

MATT *and* KATIE





WE ARE SO HAPPY
TO MEET YOU!



We might never have the perfect words to fully express how we feel about our paths crossing through this process, so we'll start by saying thank you.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us and all the love we have to give. But most of all, thank you for showing us one of the greatest acts of love and what it means to be a good parent; putting your child's needs and future above your own, no matter how hard the decision is. Even though we are sure that adoption is the path God has chosen for us to start our family, we know this journey begins with deep sacrifice and heartbreak. We don't want to overlook the fact that, for our dream of becoming parents through adoption to come true, a mother will be making a really hard decision—one that comes from a place of unconditional love.

As you look through this book and get a glimpse into our lives, we hope you can feel that we have that same kind of unconditional love in our hearts. If we are the family who gets the honor of loving your child, we promise we will raise them to know their story, be proud of their story, and understand the deep love that brought us together.

*With love,
Matt and Katie*



OUR HEARTS FOR ADOPTION

After about two years of marriage, we began trying to start a family. After a year of trying naturally without success, we turned to a fertility specialist. In 2022, following three failed IUIs, we were diagnosed with unexplained infertility, which left us feeling defeated and uncertain about our next steps. Shortly after, we experienced a natural pregnancy, but sadly, it ended in an early loss. After our loss, our doctors encouraged us to seek further treatments, but we decided to take some time to reflect and pray about our next steps, which led us to the path of adoption.



Over time, the desire for adoption that we have always had in our hearts has only grown bigger and bigger until we couldn't deny that this is the right decision for our family.

Now, the dream of being parents no longer feels so far away. We know in our hearts that adoption has been the path for us all along. We're so incredibly grateful for the life we've built together, and we have so much love to give. Above all, we want to provide a child with a safe, loving home where they know they are chosen, loved, supported, and have endless opportunities to grow and thrive. Our arms and hearts are wide open, ready to embrace all that adoption has to offer—the blessings, the challenges, and even the unexpected moments that will become part of our family's story.



We are so excited to be parents!

We both grew up with the dream of being parents, hoping that one day we would have the chance to love and cherish a child—no matter how they came into our lives. Adoption has always been close to our hearts. We both grew up in families where love was stronger than genetics, and that belief has only grown stronger as the years have gone by.



OUR VALUES

Unconditional Love

We love each other, love others, and love God, knowing that our love will always be there. It's the kind of love that doesn't go away during hard times or when things get messy—it stays strong through everything.

Better Together

Life can be hard and full of challenges, but our family remains a team and tackles those challenges together! We are so blessed to have such a big support system, and leaning on family reminds us that there are always people in our corner loving and supporting us.

Share the Love

We try to remind ourselves that every day is another opportunity to make somebody else's day a little brighter. Our goal is to leave everyone we meet feeling a little better than when we found them, knowing that kindness can make a world of difference.

Perfectly Imperfect

We know we're not perfect, and that's okay. In our family, we're all just trying our best, learning from our mistakes, and growing along the way. We celebrate each other's differences and give each other grace. We may stumble, but we pick each other up, apologize when needed, and work to be better tomorrow than we were today.



OUR STORY

Our love story begins in the hallways of our local high school.

We were introduced by Katie's little brother, Carson, who was helping out with the boys basketball team and Matt quickly took him under his wing. After months of Matt giving Carson rides to and from practice, Carson returned the favor by finally introducing Matt to Katie. Before we knew it, saying hello in the hallway turned into Matt walking Katie to class and staying for dinner after practice. Matt quickly became a part of the family, but after we graduated high school, we went our separate ways while Katie got settled into college and Matt started pursuing his career.

Luckily, a year or so later, we reconnected at a graduation party for Carson and we have been inseparable ever since. After such a long time apart, it felt as though we picked up right where we left off, but we had both grown so much. Katie was amazed by how much Matt had invested in his career with hard work and dedication, and Matt recognized how valuable the time apart had been for both of us, allowing each of us to grow into the individuals we always knew we could be. How lucky are we to have experienced life both together and apart, and both confidently be able to say that our lives are not complete without each other in it? Living life as husband and wife has been the best days of our lives, and somehow, we know that this is only the beginning of a long and blessed life together.



HAPPILY EVER AFTER

Our wedding day was the best day ever. We had one main goal in mind: to create a day where everyone in attendance could feel love and joy throughout every minute of the day. The entire day was filled with more joy than we could have ever imagined. It was a perfect example of the incredible friends and family that we have built around us and just a glimpse into how much support and love they would offer us in the years to come. While that day in November was just another regular day to some people, for us, it was a dream come true.



