

JEREMIAH *and* KARA





Hello there,

First, we want you to know how much we admire your courage. This is no small decision, and we approach it with deep respect for you and your story. We believe adoption is not just about a child joining a family, but about honoring and valuing the woman who gave them life.

We are huge advocates for open adoption, and if this is something you desire, we have big hearts for it. We've experienced the beauty of this through our first adoption, and it's shaped the way we see the gift of connection between a child and their birth parents. It's our hope that your child would grow up knowing you—not just as a part of their story, but as an active and loving presence in their life.

If your child becomes part of our family, they'll grow up in a home where they are deeply loved, supported, protected, and understood. And, they'll also be surrounded by music and dancing on a regular basis! We're a family full of musicians, which means singing in the kitchen, dancing in the living room, and filling everyday life with joy, laughter, and rhythm. We'd count it a privilege to make your child part of that song.

With love,

Jeremiah, Kara, Emberlin,
Lovelin, Valor, and Revel

Our connection to adoption

Adoption has already become a beautiful part of our family story through our son, Revel. **From the very beginning, we knew we wanted to be intentional about building and nurturing a relationship with his birth mother.** Over the years, we've stayed available, shown up consistently, and made space for that relationship to grow naturally. We've celebrated milestones together, shared updates and photos, and been present for each other in both the easy and the hard seasons.

Our love for her runs deep—not only because she entrusted us with the gift of parenting Revel, but because of the person she is and the courage she has shown in her own life. We've had the privilege of walking alongside her in her growth journey, encouraging her, cheering her on, and watching her continue to write her own story.

Adopting Revel has also deepened the love within our family in ways we didn't expect. Our other kids adore their brother, and the experience of welcoming him has helped them grow in empathy, patience, and joy. They've learned firsthand that family is built on love, not just biology, and their bond with him is proof of that every day.

In our home, adoption is an open and celebrated topic. Jeremiah has a personal connection because he didn't meet his biological father and four siblings until his adult life. **This has given us a deep empathy and desire for any adoptive child not only to know about their biological family but to have a relationship with them.** We have done this with Revel about his story in age-appropriate ways, look at photos together, and make sure he knows how much he is loved by both his families.

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Our dream is for any future adopted child to grow up with the same sense of connection—to know where they came from, to be proud of their story, and, if possible, to have a meaningful relationship with their birth family as well.



Our hearts for adoption

We believe adoption is a calling for us because we want to make a difference in a child's life and, if we can, in the life of their birth mother as well. Over the years, our love for Revel's birth mom has grown as we've built trust, shared moments, and stayed connected through calls, photos, and visits. Revel knows who she is, sees pictures of her, and hears stories that help him understand how loved he is by both of his families. Our dream is to give another child that same sense of belonging and to welcome their birth mother into our lives with the same openness and care.

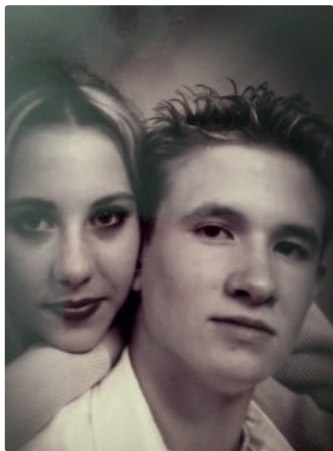
Our hearts for you

Before anything else, we want you to know how much we see and admire your courage. We can't imagine all the emotions you may be feeling, but we know this decision is not made lightly. Our hearts are full of respect for you—not just for considering adoption, but for the love you have for your child that brings you to this point.

We want you to know that our desire is not only to welcome a child into our family, but also to honor and care about you as a person. If you choose us, your child will grow up hearing about your love for them and knowing the place you hold in their story. We believe in open adoption because it allows a child to experience love from both their birth and adoptive families—and, if you desire, we would be thrilled for you to be part of our lives in that way. Our hope is that you would feel seen, valued, and supported in whatever relationship you want to have with your child and with us.

No matter what you decide, we want you to know you are worthy of love, compassion, and respect. You will always be the first chapter of your child's story, and that will never be forgotten.

We're a family full of love, and we have a holistic view of adoption that values not just the child, but also the connection with their birth family whenever possible.



ABOUT US

Jeremiah + Kara

We met as teenagers—15 and 16—at our church youth group, and started dating on April 10, 1998.

