

TRENTON & BETH

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US ...

TRENTON

BETH

Our Jobs

High School
Math Teacher

Stay-at-Home
Mom

Our Education

Master's Degree

High School

Some of Our Favorite Things

Hobby

Playing Bean Bags

Hobby

Baking

Vacation Spot

National Parks
(out west)

Vacation Spot

Disney World

Leisure Activity

Reading

Tradition

Summer Camp

Leisure Activity

Long Walks

Tradition

Family Movie
Nights

TV Show

Person of Interest

TV Show

NCIS

Our Children

Joshua (12), Bryce (12),
Jessie (10), Payton (10), Braden (10)

We greatly respect the difficult decision you are considering and we applaud your strength. We have prayed for many years about how to expand our family. Since we have many adopted individuals within our family and circle of friends, we know adoption is the path we want to follow. We believe children should be given unconditional love and encouragement to follow their dreams. We would feel so blessed to give this to your child.

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PARENTS

We believe that being parents is the most important, wonderful and rewarding experience we will ever have. Parenting means putting the needs of our children above our needs. It means giving unconditional love through words and actions. It means providing a stable environment and a strong marriage for our children. It means putting up healthy boundaries that keep a child safe, which allows them to grow into healthy, happy, well-adjusted adults. We know that by putting God at the center of our family, all these things will happen.

We are parents to five very sweet children and are looking forward to our family continuing to grow through adoption. Our mission is to raise our children so that they know that they are loved and accepted just as God made them. We recognize that each child has a different personality and therefore a different set of needs. We enjoy discovering each of their unique personalities and we have found that it's those differences that we love the most about each one of them. We derive great pleasure in knowing that we are able to give each child the personalized parenting that will allow them to feel completely loved and accepted and grow into the person God intends for them to be. We look forward to getting to know the individual personality in your child and loving him or her completely.



OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES

Trenton's father, Allen, was a teacher, and placed a high value on education, so Trenton, his two brothers and one sister all have four year college degrees. Trenton's mom, Pam, has always been a homemaker. They live around the corner and we see them almost every day. Trenton's siblings live within 45 minutes, and we all enjoy playing games when we get together at least once a month for holidays, birthdays, or just for fun. We always have a special game night at Thanksgiving and all of us spend a few days at a winter camp between Christmas and New Year's.

A Family Picture with Trenton's Family



Swimming with Cousins on a Hot Summer Day 07/11/11

Beth's parents and her brother's family live 2 hours away, and we see them all about once a month. Her father, Mike, is an engineer and her mom, Tina, is an accountant, but the job they love the most is being grandparents. They love to spoil the kids and go with us to the zoo, apple orchard and other fun places. At summer gatherings we love to swim and when it's cooler we love to roast marshmallows around a fire.

A Birthday Dinner at a Japanese Restaurant with Beth's Family



We have 10 nieces and nephews who love to come to our house to play and have sleepovers. They range in age from 14 years old down to the youngest born in September of 2012. With a niece on Trenton's side who is adopted and a cousin on Beth's side adopted from Korea, our families are supportive and excited about our plans to adopt.



A Trip to the Apple Orchard with Cousins in the Fall 10/29/11



Roasting Marshmallows



Dinosaur Ride at Disney World with Grandma! 07/12/11

CULTURAL DIVERSITY



Beth with Armani & Amare 10/26/11

We believe addressing cultural diversity is extremely important when parenting a child of another race or ethnicity. We understand adopting a child of a different race will have its challenges, but we have prepared ourselves to face them. We will ensure your child is involved in activities with other children of various ethnicities and will meet other families who have adopted or are of varied ethnicities. We already have a multicultural extended family and circle of friends. Trenton's cousin married an African American man and they have several children. We see their family usually once or twice a week. Beth's cousin

married a woman who was adopted from Korea as a young child and our children absolutely adore spending time with her. We have several close friends that have adopted African American children that we see often. Your child will enjoy close friendships and growing up with these other children.

In addition, we recently hosted a young girl from Ukraine for 5 weeks. We enjoyed learning about the Eastern European history, customs, geography, religion, language and foods. We all fell absolutely in love with her and know that hosting children from other cultures is something that we want to do again. This opportunity has created an even deeper desire for our family to study and experience different cultures. In doing so, we are confident that all of our children will learn to appreciate the richness that diversity brings to our lives and the world around us.



