



*This is the start of your sweet little story.*

THE PART WHERE YOUR PAGE MEETS OURS.

No matter where your tale takes you,  
your story will always read

**LOVE**



# HELLO!

Thank you for taking the time to learn a little more about us. We are excited to give you a peek into our lives and to show you how ready and excited we are to welcome a new little one into our family. We admire your strength and courage in considering adoption for your child, and we are honored to have the possibility of being chosen to be your child's parents and big brother. It is our hope that this book will convey to you the love we have to give, our excitement to add to our family, and our promise to surround your child with love, support, and happiness.

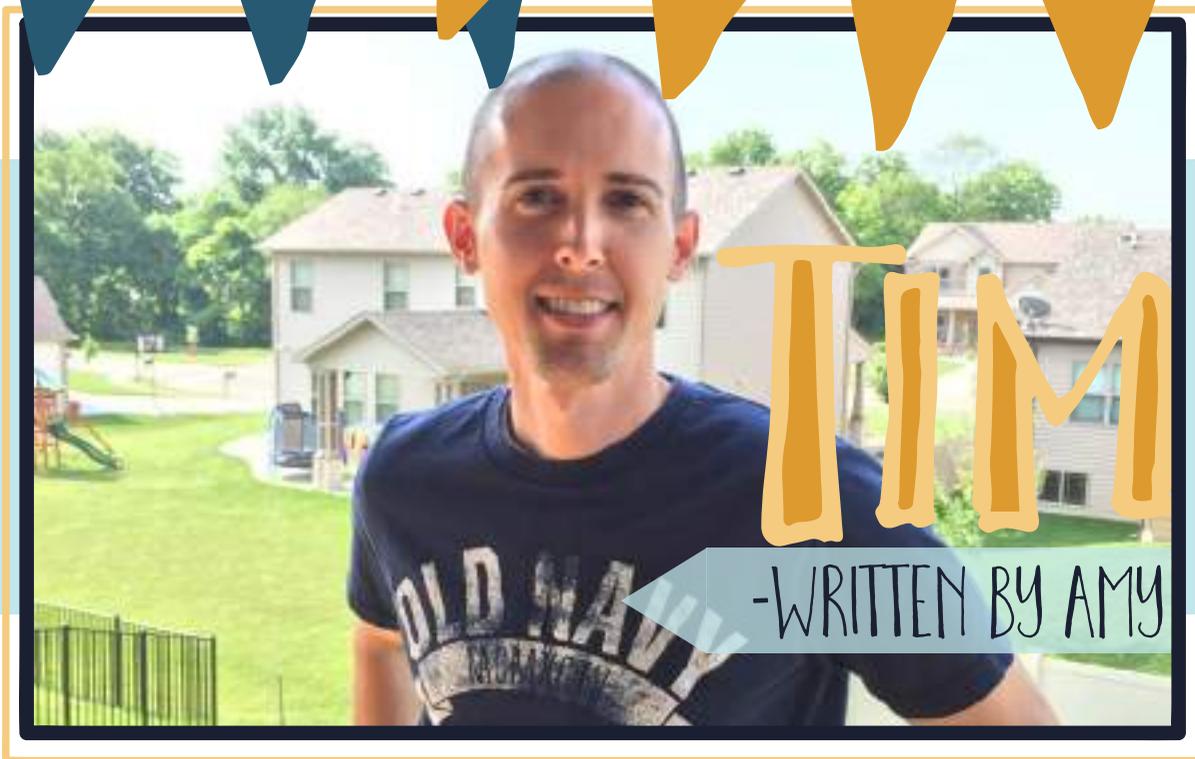
*-Tim, Amy, and Owen*



I know how hokey this is going to sound, but it is absolutely true. Amy is the part of me that I never knew I was missing until I found her. She has made my life better in so many ways. She is a person of incredible strength, courage, and determination. I watched in awe at what she was willing to put herself through in order to try to grow our family as we struggled with infertility. Throughout our marriage, I have felt how loving, caring, and patient she can be. She takes that same love, caring, and patience with her to work each day as a speech-language pathologist working with preschool aged kids in a nearby school district. She has dedicated her professional life to

helping kids be the best they can be. So it has been no surprise to see how amazing she has been with our son, Owen. She is there for him no matter what. Through the fun and happy times like reading lots, and I mean lots, of books, or going down a slide that he just has to go down but is a bit too little to do by himself yet. As well as the not as fun times, like 2 a.m. wakeups and needing someone to rock him when he is sick and throwing up. As time moves on, Amy will always be there to provide our family with whatever we need. Her ability to love unconditionally is just one of the things I truly admire about her.