A few years later, when we were 18, we spent time in China doing mission work and serving at an orphanage. It was there that we first felt the call to adopt—a seed planted in our hearts that would stay with us for years to come.

On June 14, 2003, we were married in Vancouver, Washington and began building a life together.

Our first daughter, Emberlin, was born in 2006, followed by our second daughter, Lovelin, in 2012.

The next year brought an exciting change—Jeremiah's band signed to a record label, so we packed up and moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he began touring full-time.

In 2015, we welcomed our first son, Valor, and the next year took another leap, moving to Boise, Idaho.

In 2018, life brought us to Illinois, where we've planted deep roots as a family.

In 2023, our long-held dream came true when we adopted our son Revel—a moment that forever changed our family for the better.



We're still best friends who laugh often, dance in the kitchen, and dream about the future. Those years of walking side by side have prepared us to be a strong parenting team. We know how to create a home where a child feels safe, loved, and free to become exactly who they are meant to be.

MEET JEREMIAH

professional musician, songwriter, and pastor

Currently serving as a worship pastor, **my work is more than just a career, it is a calling** that lets me combine my love for people, music, and ministry in a way that blesses both my family and the community we serve.

“Music is one of my greatest passions, not only producing and writing my own, but also helping other artists find their voice and sound. There is something deeply rewarding about helping someone bring a song to life and watching them connect with their own creativity.”

One of the things I love most about my work is seeing people come alive to the reality of God’s love for them. Music has taken me all over the country and even around the world, and I have had the privilege of working and writing with some of the biggest names in the music industry. I truly enjoy writing songs about life, love, and faith, and using music to inspire and encourage others. ***My role is both family friendly and flexible, which allows me to be present and involved in the lives of my children. I also receive paternity leave, which will give me the opportunity to be fully home and focused on our family as we welcome and bond with our new child.***

I ALSO LIKE

- cheering on the Portland Trail Blazers
- family walks (one of my favorite ways to slow down, talk, and laugh together)
- reading & podcasts (always looking for new ideas and perspectives to learn from)
- staying active
- working out
- basketball
- hiking



I parent with love and logic, raising our children to love deeply and think wisely. Wisdom is a treasure I want my kids to carry with them throughout their lives, alongside compassion, kindness, and courage. Some of my best childhood memories are of holidays filled with family, traditions, and laughter, and I work hard to create that same kind of joy for our children today. I love spending time making music with them, having long talks, and laughing until our sides hurt. More than anything, I want every child in our home to know they are unconditionally loved, valued, and free to grow into the person they were made to be.



I love my children the same way I feel loved by God, without condition and with my whole heart fully engaged. This kind of love gives them the freedom to think for themselves, to explore their interests, and to ask hard questions, while also giving them guidance and wisdom to walk in truth and love. I want them to know they are free to be who they are, but also that they are part of something bigger than themselves, a family that values kindness, integrity, and compassion.

I am an active parent, not just in providing for my children, but in being present with them. Whether it is cheering them on at an activity, teaching them a new skill, or having conversations about what they are feeling, I want my kids to know I am in their corner. My goal is to help them grow into confident, grounded human beings who understand that life does not revolve around them, but that real joy



comes from living selflessly and serving others. I want them to see that love is not just a feeling but an action, and that it is something we give freely without expecting anything in return.

If we are blessed with another child, I will love, respect, and care for them in the same way. I will listen to their heart, celebrate their unique personality, and help them discover the gifts and passions that make them who they are. I will guide them through life's challenges and cheer them on in their successes. Most of all, I will remind them every day that they are wanted, valued, and deeply loved, not just by me but by an entire family who will be by their side for a lifetime.

In Kara's words: Jeremiah is my best friend. He is the most selfless and compassionate person I know, a huge visionary and sooooo talented. He makes spending time with the family a priority and loves to snuggle all of us. Not to mention all the wrestling that happens in our house. He has spent his whole life committed to what he believes in and has traveled the world playing music since he was 18 years old. He is a great dancer and won me over with his humor. He has so much love to give. I love him so much.

MEET

KARA

Ministry Director

I'm currently serving as a Ministry Director at our church, working alongside an incredible team—all united in the same goal of helping people come to know the Lord and building His Kingdom. I love collaborating with people who share this vision and seeing the impact it has on our community.

