

*Family: Where life begins
and love never ends.*



Chris & Kelly



We are Chris and Kelly. We both grew up in Washington state. Chris grew up in Shoreline and Kelly grew up in Seattle. We went to school together and we have known each other since preschool. We went to Junior/Senior Banquet together in High School both our Junior and Senior years. We lost touch after high school. We later reconnected and we have been married since 2009 and we live in the Greater Seattle area. We regularly attend church in the Greater Seattle area and our faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is very important to us. It is a central part of who we are.

Kelly is a Preschool Teacher and she loves it! Chris works in IT Support and he really enjoys computers and technology.

We have a strong desire to be parents and we have a ton of love to give. We are not able to have biological children and we are pursuing adoption.

*Love,
Chris and Kelly*





Our Relationship

We went on the Spirit of Puget Sound our Senior year JSB (Junior/Senior Banquet) in 1999 and had a fantastic time! One of our first dates when we reconnected and got back together was to a Mariner's game at Safeco field. We got married on June 27, 2009. We went on a cruise to the Bahamas for our honeymoon and had an amazing time! Together we enjoy watching t.v. shows, playing cars, video games and spending time with our pets. We enjoy taking our dog for a walk. Kelly appreciates Chris's sense of humor, his love for his family and animals, and his patience working in IT support. Chris appreciates Kelly's love for children and her patience working as a teacher. Chris appreciates Kelly's willingness to try new things and play video games with him.

JSB (prom) 2nd year



Our wedding



At a Mariners game



Chris



I work in the IT field providing support and advice to business and residential customers. We gather together with family for Christmas, birthday celebrations and the 4th of July and I really enjoy it! I love spending time with my nieces and nephews. My favorite book is Battlefield Earth and my favorite TV show is Star Trek.



I work in the field of Early Childhood Education. I am a teacher and I love it! I've been to Mount Rainier with both sides of my family. Purple is my favorite color. Chris bought those purple earrings for me as a gift and I love them! My favorite books are the Lord of the Rings series by J.R.R. Tolkien and The Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis. My favorite TV shows are "Friends", "Parenthood" and "This is Us". I love animals and I really enjoy going to view spectacular light displays with my family at Christmas. I am a huge Seahawks fan. Go Hawks!



Kelly

Fun facts about Kelly



1. I love children and enjoy teaching.
2. I love and appreciate other cultures.
3. I am able to understand a bit and speak a bit of Spanish, Hebrew and Lushootseed (Tulalip Tribal Language).
4. I am a baseball and football fan; Go Mariners and Go Hawks!
5. I love the movies The Sound of Music and The Princess Bride. I could watch them any time, any day.
6. I love the water (swimming, canoeing, and kayaking).
7. I love music and I enjoy playing the piano.
8. I love outdoor activities like hiking and camping.
9. I love animals.
10. I love to knit. My Grandmother and Aunt taught me how to knit.



Fun facts about Chris



1. I love playing video games especially ones that can be played together in the same room (couch co-op.)
2. I love playing card and board games, my favorite is FLUX.
3. I am good with computers and can set up a parental controlled PC with time limits on games and other to encourage controlled screen time.
4. I am good at teaching others how to use technology.
5. I am a handy man when it comes to working on things around the house.
6. I am knowledgeable about first aid because I grew up in a medical household.
7. I love having pets around the house
8. I love cooking, my personal success is creamy chicken lasagna.
9. I am a big time sci-fi nerd.
10. I love the Pixar movies (WALL-E is my favorite).



Kelly's Story

I was raised by two loving parents and I have three siblings. Two older brothers and one younger sister. I have seven nieces and nephews. Growing up I lived in the same house. A favorite memory of mine is barbecuing and swimming at the beach with my parents and siblings in summer. I come from a family of teachers; so relatives of mine who are teachers and my 1st and 2nd grade teachers all had a positive influence on me. I am an optimistic person and I have a positive outlook on life. I am kind, considerate and compassionate. I am overall an extroverted person, but I do even better one on one or in small groups. The greatest lesson I have learned so far in my life is to not take anything or anyone for granted and to appreciate all that I have been blessed with. Something I know now I wish I knew then is life is short. It goes by quickly and I need to appreciate every moment.