Tim is my best friend and partner in life. It is amazing watching him be such a wonderful dad to our son, Owen. Tim is so kind and loving with Owen. He enjoys spending time with all of us as a family, and loves his one-on-one time with Owen, as well. They enjoy trips to the park, playing cars, reading books, and watching silly videos, just to name a few. I can't imagine him being a more amazing dad than he already is. And I know, without a doubt, that he will share all of these attributes again as we welcome a new little one into our family. Becoming parents has also strengthened our marriage. While parenting is very rewarding, it can also be very challenging. I'm so grateful to have Tim as my partner in this parenting journey. Tim is also kind, loving, and patient with not only his family, but also the students that he works with. He pours himself into his job as a teacher and has an incredible ability to connect with the

kids he works with. Tim's funny side keeps me on my toes. He has a collection of characters and voices that he uses to make learning fun and engaging for his students. He is also not shy about sharing his goofy side with me, as sometimes these same characters will find their way home with him. He is always making up funny nicknames for me, changing lyrics to songs, and willing to make a fool of himself in order to make me laugh. Although Tim is often a big kid at heart, he can also be a bit of an old soul, too. He enjoys the connections that he has made with the older adults in his life, such as his parents and some of the more senior teachers at work. He enjoys peaceful walks on the nearby trails and reflecting on life. I'm so lucky to get to spend the rest of my life with Tim. His patience, kindness, and fun loving side are just a few of the many ways Tim is an amazing person, husband, and dad.



# Our Love Story



We met in the winter of 2008 during a work Christmas party. Tim was working as a substitute teacher at the time. One of the schools that he spent a lot of time in just so happened to be the same school Amy worked in. He was thought of as just another member of the staff by many, so they invited him to the Christmas party that evening.



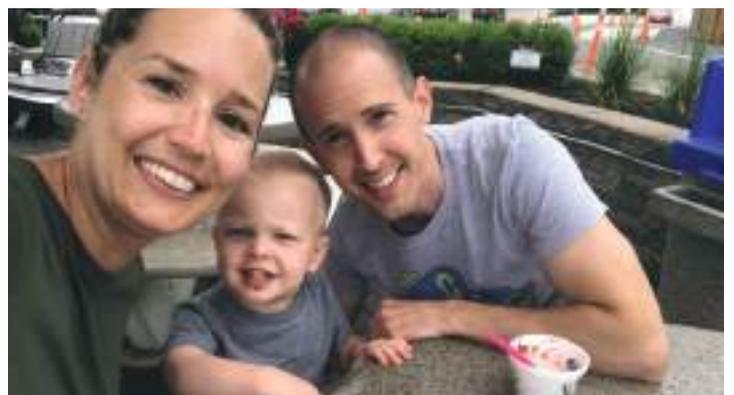
From Tim, "Initially, I wasn't sure that I wanted to go. What made me decide to go was Amy. We hadn't met yet. I had just seen her around the building and working with some of the kids in the classes I had been teaching in. But the thought that she might be there, and that I might get a chance to talk with her, was all that I needed to convince me to go. Within minutes of arriving, Amy and I began talking. We were inseparable for the rest of the evening, and have been inseparable ever since."



From Amy, "We had our first official date a few days later. We had quite a bit of snow that morning and school was canceled. So, we caught an afternoon movie during the snow day. One date turned into two, and then into three, and before we knew it a few months had gone by. The rest, as they say, is history."



Tim proposed on our two year anniversary, and we were married in June of 2011. Our marriage has continued to be a strong bond that strengthens even more each year. We can honestly say that we are not only each other's partner in life but also best friends.



The love in our family grew even more in the summer of 2017 when we welcomed our son, Owen, into our family. That love continues to grow as we eagerly await meeting the next member of our family.



# Meet Owen

Owen is a spunky, fun loving, kind hearted boy! He loves puppies, dinosaurs, vehicles, blocks, and all things outdoors! We have enjoyed every day with him and are truly grateful to be his parents. He brings so much joy and adventure to our family. Whether it's a trip to the zoo, visiting family, enjoying a community festival, or just spending quality family time at home, we have lots of fun together!



Owen was born in July 2017, and our family was forever changed for the better. We continue to have a good relationship with Owen's birth mom and enjoy yearly visits with her. We have been open with Owen about his adoption and include it as just a normal part of his life's story. He loves reading books with us about adoption, including his own adoption story book. Owen is a great kid with a kind heart, and we know that he will make a loving and caring big brother.

# Our Home & Community



We built our house in 2013 with two things in mind; a place to make a lifetime of memories together, and a fun and safe place to raise kids. Our home has three finished bedrooms with plans to finish a fourth soon. It also has a big basement that has been turned into a playroom, and a great backyard to run and play in. Our neighborhood is full of families and children playing outside every evening. The neighbors get along great and often spend evenings chatting while the kids play outside. We couldn't imagine a better place to raise a family.

