



2010 Calendar Kids Winners

ANLC would like to thank everyone who participated in the annual Calendar Kids contest! As is the case every year, we can't tell you how difficult it is to choose our Calendar Kids winners from the many beautiful submissions we receive! We had an amazing time putting the 2010 Calendar Kids together and we hope that you will all love it as much as we do! Congratulations to the Calendar Kids winners!

Cover	Jordyn and Taylor Sherman	June.....	Benjamin Schumacher
Insert.....	Nicholas Stall	July	Caden and Brianna Mann
January.....	Graycee Cline	August.....	Brooke Aimes
February.....	Alexandra Allen	September.....	Christian Squadrito
March	Carter and Lauren Campbell	October	Zachary Harrison
April.....	Madeline Boyer	November.....	Gavin Boutross
May	Amber and Hunter Lopez	December	Sawyer Roloff



February



October



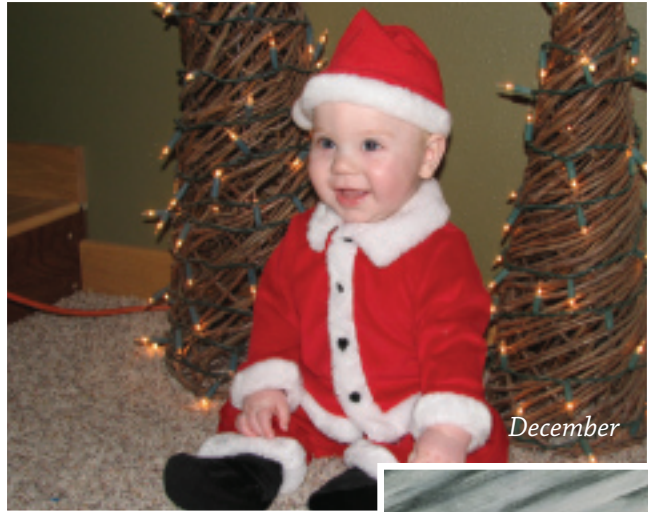
July



January



November



December



August



May



September



April



March



June

Dear Birthmother

ANLC's quarterly newsletter often addresses issues related to adoption from the perspective of adopting parents. Those involved in the triad of adoption instantly realize the level of gratitude, thankfulness and love that the blessed parents feel toward their birthmothers, but seldom are the feelings of the birthmother verbalized or understood.

Often the Adoption Advisors suggest that individual birthmothers write letters to the adoptive parents and/or child explaining their reasons for placing their son or daughter for adoption. This effort not only helps these young women through the grieving process, but the written task often results in the most ultimate gift – a glimpse into her thought process and love-filled intentions. One of our Advisors had the privilege of supporting a birthmother through the adoption process and the letter the birthmother chose to write was directed to other prospective birthmothers and yet holds a clear message for both her adoptive parents and the child. (Letter has been edited for privacy purposes).



“Dear Prospective Birthmom:

‘This can’t be happening to me!’ ‘This doesn’t happen to people like me.’ At least this is what I always thought. I never imagined that I would be someone who would place a child for adoption, or even have to be placed in a position to make a decision of ‘What do I do? Should I terminate the pregnancy, have the child and try to raise it, or place the baby for adoption?’ For awhile, I tried to forget about it. I thought that if I didn’t acknowledge the problem, it would just go away. One day I woke up and decided I could not parent a child at this present time in my life...I had decided to terminate my pregnancy.

I was almost in my third month when I decided on an abortion and began to make appointments – my third month of pregnancy had come and gone with 5 appointments that I never followed through with. I kept finding excuses on why that day was not a good day to go and have it done. Finally, halfway through my fourth month and 8 appointments later, I was finally on my way to go have the procedure done. I woke up early, boarded a bus and prepared myself for the hour and a half bus ride to my destination. As the time passed, so many questions and worries kept racing through my mind. Finally, the clinic was in view and my heart began to race. I looked across the aisle on the bus and saw a mother and her child, laughing and smiling. The bus stopped, the doors swung open. I couldn’t move, my body was paralyzed, and questions were still racing through my mind. I stared at the mother and child, for what seemed like hours. I looked at the clinic one more time and it became very clear to me, I could not terminate this pregnancy. This little life I was carrying deserved a chance.

