



Andrew & Christina

Thank you

FOR HONORING
OUR FAMILY by

looking through our few pages here as you
are on this journey to care for your child.

One doesn't encounter many real-life
examples of loving sacrifice, and your
decision for hope and a future for your child
is certainly one of them.

We hope that we can put to words the things that we love
about our family and why we think the people who make it
are great. We would be thrilled to answer any question that
helps you understand who we are and how life looks around
here. We hope that our story points you in the direction you
need to find the family you are dreaming of for your baby,
wherever that may be, and that both you and baby are loved
well by the family that you as momma know is right. ❤️



Team Awesome!

While still dating, we began referring to our then not-quite family as “TEAM AWESOME.” We knew we could conquer anything life threw at us if we did it together and that we would then, and admittedly, still now, high-five and cheer, “Go, Team Awesome!” with each conquered obstacle. It was silly, and still is rather, but it was the beginning of a family that recognized that separately we were nothing like what we could be together, *a family that celebrated the unique in each of us and fought hard to champion the awesome in every person who crossed our path, called our place home*, or even just came to dinner. We love people - all kinds of them from every walk of life and from every kind of story. And we are so glad that while we don't know you yet, we might get to know you too.

We have been *married for nearly seventeen years* and inseparable for nearly twenty, after meeting at our church as young teenagers and then marrying our freshman year of college. We spent our first years as a married couple going to college and building our careers. Andrew took our family on an amazing adventure when he was commissioned as a Naval Officer after college and we began traveling, including overseas, as a family. We built our forever family of three biological children along the way. We settled, after twelve years of active-duty life, ready for roots for our family and a place to call our forever home.



We are first and foremost *Christians*, who value gathering with others through our local church, teaching our children about our faith, and learning and growing together in that faith as a family. *Our faith touches every part of our lives*, even the seemingly small things. Andrew is a part of our church's elected leadership and we are both committed to our community there. There are other adopted children that are thriving with their families in our church community.



We are parents to our three kids, Benjamin, Corinne and Jonathan. Our children are amazing and add so much excitement to our home. We truly love finding out more and more each day who they are becoming. *We were foster parents in another state to five other children*, younger than ours. Two have gone on to be reunited with their biological families and three have been or in the process of being adopted. We have been honored to partner with other families in loving these kids well, even today, and enjoy swapping pictures and stories with their adoptive and origin families. *All three of our children have been big siblings to our foster children and have loved every moment of their relationships with them.* Our family has changed each time we have added a new member. Each of them has brought their uniqueness to our group, and we always love the new kind of awesome our family becomes in the process.



Ben



Corinne



Jonny

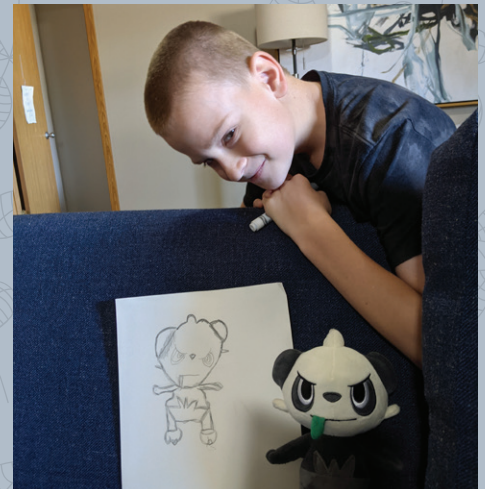
Ben ~ 11 yrs old

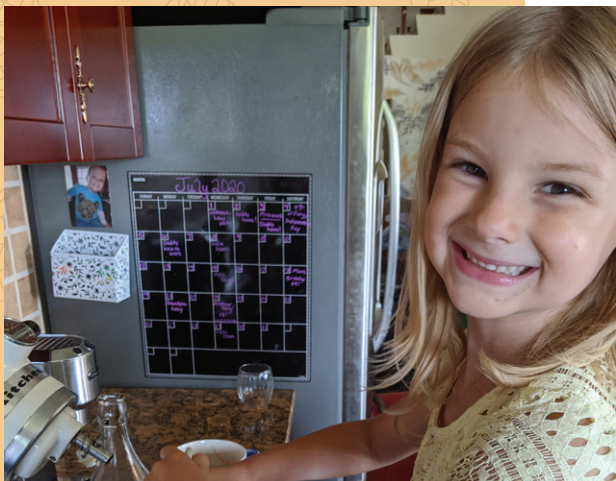
Ben is eleven and passionate about animals, particularly reptiles. He has dreams of being a scientist that helps endangered animals and combats invasive species when he is an adult. He also loves geography and has competed on a national level in geography bee competitions for a few years now. He loves academic trivia of all sorts. ***He is never caught without a book even for a moment.*** He is also learning competitive Olympic-style archery and is active in Boy Scouts. Ben has decorated his room in nature posters and maps of the world, his two passions. He is always happy to be outside inventing elaborate imaginary adventures in the yard and park for his siblings to enjoy.