Cousins at Sunday Bible Class 09/09/11

OUR HOUSE & NEIGHBORHOOD



Home Sweet Home

ILLINOIS:
We live in a large home with a great open floor plan. No matter where we are in the main living areas of the house, we always feel like we're all together. The

bedrooms are all upstairs and the kids enjoy playing with toys, practicing music or reading in their rooms. We all enjoying being outside whether we are working in our vegetable garden, throwing around a frisbee, baseball or football, drawing with sidewalk chalk, riding bikes and scooters, or playing a game of tag or make-believe. There are kids of all ages in our neighborhood that the children enjoy spending time with.

We live within walking distance of several parks with playground equipment and a large recreation facility, which has an indoor swimming pool, exercise equipment and three basketball courts for year round fun. We also live close to the library that boasts a great children's program with story times and special events year round for children and families.



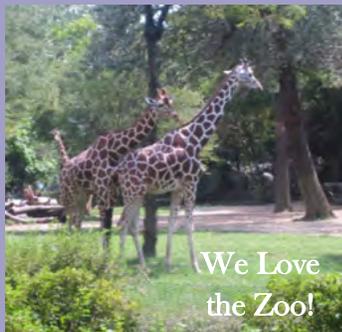
A Nearby Park



Ready For a Little League Game

Our small town community is very family oriented and offers multiple activities for kids... from football, soccer, baseball, softball, and basketball, to dance, martial arts, gymnastics, art classes, music and theater. Our children have enjoyed many of these as well as other community events, including carnivals, cruise nights and band concerts.

We are only 30 minutes from a larger city with a wonderful children's discovery museum, a small zoo, shopping malls, movie theaters, water parks and other activities for great family fun.



We Love the Zoo!

OUR FAMILY TRADITIONS



Birthday Dinner Out With Grandma & Grandpa 04/03/12

Having family traditions is very important to us. We've continued a birthday tradition Beth's parents began when she was a little girl. Dinner out to celebrate birthdays at the birthday child's restaurant of choice is something our kids start talking about weeks in advance!

Every July we take a trip to a family reunion with Trenton's family, something his family has done since before he was even born! We load up the van with snacks, luggage and games and take off. We stay in a different state park lodge each year. We have a picnic together, go hiking, go swimming and play lots of board games! Our children cherish this special time they get to spend with their grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins.



Board Games at a Family Reunion

Every summer growing up, we both attended the same summer camp. Our children now attend this very same summer camp and we go as counselors. It's a week full of fun with great friends and we have created so many fond memories.

The holiday season is our favorite time of year. The weekend after Thanksgiving is spent finding our family Christmas tree. We go searching and when we've found the perfect one, we cut it down and haul it home on top of the van. We decorate the tree and hang other decorations around the house. We each have a stocking with our name embroidered on it and each child always gets a new ornament for the tree each year.



Halloween Fun!



Picking Out the Perfect Tree!



Decorating the Christmas Tree

HOW ADOPTION HAS AFFECTED US PERSONALLY

Adoption is a central part of the lives of our family and friends. Trenton's brother and his wife adopted a baby girl, Skylar, 6 years ago, when they were unable to have another child. We saw them struggle through infertility and make the choice to pursue adoption. We have witnessed the absolute blessing of adoption through them. Our daughter, Jessie, has always looked at Skylar like a little sister. When Skylar comes over, Jessie spends every minute with her, playing and helping her with things she was not yet big enough to do. One of Jessie's favorite things to do is to sit and read to her. We all adore Skylar and our lives would not be the same without her. We are so thankful she is part of our family.