If we are blessed to welcome a child into our family, I plan to continue in this role in a way that works well for everyone—taking about three months off to focus fully on bonding and adjusting. My job is wonderfully family-friendly, with flexible hours and the option to work from home when needed, which means I can often have a little one with me. For childcare, we have a trusted in-home daycare just down the street that our son Revel enjoys, and we also lean on family when it's helpful. I'm grateful to have a role that aligns with my values and allows space for both meaningful work and family life.



these are a few of my favorite things

- working out (*especially lifting weights*)
- walking
- puzzles
- cooking (*Mexican food is my specialty*)
- traveling
- reading (*autobiographies and self-help books*)
- spending time in the sun

Always With Me: Music—whether in the car, on headphones, or in the background at home.

Top favorites: Thai food, most international foods, summer, and Christmas.

Fun Fact: My high school nickname was “K-Money” (a total joke that stuck).

Travel Love: Arizona is a favorite—especially because it’s where Revel’s birth mom lives.

Social Life: I enjoy both quiet alone time and being with my people—friends and family.

Traditions: Every year I host a huge Fall Fest party at our house with a chili cook-off and apple picking—about 100 friends and family join in!

Being a mom is one of my greatest joys. I love the everyday moments—laughing with the kids in the backyard, listening to their wild ideas, and seeing their faces light up when they learn or try something new. I want them to know they can come to me for anything, whether it's a big life question or just someone to share a silly story with. If you asked them, they'd probably tell you I'm loving, a little goofy, and always cheering them on.

What excites me most about adding to our family is knowing this child will be stepping into a circle of love that's already waiting for them. Their siblings, grandparents, and friends are ready with open arms (and probably way too many snacks). My greatest prayer is that they will grow up confident in who they are, surrounded by love, and encouraged to chase after their dreams—whatever those may be. **I want them to have the kind of home I grew up wishing for: a safe place where they can laugh loudly, dream freely, and always know they belong.**

Loving and respecting my family means showing up for them in both the big and small ways. For Jeremiah, it's being his encourager, his safe place, and his biggest cheerleader. I make a point to speak kindly to him, support his dreams, and be honest when life gets hard so we can work through it together. For our kids, it's about creating a home where they know they are seen, heard, and valued—whether that's helping with homework, listening to their stories from the day, or just being present for all the little moments that matter.

Caring for my family also means making sure their needs are met—physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I try to keep a balance of structure and fun so our kids feel secure but also have the freedom to explore and grow. **We laugh a lot in our home, but we also take the time to talk about feelings, challenges, and the importance of kindness.** I want them to know they are loved without conditions.

If we are blessed to add another child to our family, they will have a mom who celebrates their unique personality, advocates for them, and encourages them to chase their dreams. They will be surrounded by a family who believes in them, protects them, and loves them fiercely—every single day.



In Jeremiah's words: Kara is the most confident and dedicated person I know. Kind, empathetic and easy to talk to. Her friends are friends for life because she imparts love and wisdom to the people around her. When she sets her mind to something, it happens. Our children have had a home environment where they not only feel crazy loved, but they know that they are safe, and they truly thrive. This is because her top priority has been the health and wellness of our family. She is my best friend and confidant. She laughs at all my corny jokes still and loves our children like a boss. She is the strongest woman I know and the rock and backbone of our family.

MEET OUR CREW



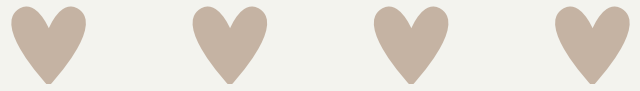
EMBERLIN (19)

Emberlin is a songbird. Like her dad, she writes music and used to lead worship with him at church. She has a big heart for those who feel left out and is a natural leader. She now lives in California where she is following her passion for music and attending a ministry school.



LOVELIN (13)

Lovelin is bright, athletic, and full of heart. She plays on a travel basketball team and still dreams of being a teacher one day. She is incredibly helpful with Revel and all our friends' kids, and lights up at the thought of more siblings.



VALOR (10)

Valor is full of energy, heart, and imagination. He plays both baseball and basketball, with his dad coaching on the sideline. He recently made the decision to be baptized and we couldn't be more proud. Valor still loves superheroes and dreams of becoming a firefighter or police officer—he has a true protector's heart.



REVEL (2)

Revel is the joyful exclamation point at the end of our crew. He joined our family through adoption in 2023 and has filled our home with giggles, curiosity, and toddler-sized energy. He adores his big siblings, keeps us laughing, and reminds us daily what a gift adoption truly is.

