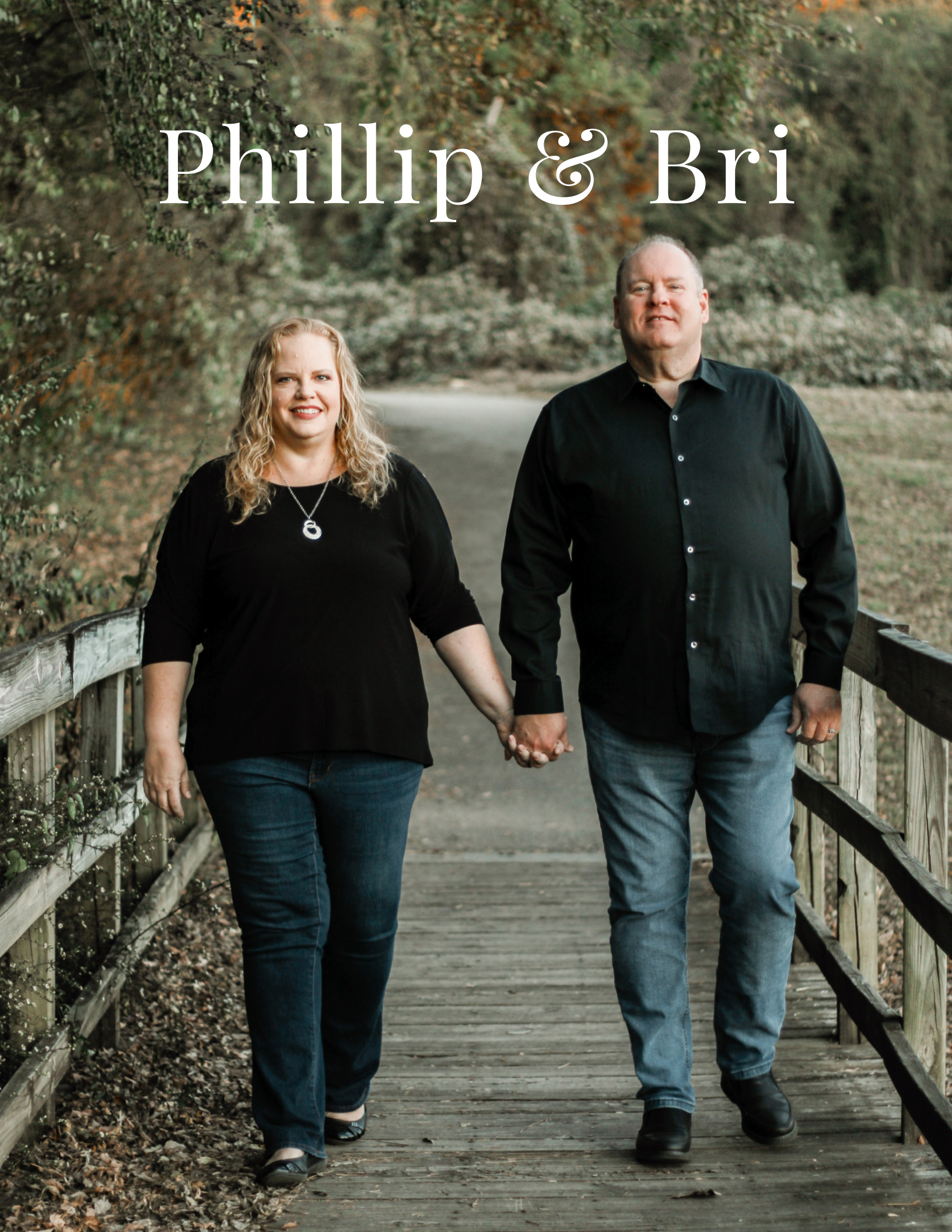


# Phillip & Bri









PHILLIP & BRI





# Our Letter

You are so brave and courageous for considering an adoption plan for your child. We don't know much about you, but we do know that you love your child. You are considering one of the most self-sacrificial acts of love, and we admire you for that. If we are blessed to raise your child, we will love him or her with our whole hearts. We promise to do our best to love, care for, and provide him or her with all their needs and as many of their wants as possible. Your child will be encouraged and supported to grow up to be everything they were meant to be. We promise to remind your child we love them daily. We hope to provide them with a home where they know they are deeply cherished no matter what.