We've made our home in a small midwestern college town about twenty miles outside of a major metropolitan area. We are surrounded by many beautiful walking and biking trails that connect to several parks in our area, as well as to our town's library. We are just minutes away from great local stores, restaurants, and shops, as well as a wonderful farmer's market that we like to visit on weekends.



The school district in our community is excellent, offering great academic programs and many extracurricular opportunities. While we enjoy the advantages of living in a peaceful, friendly community, we also enjoy all of the opportunities living near a larger city provides us, too. We are about thirty minutes away from great day trips including a zoo, art museum, children's museums, great professional sports teams, and many other family friendly outings.



We can't wait to share all of the things our home and community have to offer with the next member of our family.



# Tim's Family

"The love in our family flows strong and deep, leaving us memories to treasure and keep."



TIM'S FAMILY AT HIS PARENT'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

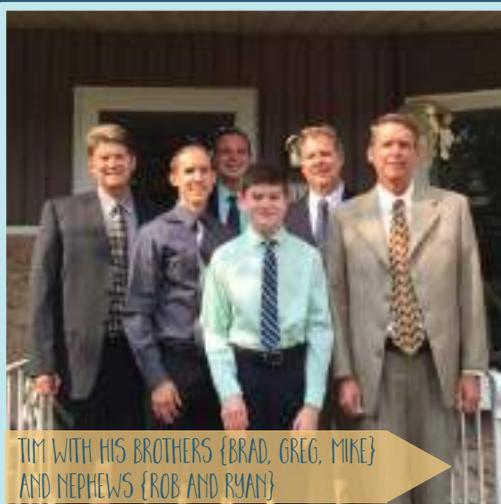
I've always felt fortunate to have my family. My parents were married for 55 years until my father's passing. Through all of the things that life brings, my parents were always together. My mother would even visit my father every day for the three years he spent needing extra care in a nursing facility. My mother still lives in the house I grew up in, and she is eagerly awaiting another grandbaby. The stability, support, and love that they provided me with is a large part of who I am today, and I feel very grateful that Amy and I will be able to provide that same stability, support, and love for our own children, too.

love

My family is larger than most. I have three older brothers, and one older sister. One of the unique things about my family is the age gap between my siblings and me. My parents were in their early forties when I was born, so my brothers and sister were all between eight to sixteen years older than me. One of the nice things about this was that I always had a lot of people looking out for me. Being the youngest, by far, meant that I was never going to get that little brother or sister I always wanted. That was okay, though, because when I was sixteen my first nephew was born. On my side of the family, we have three nephews and one niece. They range in age from eighteen to twenty-seven. Even though my family doesn't all live in the same town, we've always been able to get together multiple times a year. They have always been an important part of my life, and one that I have been honored to share with Amy. It has been very heartwarming to see my family so excited whenever Owen is around, and everyone is eagerly awaiting the next addition to our family.



US WITH TIM'S MOM



TIM WITH HIS BROTHERS {BRAD, GREG, MIKE} AND NEPHEWS {ROB AND RYAN}



TIM'S SISTER {SHERI} AND NEPHEW {AUSTIN}

Family

...being loved no matter what!

# Amy's Family



AMY WITH HER COUSINS {CHRIS & CONNOR} AND AUNT & UNCLE {DONNA & LINDALL}

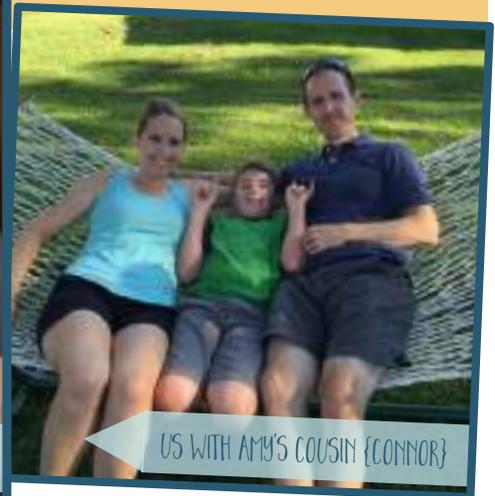
My family is not necessarily a conventional one of sorts. For most of my life I have looked up to my aunts and uncles, and now, as an adult, I spend the most time with them. They have always played a big role in my life. They were there for all of my milestones (birthdays, holidays, graduations, wedding). My aunts and uncles have been the consistent parental figures in my life and are always there with advice and a place to call home. Just as they have in mine, they play a very special and important role in Owen's life, and I know they will do the same for our future child. Owen is doted over by all of my family, and looks forward to visits with them all, especially his MeeMaw and Mac. My family has been nothing but supportive in our adoption journey. They love Owen dearly and are looking forward to sharing all of that love with our new little one.