JEREMIAH'S FAMILY

I grew up in a lively household as one of five boys—right in the middle! My parents, Randy and Debbie (known as Grandma and Grandpa), have 10 grandchildren so far. They love our kids deeply, and visits are always filled with hugs, kisses, and plenty of stories. My dad, a career Army man, has endless adventures to share from his years of service. I also have four other siblings from my biological dad who lives in the Philippines. Meeting them has been one of the most meaningful parts of my life—two I met ten years ago and became instantly close to, and the other two I've gotten to know over the past five years. Our kids adore all their aunts, uncles, and cousins, no matter which side of the family they're from.



KARA'S FAMILY



I grew up with my parents, Bob (“Papo”) and Sheryl (“Mammy”), and my younger brother Michael. Mammy and Papo are incredibly special to our kids—they light up every time they visit. When they’re in town, we love exploring the city, trying new restaurants, and finding fun adventures. My brother lives in Hawaii with his wife and young son, where he serves as a firefighter. Even though they’re far away, we stay close through calls, visits, and shared traditions. Family is important to us, and both sides are ready to welcome another little one with open arms and big hearts.



HOME & COMMUNITY

Our home is warm, relaxed, and full of character—just like us. It's a spacious, welcoming place where memories are made, messes are welcome, and love shows up in everyday moments. We live on nearly an acre with plenty of room for the kids to run, explore, and let their imaginations soar. The backyard creek is a favorite spot for fishing and adventures, while our pool has quickly become the heart of our summers—perfect for cooling off, playing together, and relaxing. Inside, we have four bedrooms, a playroom, and cozy shared spaces that make it easy to gather as a family.

What makes our house a home is how it's lived in and loved every day. We spend our time here cooking meals together, hosting family and friends, celebrating milestones, and enjoying the simple, everyday moments that matter most. Whether it's laughing in the playroom, reading on the couch, or roasting marshmallows outside, our home is a place where everyone feels welcome, cared for, and free to be themselves. It's not just where we live—it's where our family grows and where love is shared in countless little ways.

We live in a community that feels like it was made for families—safe streets, kids riding bikes, neighbors who wave, and plenty of parks and trails to explore.

One of the things we love most is the diversity here. Our schools, churches, and neighborhoods bring together people from many cultures, backgrounds, and life experiences, which makes it such a rich place to raise kids. There's always something going on—seasonal festivals, cultural celebrations, farmers markets, and movie nights in the park—that bring everyone together. We love that there are great schools, fun playgrounds, and spaces where our kids can run, climb, and make new friends who may not look exactly like them but who help them learn, grow, and appreciate the beauty in our differences. It's the kind of place where people look out for each other, and where you can be as busy or as relaxed as you want. We've put down roots here because it's the perfect mix of connection, diversity, activities, and breathing room—and we can't wait to share it all with another child.





Our plans for the future are to continue investing in our church community and building meaningful relationships right where we are. We believe the best use of our lives is to make lasting, joy-filled memories together while also serving others well. I plan to keep writing and producing music, and I have also been venturing into writing children's books, with two already published and more ideas on the way. We hope to keep growing as a family, to travel and experience new places together, and to create a home that is always full of love, laughter, and purpose.

Our faith is the foundation of our lives, guiding the way we live and how we care for others. We have committed ourselves to living in a way that reflects the heart of Jesus, not because we are perfect, but because we have a genuine desire to grow in love, kindness, and grace. The most important value we want to teach our children is that God loves them more than they could ever imagine. We believe that understanding this truth is the starting point for learning how to truly love and serve others.

We believe education should prepare our kids for both life and learning. Right now, we're happy with our public school—it's a great district, all our friends and family are on the same schedule, and we love the real-world diversity it offers. In the past, we've also used private and charter schools, and Kara was homeschooled for a time, so we're open to change if needed. What matters most to us is finding the environment that helps our kids thrive. Beyond academics, we want them to grow into kind, confident, and resilient people who know how to problem-solve, respect others, and work hard toward their goals. At home, we encourage curiosity and creativity by exploring their interests, asking questions together, reading often, cooking side-by-side, and getting outdoors to explore. We believe in balance—solid structure for a strong foundation, paired with hands-on projects and real-life experiences. While college is something we value and encourage, we know success can take many paths, and we'll always support our kids in pursuing the future that excites them most.