Jessie Reading
to Skylar

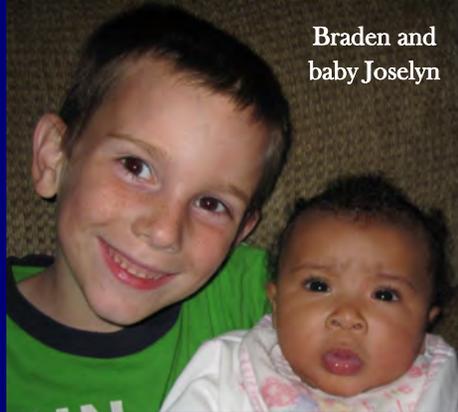


We have two very close friends that adopted African American baby girls about 3 years ago. These two girls are just adorable and they are so loved. One of these families hopes to adopt again in the next year. We have another set of good friends that have a foster baby that they will be adopting soon. She is also African American and is almost a year and a half old. We have followed these families through their adoptions and have learned so much from them. We are excited to know that any child we are blessed to adopt will be surrounded with other families who have come together through adoption!

Sibling love is so
precious!



Braden and
baby Joselyn



Our Very
Good Friends
and Their
Two Beautiful
Children

WHAT LED US TO CHOOSE ADOPTION



We are currently parents to five children. We have always envisioned ourselves with a large family. Our children came to us very quickly in two sets of multiples just 1 ½ years apart. We have a set of twin boys, Joshua and Bryce, who are 12 years old. We also have a set of triplets - Jessie, our only girl, and two more boys, Payton & Braden are 10 years old. As they have gotten older, become more independent, and are just 8 years away from all being gone to college, we have found ourselves with a greater and greater desire to have another child. We adore being parents of young children and we have so much love in our hearts to give, we are just not ready to be done. We also have never experienced what having one baby at a time is like. We long to enjoy each and every one of the child's stages of development -

something that really wasn't possible with our other children simply because we had so many young ones all at the same time. We have prayed for years now about how to add to our family. Having adopted family members on both sides of our family, we have seen the blessing that adoption has been and we know that adoption is the answer for us to have that baby we so desperately desire.

OUR LIFESTYLE

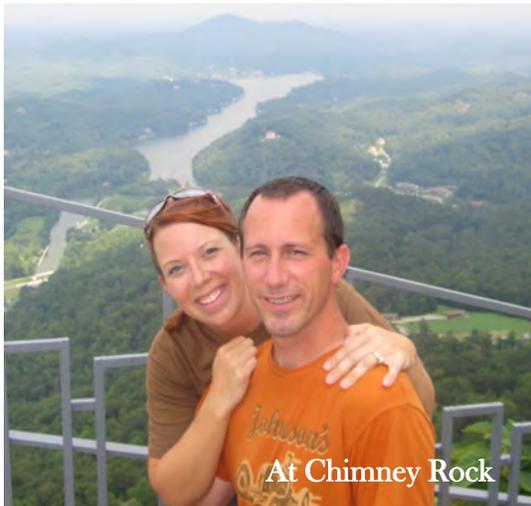
We live a very laid-back lifestyle that is a reflection of what matters the most to us. Beth is a stay-at-home mom so she is always available when one of the children needs her. When Trenton arrives home, he loves to immediately sit down and play with the kids and listen to them talk about their day. As a teacher, having the holidays and summers off allows him to spend a great deal of time with our family. We enjoy board games, playing outside, going on long walks with our dog, and renting movies for family movie nights. The boys like throwing a football around with Trenton, playing a round of disc golf or going to a Friday night football game. Beth and Jessie enjoy an occasional afternoon of girl time, shopping at the mall or getting their hair and nails done. A couple times a year they also take a girls' shopping weekend in Chicago with Beth's mom, sister-in-law and nieces. We are surrounded with wonderful friends that love to get together for a cookout or potluck dinner, a game night, a game of bean bags or just a lazy afternoon of visiting. We take family vacations in the summers, whether it's a trip to Disney World (a favorite of ours!) or the slower pace trip of visiting friends, finding trails to hike and jumping rocks along a river bed in a state park, or enjoying a trip to a zoo or museum.