OWEN WITH MEE MAW (AUNT DONNA) & MAC (UNCLE LINDALL)



US WITH AMY'S UNCLE {TOM}



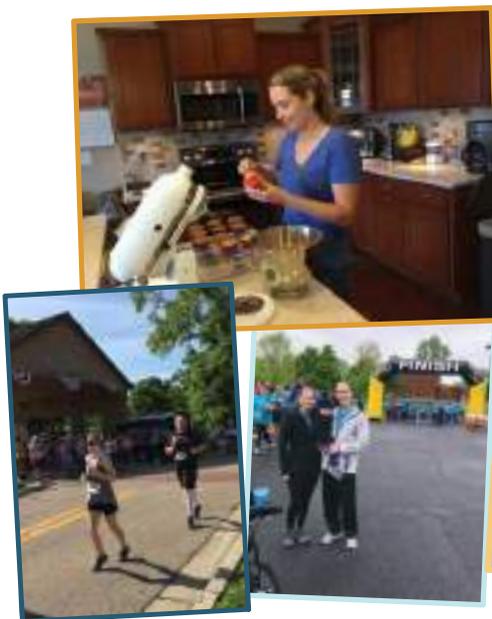
US WITH AMY'S COUSIN {CONNOR}

# HOBBIES & ACTIVITIES



Amy has always been an avid reader, and ends every day reading in bed before falling asleep. A couple of years ago, Amy decided she would like to run a 5K and began training. She has since run in a couple of 5K races, and continues to stay active throughout the year. Amy also enjoys baking and cooking. While cupcakes are her favorite thing to make (it is not uncommon for us to have a few stored away in the freezer in case of emergencies), she also likes to try new recipes and has put together quite the binder full of delicious and healthy meals we enjoy. Photography is also a hobby that Amy enjoys. She usually has a camera at the ready and loves documenting our family fun.

Tim enjoys making and building things. Before we built our house, he mostly focused on technology. He has built almost every computer we have ever owned, and makes sure every device we have is running securely and smoothly. Since moving into our home, he has spent a lot of time learning about home maintenance. He likes to try to figure things out and do them himself, or with the help of friends, but he isn't too proud to call a professional if he gets in over his head. One of his favorite things to do is go for an early morning walk to relax and spot the different wildlife that are out at that time of the day. Tim also enjoys trying to keep up with the latest interests of his students, including learning about Fortnite and Minecraft, popular YouTube stars, and solving the Rubik's Cube (they are still way better at that than he is).





We are so very fortunate that, with both of us being educators, we get to spend our summers together as a family. It is the perfect time to enjoy the parks and other recreational opportunities nearby. We try to get outside every day and go to the park, go for walks, or take a daytrip to the zoo, botanical gardens, or other close attractions. Owen is a big fan of swimming and visiting the community splash pad when the weather is warm. When the days are just too hot to enjoy running around outside, you might find us visiting our town's children's museum, playing a tabletop or video game, enjoying the shade of our back deck, or just relaxing with books.



*Excited to share our adventures with another!*





# Our friends are excited for us to adopt!



We are believers in quality over quantity, and we are so lucky to have a core group of great friends, living both near and far, with whom we've made such great memories. These are the people we share life's most important moments with, including our road to adoption. They have been so supportive in our decision to adopt, have welcomed Owen with open, loving arms, and can't wait for us to add to our family through adoption again. It has brought us so much joy to watch Owen and their children playing together, and watching their own friendships develop and grow.





## OUR PROMISE

We promise to love your child as much as you do. To provide a safe, fun, compassionate, and loving home. To be parents who want the best for this child, will help them become the best they can be, and will love them no matter who they are. We will let them know how very much they are loved, not just by us, but also by you.

## THANK YOU,

We want to thank you for taking some time to get to know a little more about our family, and, if you would like, we hope that we have the opportunity to learn a little more about you, too. The path to adoption, for both birth parents and adoptive parents, is often one that has a few twists and turns. It is our hope that with the right match, the journey through adoption together will be full of comfort, safety, and excitement for the future. We've all been brought to this place, and this point in time, because of love. The tremendous amount of love that you have in your heart for your child, which has helped guide you in making your birth plan, and the vast amount of love that we are waiting to give.

We hope we've been able to show you how committed we are to each other as a family, how committed we are to being parents, and the kind of life we are able to provide for your child. We are honored to have you consider us for adopting your child, and we wish you the best in every way in your own journey through the adoption process, and in life.

*-Tim, Amy, and Owen*



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