FAMILY TIME

We are a family that does a lot together and making memories is our greatest priority. One of our favorite things to do is play board games or snuggle up and watch family movies together. We also have family dinner together at least 80% of the week where we ask each other what our favorite part of the day was. Because we have family across the nation, we regularly do a lot of traveling adventures in order to see everyone. We go on at least one bigger family vacation every year. Our dream come true would be after our children are adults, they would say that they loved their childhood because of all the amazing memories.

We have a dog named Jolene (yes, just like the Dolly Parton song!) who is sweet, silly, and always ready for a game of fetch or a belly rub. We also have two sibling cats, Giraffe and Ambrose. Giraffe is curious and playful, while Ambrose is more of a snuggler. They're all quirky, cuddly, and completely loved by our family. They're gentle with kids and love being part of the action, whether that's playing outside, curling up during story time, or waiting patiently for a little treat to come their way.

Church is a big part of our life, not just because Jeremiah is a pastor, but because it's where we've found our people. It's our second family, the place we gather for support, friendship, and plenty of fun.

We take our family seriously but we also love to laugh. Our family is full of TV show and movie quotes that we think are funny but our favorite to quote is The Office. ***"I am Beyoncé always" - Michael Scott***





OUR TRADITIONS

Our family loves a good tradition—and we're not afraid to make one up if it means more laughter and memories!

We go big on holidays and birthdays, because why not? Easter means a feast (and usually way too much dessert). In the fall, you'll find us at the pumpkin patch, and the day after Thanksgiving we're bundled up cutting down our own Christmas tree. Christmas morning? Cinnamon rolls, presents, and all the cozy chaos. Birthdays are filled with special touches—a favorite meal, silly surprises, and whatever makes the person feel extra celebrated.

We can't wait to bring a new little one into all of this. We picture them running through the pumpkin patch, helping hang ornaments, licking frosting off cinnamon rolls, and laughing with us through all the messy, beautiful moments. Around here, traditions aren't just about what we do—they're about being together and making life feel a little extra special.

OUR FAMILY VALUES

faith

Our faith is the foundation of everything we do. It shapes how we love, how we treat others, and how we navigate both the joyful and challenging moments in life.

love

Love is what holds our family together. We are committed to creating a home where each person knows they are seen, valued, and cherished just as they are.

memories

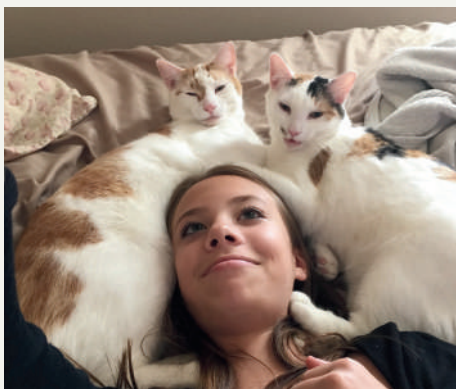
We believe life is about more than just milestones—it's about the moments in between. We are intentional about raising our children to carry the best memories with them, from spontaneous kitchen dance parties to music-filled evenings and family game nights that get a little competitive.

***“The Lord your God is with you,
He is mighty to save. He will take
great delight in you; He will quiet
you with His love, He will rejoice
over you with singing.”***

– Zephaniah 3:17

We love this verse because we believe God is a good Father who sings over all of His children. This truth inspires us to regularly sing over our own kids as a way of reminding them they are loved, safe, and treasured.





OUR PROMISES TO YOU



We will always speak openly and positively about your role in our child's life, honoring you with love and gratitude.



We will share their adoption story from the very beginning, so it is a natural and celebrated part of who they are.



We will create a safe, loving, and joy-filled home where they can grow confident in their identity and know they belong.



We will celebrate their heritage and culture, intentionally learning and incorporating traditions so they feel connected to their roots.



We will support their dreams—whether that includes college or another path—by encouraging their interests and providing opportunities to explore their passions.



We will protect their story and allow them to decide how and when to share it with others.



We will pray for you, your family, and your child with thankfulness, love, and respect, both now and in the years to come.

BEFORE YOU GO ...

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our family and the kind of home we would offer your child. We cannot imagine the weight of the decision you are facing, but we want you to know we see you with deep respect and compassion.

We have been praying for you, asking for peace, clarity, and the assurance that you are valued and not alone. If you choose us, we will love, protect, and celebrate your child every day of their life. We will also honor you as an important part of their story and, if you desire, keep an ongoing relationship so they can know your love.

No matter what you decide, you are worthy of love, hope, and a beautiful future. Thank you for considering us.

With love, Jeremiah & Kara