For several days I pondered whether I should keep this child or place it for adoption. Those several days turned into several months. I kept asking myself, ‘Is it wrong for me to place my baby for adoption, does this decision make me heartless?’ Every day as I felt the life inside of me grow, I knew this was no longer just about my feelings and me. There was now another life inside of me that deserved the best in life, and as hard as it was for me to come to terms with this, the best life was not with me – I finally decided on adoption! I contacted ANLC but still had my doubts and was wondering, ‘What is really the right thing to do?’ Two days



later I received a number of profiles of couples that were looking to adopt. I opened the package and spread them out on the table one day when I was home alone. All of a sudden, there they were...their picture and profile jumped out at me and I felt as though God was leading me to this couple. They were to be the parents of my child and I was no longer scared. I left my hometown and came to ANLC's birthmother housing, I still had not told anyone of my pregnancy. It was as if a weight had been lifted off of my shoulders. I didn't have to hide my pregnant body, I was able to talk about my decision and pregnancy and I had wonderful support from my Adoption Advisor. I no longer had to deal with this on my own. It got even better – I was able to meet my adoptive couple face to face! When I saw them, I started to cry, but they were tears of joy, for I knew in my heart that I had made the decision I was meant to make. In them, I saw years of happiness for my baby and an undying love. And in me, they saw the beginning of a dream come true for their lives!

On November 20, she was born! I could hardly believe I had created such a beautiful life and that she had come out of my body. Everyone was overwhelmed with love for this 8 pound baby girl. As I lay recovering, I waited for sadness or depression to come over me, but it never did! The feelings of love and joy for my baby girl overcame any hint of sadness I felt. I had created life and completed a family all in one day. WOW!!! What I had thought was the biggest disaster and mistake of my life turned out to be the most blessed and beautiful day I've ever experienced and I would not trade it for the world. You may ask yourself, 'How is her life now after all that?' Well, my life will be forever changed, but only for the better. I was able to give my little girl two loving parents, a great, stable environment and endless opportunities, and I couldn't feel better about my decision. Just know in your heart that God will bless you in your decision. Adoption is a way for you to bless someone, as God blesses you!"

Susan

Newest Additions to Our Family

Name	D.O.B	Weight	Length	Name	D.O.B	Weight	Length
Lukas Jaye	07/01/2009	6 lbs 13 oz	20"	Garrett	08/10/2009	5 lbs 7 oz	19"
Jacob Mathew	07/01/2009	7 lbs 2 oz	19.3"	Typer Lauren	08/12/2009	7 lbs 7 oz	20"
James Bowman	07/01/2009	6 lbs 4 oz	18.5"	Jadyn Mariah	08/14/2009	7 lbs 1 oz	20"
Harrison Ben	07/04/2009	5 lbs 8 oz	18"	Kaden Benjamin	08/15/2009	6 lbs 3 oz	21.75"
Dylan Matthew	07/06/2009	7 lbs 8 oz	21"	Kaitryn Heather	08/18/2009	6 lbs 13 oz	20"
Makenna	07/06/2009	5 lbs 3 oz	19"	Tyler Owen	08/19/2009	6 lbs 10 oz	20"
Camrynn Jean	07/06/2009	7 lbs 5.9 oz	20.5"	Laure Linh	08/20/2009	7 lbs 7 oz	20"
Collin	07/09/2009	7 lbs 10 oz	19"	Margaret Jane	08/27/2009	6 lbs 12 oz	19.75"
Arielle	07/10/2009	7 lbs 13 oz	20"	Bryce Landyn Leigh Joel	08/27/2009	6 lbs 15 oz	19.5"
Jannah	07/10/2009	7 lbs 8 oz	19"	Livia Ellen	08/28/2009	6 lbs 12 oz	18.5"
Addison Grace	07/11/2009	8 lbs 9 oz	19.5"	Aaron Nicholas	08/31/2009	7 lbs 9 oz	20.5"
McKenna	07/13/2009	4 lbs 9 oz	17"	Lauren Elizabeth	08/31/2009	7 lbs 6 oz	19.5"
Keanna Nicole	07/14/2009	5 lbs 4.8 oz	16.5"	Hadley Nicole	09/03/2009	7 lbs 13 oz	19.5"
Avery Reagan	07/16/2009	6 lbs 13 oz	19.5"	Zoey Alexis Evelyn	09/06/2009	5 lbs 8 oz	19"
Kathleen Suzanne	07/16/2009	5 lbs 12 oz	19"	Samuel Alex	09/06/2009	3 lbs 8 oz	16"
Brenden Andrew	07/17/2009	8 lbs	19"	Breyden Reegan	09/08/2009	7 lbs 1.5 oz	19"
Brayden	07/22/2009	8 lbs 6 oz	19"	McCartney	09/08/2009	6 lbs 12 oz	19"
Edwin	07/23/2009	7 lbs 11 oz	20"	Kaitlyn Danielle	09/11/2009	7 lbs 2 oz	18"
Tyler Thomas Alonzo	07/25/2009	8 lbs 9 oz	20.5"	Sierra Kathryn	09/13/2009	6 lbs 3 oz	17.75"
London	07/25/2009	6 lbs 3 oz	19.5"	Alex Matthew	09/15/2009	7 lbs 7 oz	18.5"
Saylor	07/25/2009	7 lbs 12 oz	20"	Jessie Marie	09/15/2009	6 lbs 6 oz	19"
Caleb	07/26/2009	7 lbs		Emmerson Grace	09/21/2009	7 lbs 7 oz	20.5"
Davis	07/27/2009	6 lbs 11 oz	20"	Luke Andrew	09/23/2009	7 lbs 10 oz	19.25"
Brayden	07/27/2009	7 lbs 3 oz	19.75"	Jackson Nathaniel	09/23/2009		20.08"
Allison	07/27/2009	6 lbs 15 oz	19"	Madison Elizabeth	09/23/2009	5 lbs 8 oz	17"
Sophia	07/27/2009	8 lbs 2 oz	20.5"	Nathan James	09/25/2009	6 lbs 14 oz	19"
Levi (twins)	07/28/2009	6 lbs 8 oz	18"	Mavery Leigh	09/25/2009	8 lbs 9 oz	20.75"
Ruby (twins)	07/28/2009	5 lbs 3 oz	17"	Jack Carl	09/26/2009	7 lbs 12 oz	19"
Travis Oakes	07/29/2009	8 lbs 5 oz	21.5"	Mia Cecilia	09/26/2009	7 lbs	20"
Cambra	08/03/2009	6 lbs	20"	Russell Mark	09/28/2009	8 lbs 4 oz	21"
Caden Wesly	08/03/2009	6 lbs 2 oz	20"				
Alysia	08/09/2009	6 lbs 7 oz	18.5"				

