



Christopher
and Stacey

Meet Christopher & Stacey



Hello,

We already have so much love and admiration for you. It must take a lot of courage and strength to make this decision. We hold you and your baby in our hearts and are wishing the best for you both as you begin this journey. Thanks for considering us and taking the time to look through our book.

Christopher & Stacey

Our Story

We are two graphic designers who sat next to each other at work for a couple of years before eventually realizing we wanted to sit next to each other for always!

We bonded over our love of graphic design, art, music, our faith, and general nerdiness (such as Star Wars). After a year and a half of dating, Christopher proposed to Stacey on Christmas Day.

We make a great team and one of the first things we did as a married couple was attend a Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University course. It taught us how to chase our goals in life together and not just from a financial aspect. We worked hard and were eventually able to purchase a home where we envisioned starting our family.

Going through infertility was an immensely challenging experience but we were fortunate that in many ways it brought us closer together. It gave us extra time to consider who we would be as parents and opened our hearts to adoption. We are so excited to meet our future son or daughter and share our love with them!



About Christopher

Creative and playful

“While I was a kid and home alone, my parents discovered a hide and seek game that I set up around the house. They found me right away because I drew arrows on the furniture to help. I guess I was worried they forgot about me, but by the end of the evening I knew what I did wasn’t great. This might be one of the reasons I have a successful career as a graphic designer; helping people get to where they’re going. I’d like to encourage curiosity, creativity and playfulness for our child, but also discourage the ruining of furniture.”

Inspired by my resourceful dad

“My dad inspired me to be a maker and tinkerer of things. I’d see him working in the garage almost every evening or when I’d visit during breaks from college. He taught me a lot of how things work, what to do when things go wrong, how to fix things, and mainly how to be a decent person. A lot of what I do around the shop (garage) is similar to what my dad does. Now I find ways to reuse, fix or make things around the house. I hope to pass on greatness like this to our child.”



Hobbies & Interests

- Music and Songwriting
- Photography and Cinematography
- Woodworking and Crafts
- Improv and Stand-Up Comedy
- Watching a lot of Basketball
(Favorites: Cleveland Cavaliers and Austin Spurs)
- Bowling (275 average)
- Hiking and Being Outdoors



Preparing a snack for niece Lucy.

Me and my Dad.

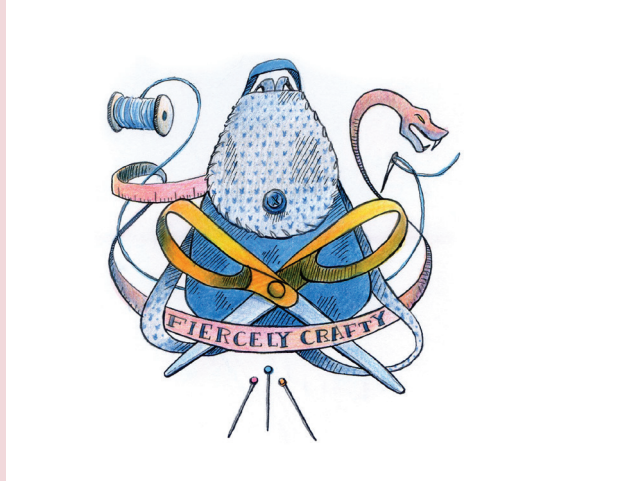


I write down all of my creative ideas. I've logged over 154 notebooks!

About Stacey

Expressive and Detailed

"I took an interest in decorating my room at a pretty young age. This wasn't just a matter of throwing a couple posters up on the wall. I very intentionally planned out a small living room for myself with a bean bag chair and a wooden stool positioned as my own little coffee table. I had a shelf in my room I liked to change up to match the seasons. I filled it with coordinating Beanie Babies and knick knacks I scavenged from my Mom's storage closet. I was so excited the year my grandparents gifted me a tiny Christmas tree and a set of small glass ornaments (so grown up!). I adored setting it up each year. Having space both in my home and in my family's heart to be creative - to be myself - is something I value. I hope to nurture the things that make our child special, whatever it is that puts a spark in their heart."



Me with my childhood best friend, Kara.



My Artwork.

Hobbies & Interests

- Drawing, Painting, and Crafting
- Writing
- Home Decorating (often with thrifted finds)
- Being Creative with my Wardrobe
- Photography
- Being in Nature
- Listening to Music
- Playing the Ukulele and the Clarinet

Holding niece Lucy at 3 weeks old.





Together Time

When we have free time together, we love to go on hikes or walks and soak up the sights and sounds of nature. Traveling is something else we enjoy and exploring a new place together inspires us.

We like doing creative projects together as well. Sometimes we will tackle a DIY project together like fixing up a piece of furniture or baking cookies to decorate.

There's also nothing like a cozy evening in. We often find a movie to watch, get out a puzzle, or play MarioKart and Animal Crossing on our Nintendo Switches together.

Quality time as a family is something we value deeply and we are eager to share activities and adventures big and small with our future little one!

Visiting Christopher's sister, Mila, in Stavanger, Norway.



Hiking with Godson and Nephew, Bronson.



Pike Place Market in Seattle, WA.



Cloud Gate (The Bean) in Chicago, IL.