Watching football with the boys



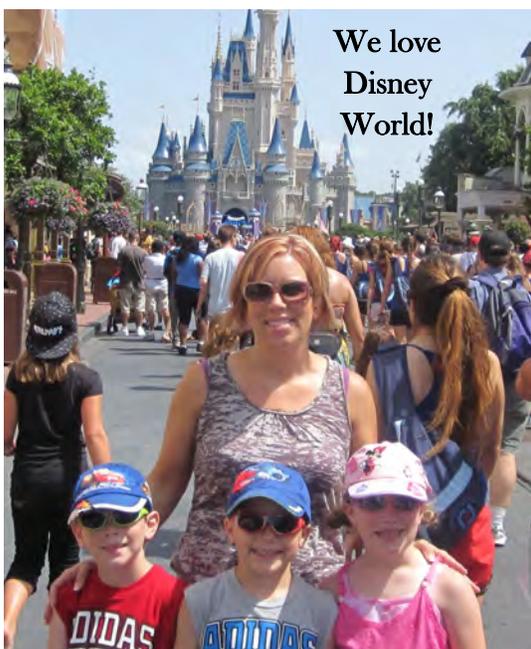
Walking our puppy, Harley



At Chimney Rock



We love to go shopping!



We love Disney World!



Tubing on the lake

WHAT WE WILL TELL YOUR CHILD ABOUT ADOPTION

In our home, adoption will be talked about openly and honestly. If you choose us to be your child's parents, your child will always know they are adopted and you will always be part of their life. We will tell them about you and your love for them. They will know that you chose adoption because you wanted to do what was best for them. We will raise your child to respect you and be proud of you for putting their needs above your heart. With your permission, we hope to share pictures, letters and stories with you about your child. We plan to create a scrapbook for your child with their adoption story, pictures and information about you. We have many friends with adopted children and have seen successful, loving relationships between adopted parents and birth parents. That's what we are hoping for as well.

FROM US TO YOU...

We are humbled and thankful that you have taken the time to consider us, and thank you for allowing us to share with you a little about ourselves. Even though we've never met, we already admire you more than words can say. We hope you are receiving the love and support you need right now. We want you to know that we will support you in any way that we can. We want you to know that we are lifting you and your baby up in prayer daily.

We've been married for thirteen years and love being together. We are each other's best friends and have fun together. Whether it is Trenton telling a funny story or Beth making up some silly song, laughter fills our home. We want to share this love, laughter and happiness with your child as well.

We have always envisioned ourselves with a large family. We had been making plans for our family long before we even got married! We married in 1999 and we immediately started trying to conceive. In 2000, we were blessed with twin boys, Joshua & Bryce. They were soon followed by a set of triplets - Jessie, Payton & Braden in 2002. Our children have brought so much joy and laughter to our lives. With so many young children so close in age, we put aside any more talk of growing our family for years. As the children entered their school age years and have become more independent, talks of more children began to resurface - not only between the two of us, but also the kids started asking for another sibling! We recently hosted a little girl from Ukraine in our home for 5 weeks. We all were in love with her before she even got here! From day one, she fit into our family like she had always been here. The 5 weeks went by very quickly and saying good bye to her was so difficult. But we never imagined how hard it would be for our children. They desperately long for another sibling. They want someone to be a big brother or big sister to. They talk of teaching the child their colors, how to read, and how to tie his or her shoes. They enjoy babies and young children so much and they are all so good with them! Many of our friends and families have had babies recently and we frequently hear from the kids, "When will it be OUR turn?" As heartbreaking as these moments are, they are confirmation to us that we, as an entire family, are ready to adopt.

With many family members and friends who have adopted, we see over and over again the amazing blessing that adoption brings. We are overjoyed and feel so blessed to be growing our family through adoption. Please know that you are loved and this baby is loved beyond measure. We will protect and raise this child to the best of our ability and provide a loving environment where the child is encouraged to follow his or her dreams.

We would like to make a few promises to you and your child, should you decide adoption is the right choice for you, and choose us as the adoptive parents. We promise to tell your child about you and how much you love him or her from day one. We promise to be transparent with the child about their adoption throughout his or her development into adulthood. We promise to send letters, emails, photos and videos if you would like them, and we would be delighted to remain in touch through whatever means you would like. We are willing to consider all levels of openness, including face-to-face meetings, if you so desire.

As you view our photographs and profile, we hope and pray that this glimpse into our life brings you comfort and allows you to see how much love we are waiting to share! We genuinely appreciate you taking time to get to know us.

Much love,

TRENTON & BETH

