



One of our dreams is to share our love with a second child. We have prepared a nursery in our home in anticipation of the great joy of bringing the baby home. We will provide a safe, warm and loving home and have designed the nursery with that goal.

## Michael

## Cynthia

### Job Description:

Special Education Teacher

Stay At Home Mother

### Education:

Master's Degree in Education,  
Bachelor's of Business  
Administration in Computer  
Science, Currently earning  
administrative certificate  
(to be a vice principal or principal).

Master's Degree in Education,  
Bachelor's of Arts in Spanish  
with a Minor in  
Telecommunications

### Favorites:

**Vacation Spot**  
Spain

**Vacation Spot**  
Hilton Head

**Type of Music**  
Folk Music

**Type of Music**  
International

**Quality About Spouse**  
She loves unconditionally

**Quality About Spouse**  
He's a nurturer

**Beverage**  
Iced Tea

**Beverage**  
Starbucks Coffee

### Children:

Moses, Age 2 ½

## Our Connections with Adoption

Our first child, Moses, is adopted. We are members of a group of transracial and adoptive families that meets at a local church to enjoy fellowship and to demonstrate that our family is not so unique. In our hometown there are also several families brought together by adoption. In Moses' graduating class there will be at least three other children who have been adopted!

In addition to these connections Cynthia has an older sister who is adopted and her best childhood friend was adopted. Michael and Cynthia have always viewed adoption as a natural and healthy option for families. We are very matter of fact with Moses about his adoption and always have been. The new baby will grow up with these same values. We will teach him or her to value their place in our family and yours.

## Our Parenting Style

We have always wanted to be parents. We were married for 11 years before we were able to adopt our first child. We are eager to adopt one more child for many reasons. Primarily, we have a lot of love to give. We know we can provide an exceptional home and happy life to another child. We strongly believe that Moses will be a wonderful big brother and that both of our children will thrive in our family of four.

We do everything we can for Moses and will do so for his younger sibling. We go to the library several times a week. Moses is enrolled in gymnastics, a music class and a sports class. Additionally, he is part of a playgroup that meets regularly. Moses also gets plenty of one-on-one Mommy time and Daddy time as well as a generous helping of Family Time. He is an incredibly happy, well-adjusted child! With our second child we will provide the same kinds of opportunities with the added bonus of having a big brother.

We both strongly believe that a child thrives in a two parent home, with a stay at home parent. We will give our new child many opportunities to learn, grow and blossom.

## Our House & Neighborhood



We live in a three-bedroom house in one of central Ohio's most exceptional communities. We chose our town for many reasons; you can walk anywhere, the neighbors are kind and friendly, it's safe and it has one of the best school systems in Ohio. Our city holds many annual family friendly events such as the Halloween Hay Ride, Christmas Tree Lighting, Easter Egg Hunt and Memorial Day Parade. We also have an award-winning library here that caters to the needs of the young and old. We know that both of our children will feel loved and accepted here. There are many kinds of families in our community, traditional, trans-racial, blended, single parent as well as a surprising number of families brought together by adoption. Our community is loving, tight knit and accepting of one another.



Our Home

## Our House & Neighborhood



Cynthia & Moses at the Park

We believe it is important to provide a safe, comfortable and nurturing home in which to raise a family. Our large backyard boasts a basketball court, a budding garden and plenty of grass in which to romp. Our home has two levels and a full basement. The downstairs area has been outfitted for family fun! Our dining room is the designated playroom but, of course, play extends throughout our home. Upstairs we have three bedrooms and "a secret room"! Our adopted son Moses has his own room and the new child will have his or her own room as well. The secret room is actually another family fun room in which we explore different interests such as sewing, scrap-booking and music making. We work hard to provide a stimulating yet peaceful home in which we can all enjoy ourselves and our lives together!

## Our Extended Family

Cynthia - I have several sisters, nieces and nephews who live nearby. Holidays and family gatherings are filled with laughter and joy. We enjoy bowling, canoeing, playing board games and going to the movies together. We are a close, spontaneous and loving family. My sisters and their families have embraced our decision to adopt wholeheartedly. Everybody loves Moses and wants to spend lots of time with him. They look forward to being a part of the new child's life and are so excited to welcome him or her into the family.

Michael and I have begun some new traditions since we have been married and growing our family. One especially successful practice has been our celebration of Thanksgiving. We invite a nice mix of family and friends. Our guests are encouraged to bring a special dish, one that reflects their family's culture or a dish they love to make. Before eating, each person gives thanks for something important in their lives and then we dig in! This year was great! One friend brought collard greens with smoked turkey wings, another baked homemade Parker Rolls and my sister made her famous sausage stuffing. We look forward to sharing this tradition and others with the newest member of our family.

Michael - My extended family is smaller and geographically scattered. However, we are close and have frequent contact via phone, cards and email. We are fortunate that my mother is a traveler by nature. She flies up to Ohio at least twice a year and we occasionally drive down to see her in Georgia. She is a wonderful grandmother! She showers Moses with attention and love all year round. She is very excited about the prospect of another grandchild!