Rori

Animal companions are important to us. An evening on the couch is not complete without our cat, Rori! She is a personality-filled senior kitty who loves to snuggle under throw blankets with us. She will even paw at the blankets edge to tell us she wants under!





Our Home

We live in a cute 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in Cedar Park, TX, a suburb of Austin. We fell in love with its Craftsman-inspired exterior. A few weeks after moving in, the unidentified tree in back burst into little pink blossoms - it was a peach tree! We felt as if the house had officially welcomed us home.

We've enjoyed decorating it with fun thrift finds and other things that inspire us. We are excited about storytime with our child in the reading nook/parlor, game nights in the dining room, plus blanket forts and movie nights in the family room.

We also live right around the corner from our neighborhood park; which has a playground, basketball court, and pool.

The parlor is our reading nook.



Christopher built a beautiful picnic table for the back porch.



Upstairs gameroom.



Our bedroom.



Watching a movie in the family room.

Our dining room decorated for Mothers Day Brunch.



Stacey's Family

Stacey's parents, Joel and Donna,

have been married for over 50 years and live a couple towns over in a house with a Hill Country view. They love animals and have a dog and a few cats. Donna is always thinking of others, is an excellent cook, and will surprise you with her humor. Joel is an engineer and truly knows a little something about everything. He hums when he's in a particularly good mood and loves to make brisket. They are loving parents, always quick to lend a helping hand or a listening ear. They are very excited to become first-time grandparents!

Stacey's brother, Brian, is just 19 month younger than her. He's a data analyst by day with a heart for the arts - he plays the guitar and writes songs. He has even played in a few hobby bands that have performed around Austin, including a Weezer cover band. He's full of wit and silliness and is sure to be a super fun Uncle!



Ladies Day Out!



Brian performing at "Easy Tiger" in Austin, TX.



Celebrating Joel and Donna's 50th Anniversary.



The Family Plant: Brian and Stacey planting Dieffenbachias rooted from a plant that once belonged to their great grandmother.





Madeline.



Conrado and Milagros.



Milagros loves to garden and has a backyard full of plants.



Mila.

Melody.

Conrad.



Christopher's Family

Christopher's parents, Conrado & Milagros, have been married over 50 years and live in Houston, Texas. They emigrated from the Philippines in the 1970s. They are retired now and spend a lot of their time involved in their church communities, hanging out with their other retired friends, or going on little vacations to new places. They are both wonderful, caring, and supportive parents to their five children and ten grandchildren. They can't wait to spoil their next grandchild!

Christopher has four siblings, Madeline, Melody, Conrad, & Mila. They are a fun and encouraging bunch - all very excited to meet their new niece or nephew.

Family gatherings are filled with people, food, and fun!



Nephew JJ with Christopher. No T-Rexes were touched in the taking of this photo! :)



Family Traditions



◀ The very first ornament we put on our tree each year is an ornament from Stacey's great grandparents' Christmas tree. We hang it together and make a Christmas wish. Our future child will have their own special ornament to wish on too!



We light our Advent wreath and sing a carol together each Sunday in December. ▶



▶ Stacey loves to decorate the house special for holidays, Christmas in particular.



◀ Christopher's family attends Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve. Afterwards, we have hot cocoa and other treats, like Christmas cookies, rice cakes, and eggrolls.



Stacey's illustration of Christmas Eve dinner.



Stacey's family has an eclectic Christmas Eve dinner based on their Czech heritage. The menu has evolved with each generation and currently includes tiny yeast pancakes, spaghetti, fried shrimp, and Kuba; a mushroom barley risotto. They also eat a Czech candied cherry and raisin bread for Christmas breakfast.



We can't wait to color eggs and have Easter egg hunts with our future child! Stacey also makes a bunny cake each year with a mold that's been in her family for generations.



Our Faith

We are Christians and our faith is an important part of who we are. It is something we hope to share with our future child, leading by example but making sure to leave space for their own questions and thoughts. We hope their faith is something they will come to on their own terms and not just because it's what Mom and Dad believe.

We love dressing up and using our creative skills during the Halloween season.



Our Friends



Angela.



Anna and Ryan.

We have a small but mighty group of friends we love hanging out with. They have been tremendously encouraging to us on our adoption journey.



Erik and Kara with kids, Evie and Lyra.



Cat.



What Stacey says about Christopher

- Helpful
- Patient teacher
- Finds the magic in everyday life
- The most wonderfully unique person I've ever met

"Children and animals tend to flock to Christopher. I think it's his playful spirit and gentle demeanor that draw them in. He knows how to listen to kids as well as be silly with them. He genuinely treasures his nieces and nephews and will make an amazing dad!"



"Stacey will be a wonderful, kind, and caring parent. She will be playful and have fun, but also give guidance when it's needed. Stacey finds ways to entertain my family's nieces and nephews when we visit them. It could be baking and decorating cookies or maybe playing with them at the local park. They enjoy their time with tita Stacey."

- The best person in the world
- Creative in a lot of what she does
- Caring for others
- Dives deep into what or why things happen

What Christopher says about Stacey

What open adoption means to us

We chose to pursue open adoption because of what our own heritage means to us. We are excited to have a child to love as our own, but also committed to he or she knowing the one whose heart beat steadily near them for nine months, the one who loved them first. Adoption is filled with emotions of all kinds, but we hope one that will ring clear for our child is just how many people love them.