Passionate about...

Reptiles
Geography
Reading
Nature



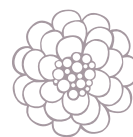


Corinne ~ 7 yrs old

Corinne, our seven-year-old, is passionate, hardworking and detail oriented. She is quiet at first, but full of animated energy when she gets to know and trust someone. She looks forward to weekends on the Swing Set talking with her friends. Corinne picks out her own outfits and hairstyles and has a style uniquely her own and full of color! Corinne loves sloths and baby animals of all sorts. *She is passionate about everything that she does, particularly her love of gymnastics which she chooses to practice near constantly.* Corinne has decorated her room in the perfect shade of every color and artwork that she has created herself. She is competitive in board games, and also for her teams when watching sports with her daddy. She is also talented at playing violin, drawing and writing and she enjoys reading and Girl Scouts.



passionate
hardworking
detail oriented





Jonny ~ 6 yrs old

Jonathan, our six-year-old, is the life of the party in many ways. *He loves telling jokes, making people laugh, and performing on stage.* He is eccentric, loud and exuberant in everything that he does. Jonny considers every one he's met a friend. He dreams of building sky-scrapers and houses and everything in between. His room is filled with building supplies, tools, half-finished projects and drawings of inspiration. He is a lover of cardboard boxes for they hold unlimited potential in a creative mind. He loves super hero stories and action-packed epics. He is great at imitating voices. He plays baseball and is involved in youth theater.



eccentric | loud | exuberant





Our home



We live on the outskirts of our little city, where we can enjoy both farmland and convenient access to city amenities. *Our neighborhood is bustling with children and laughter* from playing games together. We bought our new-build home in 2021 and have loved living in our new community. We have an acre of land, backing to a large park with baseball fields, playgrounds, biking trails and even more nature. We enjoy watching both deer and baseball games from the deck. *We have a Swing Set for six often filled with neighborhood kids, a jungle gym and an enormous picnic table for sixteen so we can gather with friends and neighbors.*