This is not a complete list of all ANLC children born in the 3rd Quarter of 2009.

Featured Testimonials

As I sit down to write this in my kitchen, I look around and see a smashed banana mixed with spaghetti smeared on the floor, a cup dripping milk on the seat next to me and magnets strewn in every direction. I look forward into our family room and the scene is even more daunting. Small trucks and cars make the floor look like a highway tragedy, balls of every shape and size are stuffed in every nook imaginable and I just noticed a stain on the arm of my light tan couch. I sit back, take a deep breath, laugh out loud and say, "Thank You ANLC. You were the ones that blessed our home with this beautiful mess."

In May of last year we were just about ready to give up on our dreams of becoming parents. We then found you and your loving, caring staff that guided us down the path that quickly led us to our beautiful son. The adoption world is not often easy to understand, but EVERYONE at ANLC made our process extremely smooth and not as scary as it starts off to be.

We applied with ANLC May 17. We were presented an adoption opportunity on August 5 and our son was born September 4. When we are asked about our adoption, people are amazed at the speed and with the ease. We are confident that we would NOT have received that type of "service" through any other organization.

It is now one year after we welcomed wonderful Daylen into our lives and we are still amazed at the blessing we have received. Thank You ANLC for guiding us to our dream. Thank You for making our clean house messy. Thank You for caring about us, our son and our birthmom. You are always in our prayers, and will always be in our prayers!



Now it's time to clean up the house. I have just enough time before Daylen wakes up from his nap and we get to do it all again! Praise God!

With great Love,
Brian, Mandy and Daylen



Don't Forget!

If you would like to have your testimonial published in our next Newsletter, please mail it or submit it via our website at:
<http://www.adoptionnetwork.com/adoption-testimonials/adoption-testimonials-submit.shtml>

Quarterly Reminders

Don't Delay - Our statistics show that couples whose profiles appear on more than one website get presented with an adoption opportunity more quickly. Our relationship with www.CourageousChoice.com and www.AdoptionSpacebook.com allows you to have your profile seen by even more prospective birthmothers.

New Phone Number? New E-mail? – Don't forget to call or email us to update your personal information so that you will continue to get updates, information and invitations.

In the Next Issue of *Network News* – More Baby Stats, More Photos, More Stories, 2009 Holiday Photo's.

Remember

Don't forget to include us in your holiday mailing list.

Adoption Network®

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