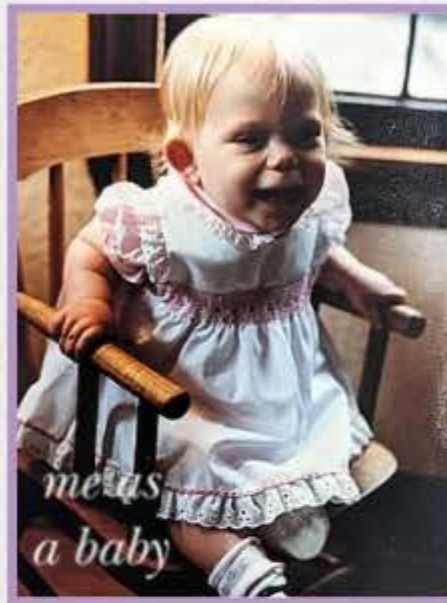
Practicing piano



Snoqualmie Falls



Piano with my niece



me as a baby



Me and my Mom



Me and our cat Ginger

Chris' Story

I grew up in the same house my whole childhood in a small city just north of Seattle and grew up with one sibling my sister. I went to a private school starting from preschool all the way through high school with Kelly. It was in high school that I discovered my love for working with computers and helped setup the schools first computer lab. I helped start a new IT business with my closest friend and am currently running the day-to-day operations while he works on the more advanced problems above my head. I enjoy playing video games and my favorite ones are the one that I can play with others. I am more of an introverted person but by running a business I have learned to become more outgoing. The biggest thing I have learned over the years is that everyone has their thing they are good at and its not fair to expect that everyone is going to be good at everything.



*Camping with my Mom
and sister*



*going to soccer
practice*



Camping with my Dad



Fishing with Kiki



*JSB
1st year*



On the USS Nimitz



Hannah Mochi!

Our dog Hannah and our cat Mochi are gentle and great with kids. Hannah gets to spend time with our nieces and nephews on the 4th of July and she loves it and they love it! Mochi likes to curl up in his basket. We take Hannah for lots of walks to the park or around the library and she loves it! They both love to curl up and snooze. They are such a great addition to our family and we are blessed.



Our Home



We live in a single level two bedroom duplex. We have a beautiful garden in the spring and summer and a beautiful backyard. Chris put up the fence in our backyard. Kelly enjoys gardening in the front yard and reading on the outdoor swing canopy in the backyard.

Our Community

We live within walking distance of the library and park. There is an elementary and middle school that is also within walking distance. Kelly is a preschool teacher and the academy where she works is in our community.



*The Early Learning Academy
where Kelly is a teacher.*



Local school in our community.



Our local library.



Local park in our community.

Things We Like To Do

We enjoy taking our dog for walks around the library and to the park. We also enjoy going out to the movies and going bowling. We go on outings such as baseball games (Go Mariners!), hiking Wallace Falls, and camping with friends and family. We also enjoy going to the University of Washington cherry blossoms, the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival and Ocean Shores. Ocean Shores has become an annual tradition for us in June as a combination celebration of Kelly's birthday and our anniversary.



Kelly's side of the family



Chris' side of the family



Dreams for Our Child

Unconditionally loving, nurturing and supporting our child. We acknowledge adopting a child will be difficult and challenging in its own way. We are committed to walking with the child through all of these difficulties and challenges. We agree it is important to discuss and disclose the adoption story with our child from the beginning. We plan to integrate adoption into our regular vocabulary and discuss adoption in thoughtful and age-appropriate ways with our child.

We are aware that a child will understand adoption differently at various developmental stages, requiring continued and developing conversation throughout the child's life. We hope to help the child understand our home is a safe place for them to process adoption issues, concerns, and questions. We both already enjoy family-friendly activities-such as board games, card games, going to the movies, perusing the local library, and spending time at the local parks-and they cannot wait to invite children into these past times.



our nephew and niece



Open Adoption Aspirations

Kelly playing in the snow with her brothers and sister



Collecting sea shells over Labor Day weekend

Communication with the birth family could take place in a variety of manners including the exchange of pictures and letters, phone calls, or face-to-face contact. Zoom is also great! We are willing to occasionally drive to them or find a halfway point to meet if they are not local. We look forward to extending invitations to the birthparents to meet for our child's school and extra-curricular events. Also extending invitations to join us at the local holiday lighting festivities and parade and outdoor movies in the park and parade in the summer. Also birthdays and other milestones.

We understand that an adopted child will likely have questions regarding his/her birth family. As a result, we hope to create an environment where the child can feel safe voicing those questions, as well as their feelings around their birth family. We have great compassion for birth parents and believe it will be important to speak of our child's birth family in a positive, age appropriate manner.

Thank You

We live in a safe, loving and nurturing environment and we have a ton of love to give. We have a strong desire to be parents. We look forward to the possibility of meeting. We also look forward to the possibility of having an open, sincere and honest relationship with our child's birth parents.

