip flops, and took a demerit for being out-of-uniform. Most importantly, our children know that we will always love and support them no matter what.



OUR HOME

We live in Kim's **childhood home**, surrounded by farmland and forests. The kids get to pick blueberries at the neighbors house with the children (now adults) that Kim grew up playing with. In Cecilia's bedroom she has drawn her name on the same door that says "Kim." Your child will grow up in a large bustling house with the comfort of knowing that it will be their home forever.



Our **family and friends are all nearby** to help and support us. Your child's great-grandfather, grandparents, uncle, and cousin live in their own multigenerational household just 5 minutes away. On Memorial Day, our small town holds a festival in the square. Kim and Cecilia went in the early morning to see all of the handcrafted items. We bumped into Kim's cousin and her 2 adopted children, plus 2 new foster children. We spent time chatting about foster care and kids, while watching the kids play. On our way to the car, Grandma unexpectedly called out to us from across the street. Cecilia stayed with grandma, her uncle, and cousin to watch the parade, while Kim went home to prepare for having uncles and cousins over to play board games. It was a wonderful reminder that our village is large and always around.



We live on **30 acres of land**, with chickens, bees, a large garden, and woods. Being outside, exploring, and foraging are weekly activities. The kids love exploring our woods, and the adjacent 50 acre park, hunting for mushrooms. Last summer we picked chanterelle mushrooms in the woods, then cooked them up with pasta. Our family loves **harvesting and cooking our own food** - and the kids will eat mushrooms if they did the work of finding them!