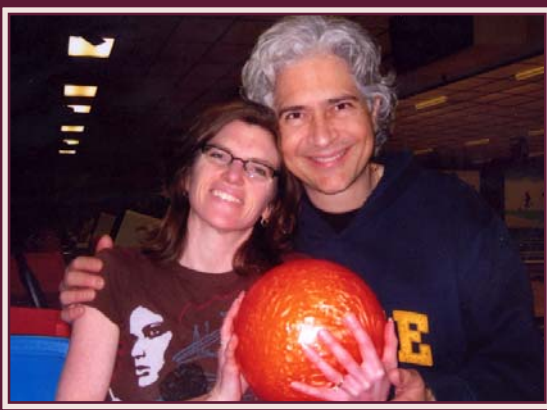


Cynthia's Family at Her Niece's Graduation



Moses' Baptism with Michael's Mother

## Leisure Time



Going Bowling

We all love spending time together as well as engaging in independent activities. As a family we enjoy hiking, walking our dog, going to the library and museums. We (Michael and Cynthia) enjoy having "date nights" during which we go to the theater, the movies or an art hop. We also enjoy reading, playing board games and doing special projects. We do not indulge in much television; we believe it is more beneficial to do than to watch it being done! All year long, we enjoy spending time together with family and friends from work, church and clubs.

**Michael** - I enjoy pursuing many interests at once. I have dabbled in sewing, drawing and origami. My current interests include playing the ukelele, mountain dulcimer and guitar. I am working towards a new certification that will allow me to be a principal of a middle or high school. I also joined a gym and go several times a week. My most important

pursuit is fatherhood. I take fatherhood very seriously and take excellent care of Moses. As soon as I come home from work, I give Moses my undivided attention! I look forward to sharing my love and energy with the new baby.

**Cynthia** - I love to stay busy! I enjoy traveling and taking classes. I have studied abroad often and look forward to doing so again with our children. I am the vacation planner for the family and I like exploring the options for family fun via the Internet, the library and word of mouth. Although my primary occupation is Moses, I enjoy independent interests. I am an avid reader and like both fiction and non-fiction. I love to spend time with my girlfriends and sisters, playing Scrabble, shopping or going out for coffee. I also enjoy attending art exhibitions, dance recitals and local theater performances when possible.



Our Family on the Carousel

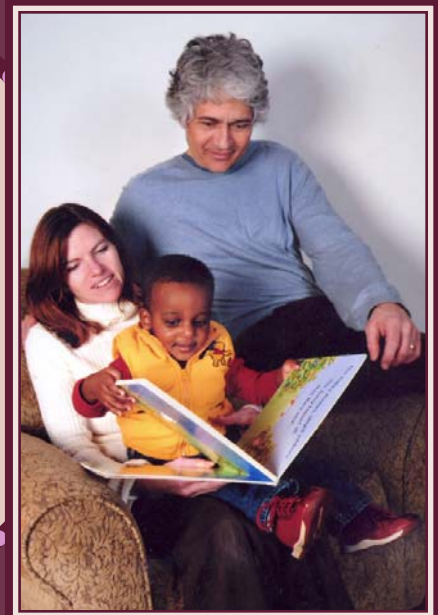


On the Beach at Hilton Head



Attending Cynthia's  
Sister's Wedding

# Michael & Cynthia



Sharing a Story



Visiting Seattle



Moses' 1st Birthday Party!

## Dear Birthparent(s),

Thank you for considering us as adoptive parents for your child. What a difficult decision this must be. We can assure you that if you entrust us with your child, she or he will be raised with great care and with every advantage we can provide.

Our names are Michael and Cynthia. We have been happily married for 13 years. We are a close and loving couple. We are both educators who share the same value, hopes and dreams. When we met we were astounded by how much we have in common! We both love to travel, read and are curious individuals. It did not take us long to realize that we were deeply in love and wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. We felt truly blessed when we adopted our son Moses. He has enriched our lives beyond words.

We are Christians and our faith is very important to us. We attend Church regularly and Michael teaches Sunday School. We have made reading Bible stories and saying our prayers a natural part of Moses' life. We will raise both of our children to be active in the church. Both of our children will be part of a community of kind, moral, prayerful people who love them.

One of our dreams is to share our love with a second child. Children are such an important part of a family. We have prepared a nursery in our home in anticipation of the great joy of bringing the baby home. The nursery is decorated in a colorful and stimulating manner with a new crib, rocking chair and other welcoming items. We will provide a safe, warm and loving home and have designed the nursery with that goal.

We have both been raised with love and respect. We will surround the baby with that same love and respect. We will listen to him/her, pay attention to his/her needs, and will provide him/her with opportunities to grow into an amazing person. We believe that children flourish when given the chance. We will provide him or her with the support, encouragement, and educational advantages necessary to be a healthy and happy person. We promise the best education, a nurturing home and our devotion. We want you to know that one of us plans to be a stay-at-home parent, especially during the early years. We will always be there, both physically and emotionally.

We are kind, good people with generous hearts and a strong spiritual and moral center. We want to share our love with another child and to envelop him or her in a warm and loving environment. We look forward to both the ordinary and extraordinary aspects of raising a child. We cannot wait to dress him or her up for the holidays, go to games, roast marshmallows and go canoeing. We want to take him or her all around the world and to share the daily joys of reading, cooking and laughing together. We want to give him/her the best life possible and a childhood full of meaningful experiences and happiness.

We value our own cultural backgrounds and will raise the baby with openness and respect for his/her unique heritage as well. We will always portray you in the best light, acknowledging your brave choice. Your child will know that you wanted the best life for him/her. If you so desire, we will send you pictures, updates and notes to help reassure you of your decision.

We want more than anything in the world to bring another child into our family. We would be forever thankful if you chose us. The opportunity to raise and love a second child will be the answer to our prayers.

With hope, sincerity and love,

## Michael and Cynthia