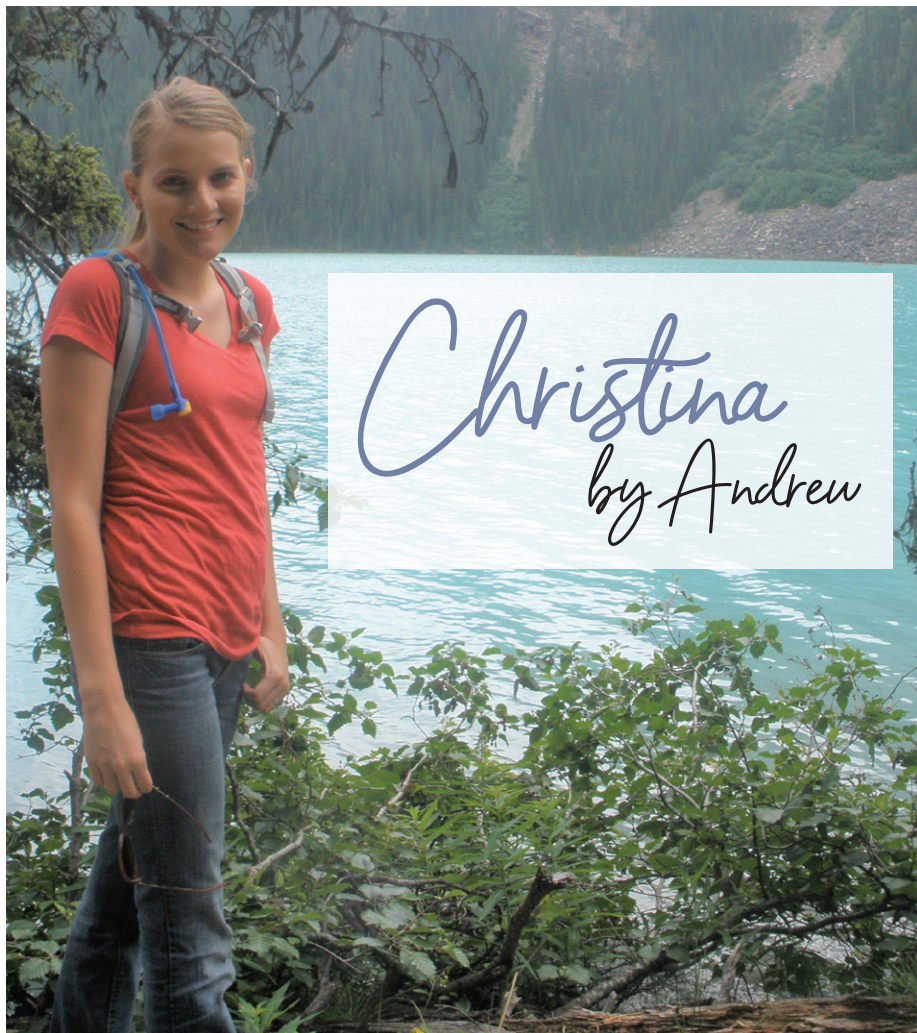
Family

Andrew's parents live in the same town as we do and are an important part of our lives. They go to church with us and we share meals together weekly. We cherish the relationship that they are building with their grandkids. Their grandma loves playing board games with the whole family and their grandpa is passing down to our children his creativity and love of craftsmen carpentry. We have a very large extended family all over the country. We have a classic "fun uncle" who is an important part of our lives, and many other aunts, uncles, cousins, grandparents and great-grandparents to our children that we visit and enjoy visits from often.

As our family has lived both near and far, we have learned to love food, cultures and experiences from a variety of origins. Through it all, we have always found a way to celebrate being outside together. *We SCUBA dive, snorkel, hike, ride bikes, tent camp, rock climb, canoe, kayak, fish, and explore every place we can.* We love to travel and see new places outdoors, but we are just as happy to be at home playing yard games and watching wildlife from the deck.

Our family's other passion is great stories. We have a home library filled with thousands of books of great literature, tales from cultures around the world, interesting facts, and imagination for adults and kids alike. Sitting by the fire and reading together feels like family to us. *We love fostering the love of reading in our family, knowing we can go on even more adventures through the characters in the books we share.*





Christina by Andrew

Things that make my wife happy:

Chocolate, Cheese and Mexican food

Organizing at home

Reading stories to the family

Baking desserts and homemade bread

Catching up with far-away friends

I married up in the world. My wife may think that is a joke, but it isn't. There is no way around it. *Christina is simply the best person I know and always has been.*

Our years together (most of our lives now) have just let me see her better and know her story so intimately that I am sure of it.

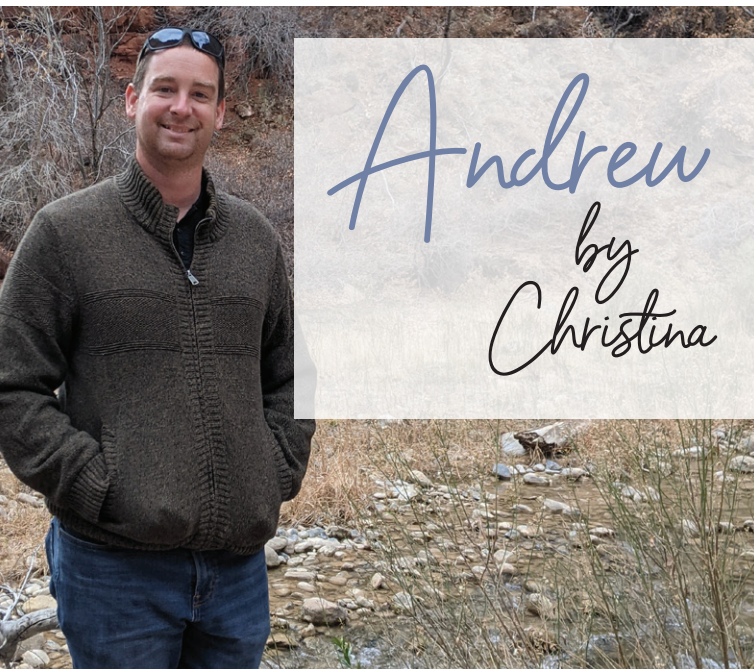
Christina briefly had an interesting career in audit accounting after graduating from college. We are so thankful now to have her able to stay home with our children. We love that we can invest in each of our children by her being home when they are.

