



Chris AND Michelle

A Loving Adoptive Family  est. 2016



Hello!



Thank you for carefully considering your child's future and for taking the time to read our story. Adoption is dear to our hearts and something that we've always considered when it comes to growing our family. Our love of adoption began when our Daniel came into our lives through adoption. The blessing that he has been cannot be described in words. Every person's story is unique and we would genuinely love to be a part of yours, however big or small a part we would be.



As parents, we strive to be warm and understanding. We want our children to know that we trust them to make good choices and to help them feel empowered in this. We believe that extending grace toward one another and those around us will teach our children to have hearts of humility because no one is perfect. We strive to be generous with our time, energy, and resources by being involved in church activities and vacation bible school, and by supporting charities, and missionary work. We want to show our children the importance of giving back! We want to teach the importance of critical thinking to establish one's own unique perspective and opinion. It is also very important for us to demonstrate a hard work ethic and taking pride in doing our best in everything we do.



We currently live in Southern California and love to spend our days playing together, taking little hikes, spending time outside at the park or beach, hanging out with friends and family, and making use of our annual passes to Disneyland and the zoo. We also love to travel and it's very important for us that our children experience different parts of the country and the world!



Our Story

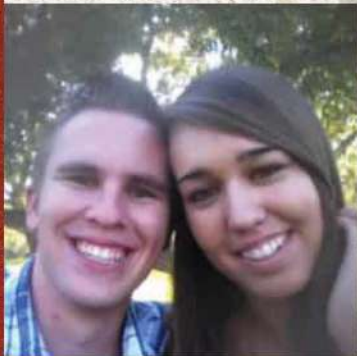
We met in 2012 just before Michelle was heading to college. A mutual friend introduced us since Chris was already attending the same university. We hit it off immediately and have been together ever since.

We both graduated with our Bachelor's degrees and got engaged. Chris continued to work full time as a trainer at In N Out Burger and Michelle took a full time job as a forensic accountant at a CPA firm she had been interning with.



We got married exactly four years after our first date! Chris started working as an insurance claims adjuster shortly after and we bought our first home together! We eventually both got new jobs that allowed us to work from home more often and have a better work-life balance.

Then Daniel was born! He was our early Christmas surprise! We were so blessed to add him to our family.



Meet Chris

What Michelle Says...

The highest compliment I can pay to Chris is that I genuinely hope our children will grow up to have his qualities. Chris is one of the most down to earth, easy going people I have ever known. He literally gets along with everyone. He is an incredibly devoted husband and father, always looking for ways to serve his family. He is both strong and sensitive and is the type of guy that makes people feel seen, heard, and supported. I love that he is goofy and how he always wears crazy, usually Disney, socks to express himself (even at work!) He is an animal lover and hopes to one day have a dog around. He laughs easily, angers slowly, and is always up for a late night ice cream snack.

Daniel is the light in his eyes and Chris never misses an opportunity to play on the floor, show him cool cars driving by, or read him his favorite books. He never complains about getting up in the middle of the night to calm a bad dream. He always looks forward to seeing Daniel at the end of a work day and he consistently earns the "Best Dad" award in our eyes.

Favorite Things!

Place I've Traveled: South Africa

Movie: Deadpool

Sport: Baseball - Go Angels!

Food: Deep Dish Pizza

TV Show: The Grand Tour

Actor: Tim Allen

Animal: Tiger - or any big cat, really



Meet Michelle

What Chris Says...

From the moment I laid eyes on her, I knew I had to speak to her. From the moment I spoke with her, I knew I wanted to marry her! Michelle is intelligent, thought provoking, and compassionate. She's one of those Type A personalities who has the unique ability to have everything together and also let loose and show her silly side. She is really the best of both worlds! She is also incredibly adventurous. She pushed me to embrace traveling and now I love it almost as much as she does. She finds wild places for us to visit and I participate in as many adventurous outings as possible, but she had to skydive on her own!

Watching her with Daniel always makes me fall more in love with her. She is truly the greatest mom! She loves to be down on the floor rolling around with him or reading him books. I know from watching her with our nephews that she will also be there to comfort and guide him during life's tough moments too. Michelle is always challenging herself to be the best she can be, and it motivates me as well. I know that extends to being the best mother she can possibly be!



Favorite Things!

