

Dear Expectant Parent(s),

“So, lay down your hurt, lay down your heart, come as you are.” A simple song lyric from Crowder is a perfect introduction for Susan and me. Our journey has come full circle to meet you! We are so excited and grateful that you are considering an adoption plan for your child. Thank you so much taking the time to read our letter and getting to know us. We know God has amazing plans for you and your child no matter what path He may lead you down.



We are Susan and Justin. Our first introduction was over a discussion about a musician that we both love. In fact, a lot of our relationship is based around our love for music. After two years of dating, and many concert experiences, we decided that we were a great fit for each other. We were married in October of 2011; fall is our favorite time of year! We incorporated our love for this season throughout our wedding. During our eight years of marriage, we have had many great joys and sorrows, with infertility being one of the most difficult. It was through this struggle, and much prayer, that Susan and I have “come as we are” and are ready to grow our family through adoption.

As a couple, Susan and I enjoy our Montana lifestyle. We try to get outdoors every day and walk our rescue dog, Lucy. Having both grown up in Montana, we love the natural beauty that this state offers and spend as much time as we can in the mountains fishing, hiking and camping. One of life’s simple pleasures that we both enjoy is a strong cup of coffee and a hearty breakfast

cooked on an open campfire while surrounded by nature. We love traveling and experiencing different cultures and food. Together, we have had the amazing opportunity to travel to three continents as well as many of the 50 states. We feel blessed to have seen the world and have had so many wonderful experiences; however, the one thing in life we have yet to experience is parenthood. As much as we enjoy these things, and are grateful for all of the opportunities we have had, we look forward to the day when we will be too busy with a child of our own for some of these things. We cannot wait for our child to experience all that this world has to offer with us when they are old enough. Both Susan and I consider ourselves “Foodies”; we love trying new recipes and hosting friends and family for dinners at our home. Whenever possible, we also enjoy live music of all types, as well as local theater productions. We enjoy spending time at home in the winter sitting with our dog by the fireplace and watching movies or working on puzzles. In the summer, we love nothing more than to sit around our fire pit.



Hi, I am Justin. I was born in Colorado, but I was raised on a ranch in Montana. I am the middle child, with one older sister and one younger brother. Growing up, I was a very active child; I was involved in many activities including football, Speech and Drama, Business Professionals of America, Band (Honor, Pep, and Jazz band), FFA, and 4-H where I raised sheep and a Shetland pony. My entire family lives close by and we often get together. One of our favorite family traditions is smoking baby back ribs seasoned with our secret family seasoning. We have an annual family reunion where all of our extended family comes to town for a weekend in July. It is a great event and we have had upwards of eighty people the last several years. We use it as a time to fellowship, catch up, and most importantly, pass down our family traditions to keep them going from generation to generation. I am a Project Engineer for a local Engineering firm. I have an Engineering degree from Montana Tech with options in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering. I am also a Registered Professional Engineer in Petroleum Engineering. I love roller coasters and playing guitar, as well as fly fishing and most recently, I have found a love for photography. I also love volunteering time at our local science fairs – I have judged over fifteen events. I enjoy coming into Susan’s classroom and explaining different engineering principles to her students, as well as helping on STEM day events at our local schools. I cannot wait to be a dad and share my love of fly fishing, Legos, science and roller coasters with my own child!



Susan about Justin: Justin is the most giving person I know. He always puts other people’s needs above his own and is willing to drop whatever he is working on to help friends or family. He is compassionate and has a heart of gold. I love his ability to listen and make people feel like they are heard, which allows him to connect personally with everyone he meets. He is trustworthy and honest and makes people feel at ease immediately upon meeting him. He has the gift of patience when working one on one with children to help them complete a project. I have seen this first hand as Justin has helped our nephews learn how to cast a fly rod, construct a model airplane, and play guitar. He is my best friend and helps me to see the fun in any situation. Justin is going to be an amazing dad with so much love and knowledge to share with our child.



Hello, I am Susan. I am a native Montanan, having been born and raised in this beautiful state. I am the youngest of three siblings. I have an older brother and sister – both of whom were adopted. I have always loved the outdoors and as a child, many of my favorite activities included building forts, roller skating, ice skating, and sledding. I grew up with horses and often enjoyed spending time at our farm caring for the horses, as well as going on rides with my dad and siblings. In high school I was active in volleyball, softball and band, where I played clarinet. I was also very active in my church youth group. My family enjoyed taking our travel trailer out and going

camping and fishing in the summer. Some of my favorite memories of my childhood include our camping adventures. I graduated from Rocky Mountain College with a degree in Elementary Education. I am a 1st and 2nd grade teacher at a small, private school. I absolutely love children and throughout my teaching career, I have taught students in preschool through grade six. Every day is a new adventure! I feel blessed to instill a passion for lifelong learning within my students and to help them strive to be their best selves. It is a true blessing to be a teacher and to know that this is my calling. In my spare time, I enjoy cooking, gardening, hosting family events, decorating and taking long walks with our dog, Lucy. I cannot wait to be a mom and have the opportunity to foster a love of learning within my own child. I love to read and I look forward to sharing my favorite books and authors with our child.

Justin about Susan: Susan is the most kind and patient person I know. She is so calm when she is teaching; it is an amazing thing to watch. She is graceful, full of poise and in complete control. Her students adore her – we are constantly invited to high school graduations from students Susan had when they were in kindergarten. She has a big heart and loves the Lord. She will be an amazing mom and I am so excited for that opportunity for her.

We are excited that you have prayerfully considered our family for the placement of your child. Thank you for taking the time to get to know a little more about us. The plans that we have laid out may not make sense in the moment, but in the end, all things will come full circle in God's perfect timing. We are excited to meet you and hope that we can complete your adoption circle. Please, come as you are!

With blessing,

Justin and Susan