She is the emotional center of this family. *She is the comforter and soft place when life is hard for me or the kids.* She is our cheerleader, but not a coddler. We are safe in her arms.

Christina is the reason any great things are accomplished by any of us. She prepares, encourages, and expects greatness. She explains things so clearly no matter what the subject or with whom she is speaking.

I have never witnessed such patience and respect for children. *Christina is absolutely selfless and sacrificial for our family day in and day out.* I cannot imagine a more noble and loving wife or a better mother.





Things that make my husband happy:

Camping or just being outdoors

Reading about or learning something new

Visiting new museums

Grilling or smoking meats

Playing board games



Andrew is my best friend and my one and only love. Andrew is the joy and life of our home. He walks in the door and the fun begins. *He is wildly intelligent, always excited to learn something new, and explain things to our children so that they too can marvel at the world.* He is happiest outside, whether working or playing with kids. Andrew is always singing, sometimes humming, but usually singing loudly and with exuberant silliness. Andrew is outgoing and makes friends everywhere he goes.

Andrew works for the local hospital system as a Medical Physicist, a PhD scientist focusing on medical uses of radiation. He keeps patients safe and improves the quality of images used for diagnosis and treatment. We are thankful for the flexibility that his work provides and his availability to always be at the center of our family activities.

Andrew is a godly leader in both our home and our church family. He works hard to provide a solid understanding of faith to our children and support the church that we call home. He is devoted to studying Scripture and also to living a life that encourages others in their faith.

Andrew is quiet and humble in the sacrifices he has made for our family. He worked extremely hard to earn multiple degrees and build a career that he loves. He served honorably during his time in the military. *Everywhere he goes, he leaves his mark on the people he meets - knowledge that they are valuable to him and memories of fun they shared together.*

He is diligent and dedicated to providing an amazing life for our family. He puts others first in words and action. He champions our dreams and passionately helps us pursue or visions, putting our needs before his own.

As a dad, Andrew is a great encouragement. *He challenges our kids to keep trying and to become a great version of themselves. He laughs with them constantly.* He is the one at the bottom of the tackle pile of laughing kids in the yard and the one being chased in the park by our kids and the neighbors. He is an active part of each of their lives every moment that he is home. He is honest when he says that his greatest hobby is his kids. He truly loves learning about each of them. One of the things that makes him a great dad is his ability to see the differences in each small life that he is a dad to. He notices what makes each child unique and celebrates that uniqueness. He throws himself into anything that our children love so that he can walk with them in their passion. He is great at making them each individual within our family and loving them for exactly who they are.



Thoughts on Adoption

Our family is choosing adoption as a way of welcoming into our family *not just a child but also their extended biological family*. We believe in families and relationships. We know that a child can love both a biological family and an adoptive family. One doesn't replace the other, it simply builds and continues what the other has already begun. We walked day in and day out with the mothers of our foster children. We learned from them and understood the world differently as we walked with them through this part of their story. Even today, we maintain relationships with these families out of love for them and their children, whom we once loved as a precious part of our family. We would hope the same for the relationship with you if we are fortunate enough to be chosen by you to parent your baby.

'We know that a child's life will be fuller because many people have poured out their lives for them, and that all begins with the one who gives them life and dreams for their future today.'

We hope that you find the family that you are looking for, to partner with you and to love your child along with you. *'We hope that you find peace, hope, vision, encouragement, respect, reassurance and love as you make decisions and take the next steps in this journey.'* You have all our best wishes in life, and our prayers for a beautiful future.

Andrew and Christina ❤️