*-Phillip & Bri*







# Why Adoption

We have always loved children and had hearts for parenthood someday. After years of trying to grow our family biologically, including IUI and IVF, we have decided to move forward with pursuing adoption. **Though the heartache of infertility is still there, we are grateful our journey has led us to you today.** We trust God has purpose for everything we have experienced, and we are hopeful adoption is that

purpose. We look forward to telling our child how much they are loved, not only by us, but by their birth mother as well. **Our prayer for you is that, no matter who you choose, you would feel peace in knowing your child is with two people who love him or her with their whole hearts and want the best life imaginable for them.** If we get to play a part in providing peace to you by raising your child, we want to do that.









## HOW IT ALL BEGAN

We first learned of each other when I moved to town and joined the choir at the church Phillip attended. After many suggestions from friends to consider dating each other, I finally decided to message Phillip. We talked for hours that night and every night that week. Finally, Phillip got up the nerve to ask me out for coffee. We met at 6 pm on a Saturday and left the coffee shop when they kicked us out at closing time! That began a whirlwind of dates over the next several weeks.

*Our Love Story*

## THE PROPOSAL

After about 8 weeks of dating, we were both absolutely positive we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together. Bri's parents encouraged her that if we knew how we felt about each other, we should not waste any time. We definitely took that to heart! She was coming to my apartment so we could go to a hot air balloon festival together that evening, and when she opened the door, I was on my knee with the ring. When we told our friends and family, none of them were surprised! Everyone was excited and just as confident as we were that we were meant to be together.





*"Our biggest priority as a couple is to maintain a strong relationship."*



## OUR WEDDING

We had planned for a July 2020 wedding, but because of Covid, we ended up having a small ceremony in May of 2020 with our immediate families. The following year, we were able to have a wedding celebration with all our family and friends. We had a full ceremony which included renewing our vows. All married couples were invited to renew their vows as well, and that is something we will never forget. We included many of our friends and family in the ceremony - some sang, some played instruments, some read a Bible passage or said a prayer, two of our friends danced a beautiful lyrical dance, and Phillip's dad led us through our vows.





# Meet Phillip

WRITTEN BY BRI

Phillip is one of the most patient, genuine, caring, supportive, fun people I know. When I get stressed or upset, he has a way of reminding me how much I am loved and that God has a perfect plan for us. He has the ability to be serious and deep and in the next moment be silly and make me laugh. I love to hear him sing, share random facts about history, and tell me fun stories about his day. Phillip lives every day to show people the love of Jesus through the way he listens and cares for them. **He is honest, genuine, and hardworking.** I have seen how Phillip interacts with my niece, nephew, and children of our friends. **He has a unique ability**

- loving
- caring
- loyal
- fun

to make children feel comfortable around him and have them laughing and having fun quickly. Phillip is gentle, caring, and lets the children choose what game or activity they want to play. My niece can beat him handily at a game of Memory, and my nephew has taught him the basics of his favorite sport of hockey. I think Phillip looks forward to spending time with our child, playing make-believe, playing board games, and taking them to parks, sporting, or music events. **He hopes to provide many opportunities for them to have fun and learn new things.** He will be a hands-on dad who will put away distractions and focus on the child.







## MY CAREER:

I work for Hospice as a Chaplain providing spiritual support and comfort for the patients and their families. My position allows me to make my own schedule. My employer and co-workers and I have a good working relationship and rapport.

“I have always had a desire to be a father. I look forward to loving and caring for a child and providing a good home for them.”

“My greatest wish or prayer for my child is for them to know that they are loved, and that they can achieve anything they put their mind to.”





# Meet Bri

WRITTEN BY PHILLIP

- encouraging • genuine
- supportive • loyal

**Bri is the most amazing, caring, and loving person I know.** She's an excellent singer and musician! She is a loyal and faithful friend. **Bri will always be there for the ones she loves, and is constantly looking for ways to encourage and support them.** She is also very genuine and loves to share what's on her heart. **I know our child will benefit from her humility, love, and care.** I have seen

Bri with her nephew and niece, and she is always loving on them, playing games with them and being a good example and role model for them. Bri loves spending time with her friends who have young children, where she can both encourage the moms and play with the children. **She is beyond ready to be a mother, and I can't wait to see her in action!**







## MY CAREER:

I work for a large corporation in the food and beverage industry. They have pretty amazing benefits including up to 18 weeks maternity leave. My schedule is very flexible and allows me to take as much time off as needed. **When the baby arrives, I will be able to work opposite Phillip's work schedule.** As much as possible, we would strive to be at home with the baby, but if needed we will have a family member or close friend care for our child.

“I hope our children will know that they are unconditionally loved by their parents and God. There is nothing they can say or do that will cause us to love them any less.”



“I can't wait to support our child as they discover their own interests like art, sports, dance, theater, or whatever they choose to participate in!”