Place I've Traveled: Australia

Movie: Lord of the Rings

Fellowship of the Rings

Sport: Soccer

Food: Mexican

TV Show: Gilmore Girls

Actor: Hugh Jackman

Animal: Kangaroo

Meet Daniel



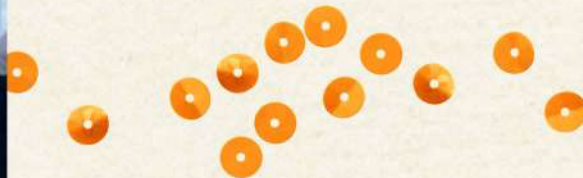
Daniel is a fun loving, energetic, and affectionate little man! Being his parents means the world to us and we strive every day to be the best for him. While he is only a year old, we already see his personality shining through. Here are some of the highlights:

He loves to MOVE! Since he learned to crawl, he's been on the move almost non-stop. We look forward to seeing how he channels that energy when he's older, whether it is through sports, artistic creation, outdoor exploration, etc. We want to support him in whatever he is passionate about.

He is a FOODIE! This kid loves to eat. Since he was about six months old, he has devoured just about everything we put in front of him! His favorite foods are scrambled egg hash with nutmeg, berries of any sort, all kinds of meat, baked sweet potato wedges with spices, and brussel sprouts with red chili pepper flakes. We do our best to introduce him to as large a variety of flavors and textures as possible and are teaching him to have a healthy relationship with food.

He is extremely GOOD NATURED! He has always been what our friends call "an easy baby". He plays well with other children in the chuchu nursery, at weekly Gymboree classes, and around our friend's children. He is also content to play independently. He loves to be with "his people" and lights up whenever he is around his

grandparents, close friends, and other family members. His giggle is infectious and we just feel so blessed by his happy nature.



Family!

It would be impossible to overstate how important family is to us! We feel so blessed to have an incredible family!

Michelle's Family

We are extremely close to Michelle's family! We talk with her parents and brother, Brian, several times a week and see them as often as we can. We have so much fun when we get together for dinner, games, and our annual ski trips. Her parents live within 45 minutes of us and her brother lives in Utah.



Michelle's family on a trip to Utah

Chris' Family

Chris' parents and younger brother live about 45 minutes away from us as well, and we see them frequently for get togethers, birthdays, and holidays. Chris is the middle of three boys and his older brother also has three boys, who definitely keep us all on our toes! We are very close to our nephews and love getting to spend time with them and watching them grow and develop. His older brother recently moved to another state so we don't see them as often, but we still get together when we can.



Chris' family helping pack his brother to move.



Friends!

Friends are a huge part of our life, many of whom we have know for years, and some that we have met at church since we've been married. A love of the outdoors, Disney, and board games inspire our get togethers. Most of these families have children close to Daniel's age and that makes our activities together even more fun!



Hiking with kids to the mountains



Visiting Michelle's birth family



Our annual Friendsgiving



Michelle's elementary school friends



Camping in Malibu



Disneyland group trip with kids



Snorkeling in Belize



Walt Disney World trip with friends



Game night

Traveling!



Blue Ridge Parkway, N. Carolina

We have a WILD passion for traveling! We love to explore new and different places. Michelle's parents grew up traveling often and passed that love on to her. Though Chris did not grow up traveling, he has fallen in love with it! Having Daniel join the travels has been a joy. Though traveling with a baby means we do it a little differently and we slow down a bit more. We just really appreciate the time that we can spend together. We hope that he grows to love it as much as we do!



Zimbabwe



Lone Creek Falls, South Africa



Nezu-Jingu Shrine, Tokyo



Gates of the Arctic Park, Alaska



White-water rafting in Costa Rica



Glacier National Park



Thank You!

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us a little better! Adoption is near and dear to our hearts. Michelle was adopted as an infant and has been so blessed through adoption. Growing up, she was taught that she was “twice loved” - loved by her birth family, who loved her but were unable to care for her, and loved by her adoptive family, who loved her as their own. She was told about the tremendous sacrifice her birth family made, and her parents raised her with the knowledge that she would always and forever be loved by people seen and unseen. As Chris entered the picture, he got to meet and interact with Michelle’s birth family as well, and we both feel so blessed to have such good relationships with them.

Given this history, we know first hand the blessing adoption can be and are consciously pursuing this option to expand our family, creating a family born of love and choice. While there can certainly be hard conversations and tough questions, please know that in our house, adoption is always spoken of in terms of the love it takes from everyone involved.

Our love of adoption only grew when Daniel came into our lives. We pray together for his birth family and consider them an important part of our journey. While we don’t currently have contact with them due to his birth mother requesting a closed adoption, we made sure she knew that if she, or any of his birth family, ever decide to pursue contact, the door will be open from our end and we will work to establish a relationship with them.

We hope to get the chance to meet with you and explore what this journey will look like together. We would like to have ongoing contact and are open to semi-frequent in person meetings as well. We feel children deserve to have as many people surrounding them with love as possible and don’t want to be an obstacle to that end. We also understand that may be difficult for you and would work with you to establish levels of contact that are healthy and comfortable for everyone. We hope you consider us to include in your journey!

With Love,
Chris and Michelle



For more information, please
call or text our 24-hour line:
949-569-3363