“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will direct your path.” Proverbs 3:5-6



# What We Value

## 1. God

God is the most important relationship in our lives. He graciously gives us mercy, forgiveness, peace, and hope. His love for us is life-changing. Because of this, we live our days serving Jesus and plan to model this life for our children.

## 2. Honesty

Honesty helps to keep us in harmony and in-step with one another as a family. We desire to be parents who create a culture of safety and comfort in honesty. We won't just *require* honesty, we will model it by being trustworthy, loving parents.

## 3. Respect

We love and respect others around us, even if they are different from us or make choices we may not agree with. We give respect because we believe every person truly matters. We plan to teach our kids the same.

## 4. Unconditional love

We believe that God loves us unconditionally, and we will want our children to know and believe this as well. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love your neighbor as yourself.









# Our Home

Our home is in a quiet subdivision near the end of a cul de sac. Our neighbors are friendly and kind. There are a few houses near us that have younger children. Our home is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch-style single level home. **Our backyard is fairly big with plenty of room to add a play set and to allow a child to run and play safely.** We love to curl up on the couch in front of the fireplace in the cooler months and sit out on our porch or patio in the warmer weather. Many nights we end up facetimeing Bri's parents or niece and nephew to see their faces and stay connected. Pictures of our family and artwork that we enjoy hang all around our home.



# Our Community

Our city in Tennessee is a melting pot of cultures and ethnicities. **The school system is excellent here.** There are many children who end up with high test scores and a large percentage of students attend college after high school graduation. **There are playgrounds all over the city, as well as a greenway for walking/biking that runs through the center. Our city has many activities available and there are other things to do within a short driving distance.** All kinds of events happen in or near our city throughout the year, including July 4th fireworks, holiday parades, festivals, corn mazes, and more. The university in our city provides opportunities for children and families to experience different cultures, musical influences, and sporting events.





# Phillip's Family



Phillip's parents, Virgil and Pat, live across town from us, as do his siblings and their spouses. Phillip's sister, Donna, and her husband, Alton, have one son named Ashton who is married to Alyssa. They just gave birth to their first child, Anderson. Phillip's brother, Steve, and his wife, Laura, have triplet boys. Zachary and his wife, Madison, Chandler and his wife, Lydia, and Nicholas and his fiancée, Sarah, all live within a few hours' drive.

My whole family is so supportive and encouraging of us. They are beyond excited to welcome our child into the family and they are very supportive.



Bri's parents, Phil and Bonnie, live in North Dakota. Bri's sister, Angie, and her husband, Harry, live within a few city blocks of Bri's parents with their children Ian (14), and Hannah (11). We get together with them as much as possible and love spending holidays with them. Bri's parents are able to make trips to visit us often and we have enjoyed traveling with them several times as well.

My family is very tight-knit. We love to spend time together and will do anything for each other.

They are confident we will be excellent parents and will be delighted to have another grandchild.



*Bri's Family*





We will support and encourage our children to pursue a good and fulfilling career – whatever that means for them.

## Our Future

We have dreamed of having children individually since we were both kids ourselves. When we met, fell in love, and married, that dream intensified for both of us. We love our house, neighborhood, community, and church, so we plan to stay where we are for quite awhile.

**We both loved traveling with our families as children and hope to travel with our children as well.** Amusement parks, zoos, beaches, cruises, cabins in the mountains, major US landmarks, and maybe even London or Paris are all places we hope to take our children.





## Education

The schools in our city have many teachers who not only teach, but model good values and expect children to come to school ready to learn. We have many friends whose children attend public schools currently and they speak highly of the education their children are receiving. The university in our city also offers a variety of classes for high school students to take while attending high school. **We feel comfortable that**

**our children will get a great education.** While we see the value in a college degree, we understand that the path to a good and fulfilling job does not always require college. **We would counsel our child that generally more opportunities are available with a college degree. However, if our child chooses to take a different route, we will help, support, and encourage them.**



*Before you go...*



We can't begin to imagine what you are feeling while you are considering adoption for your child. We know the love you have for your child is tremendous, and we are inspired by your strength. We have prayed for our future child since the day we got married, and we trust that God will bless you for making this courageous and loving decision. We will pray for you daily, that you will have peace in knowing your child is loved unconditionally and

he or she will always be reminded that they have the bravest, most loving birth mother. We will share with them whatever you have asked us to share, while making sure they know they can communicate with you if that is something you want. We will never hide their birth story from them, because it is an amazing one of love, sacrifice, and strength. Thank you, from the very depths of our hearts, for giving us this gift of being able to love a child and be parents.

*-Phillip & Bri*