MATT



FUNNY, DEPENDABLE, SUPPORTIVE, PROTECTIVE

In Katie's Words

To know Matt is to love him—he has the biggest heart of anyone I know. One of the things I admire most is how he listens. No matter what's on my mind, he makes me feel heard, understood, and safe. He has a calming presence and a way of reminding me what really matters when life feels overwhelming. His patience and ability to forgive inspires me every day, and his belief in the good in people helps me see the world in a more positive light. Matt's kindness is so genuine, and it's something everyone who meets him picks up on right away. He always puts others before himself, whether it's helping a friend or just showing me small, everyday acts of love. And his sense of humor is one of my favorite things about him—his impressions and jokes never fail to make me laugh!

There are few things in life I'm as certain of as this: Matt was made to be a father. Even when we first met, he talked about how much he looked forward to creating a wonderful life for his future children. That desire has been a constant for him, and it's reflected in everything he does. Matt has such a natural way with kids. He's playful, silly, and knows how to make every moment fun—he can turn an ordinary day into an adventure. Whether he's tossing a ball with our nephew, making silly faces to get a laugh, or patiently helping a child learn something new, he's fully present and engaged. Beyond the giggles and fun, Matt's gentle heart is what makes him truly special. I know that our child will never have to question if they are loved, valued, or supported. Matt will be their biggest cheerleader, always celebrating them at their best moments and lifting them up when they are at their lowest. He will be the dad who shows up for everything—the little moments and the big ones—and ensures that our child always knows they are safe, loved, and chosen.

I am a licensed electrician and work for a company that does industrial jobs. I love that our early morning start time allows me to be off work every Friday. It feels great knowing my job allows me to do something I love while also providing for my family. My employers are understanding about taking off work and have offered their full support to us as we navigate adoption. I plan to take off up to two weeks after the adoption occurs.

I'm a huge sports fan! Whether it's watching on TV, catching a local game, or staying up-to-date with the latest sports news, I'm all in. While I am not able to be out on the football field playing like I used to, I still love to stay active through playing sports. You can find me playing golf with my brother or picking up a game of basketball with my friends. I enjoy staying active, but I also appreciate downtime, especially when I can retreat to my 'man cave' I have set up in our house. I also love to try new recipes on the grill and host friends and family for dinner.



Being a parent has been a lifelong dream for me. I can't wait to give my children a life full of love, fun memories, and to be there for them every step of the way. I'm looking forward to teaching them new things, introducing them to the things I love, and helping them discover their own passions. Whether they're playing sports, pursuing a hobby, or chasing their dreams, I'll be there in the front row cheering them on.

I'm also excited about starting new family traditions—whether it's holiday celebrations, fun family vacations, or just simple, everyday moments that we'll cherish for years. Being the best dad I can be will always be my top priority, and I hope my child sees me not only as a father, but as a best friend, a role model, and their protector for life.

Growing up, I knew I wanted to work as hard as I could to provide extra opportunities for my future children. I'm thankful my parents taught me the importance of hard work, close family values, and perseverance. I want to give my kids endless opportunities, but I also want to make sure they understand the value of hard work and appreciate everything they have. I want them to feel supported, loved, and motivated to go after their own dreams, just as I was. At the end of the day, material items and experiences are great, but it is the love that I want them to remember and appreciate most when they look back on their childhood.

KATIE



STEADY, SUPPORTIVE, ENCOURAGING, LOYAL

In Matt's Words

Katie has a way of making you feel like you have known her your whole life even if you just met her. She is the friendliest person I know and goes out of her way to make anyone she meets feel special and included. She can turn a bad day into the best day with her love for life and her beautiful smile. When we first met as teenagers, I was immediately blown away by how she had been through so much in her life but remained so positive and faithful to God. She is constantly teaching me new things and encouraging me to be my best self. She loves her friends and family so deeply, and is the first person to step up to help and support those around her in times of need. I admire how she always puts others before herself and takes care of those that she loves. Those who are lucky enough to have Katie in their lives will tell you how she is one person they can always count on, somebody who is wise beyond her years, and someone who will be the most incredible mother one day.

Imagining Katie as a mom is something that is so easy to do because every day I see how much she loves the kids who are in our lives. Kids just naturally feel comfortable around her because she is so loving, cheerful, and thoughtful. Our nephew literally waits at the door with his suitcase, counting down the minutes until his "Aunt Kay Kay" comes to pick him up for a sleepover. From surprise day trips to the museum or hockey games, to fun movie nights with popcorn and candy, seeing her create these magical moments has been the perfect preview of what an amazing mom she will be. Katie has talked about having a heart for adoption for as long as I have known her and hearing her talk about this process and seeing her handle it with such care and respect for everyone involved is something that just shows how she is living out God's plan for her and our family.

I am a Senior Account Executive for a marketing agency. I work from home and absolutely love the flexibility that it allows. I can make appointments during the work day and my company gives us unlimited paid time off, which allows us to prioritize our personal life and needs outside of work. My employer allows twelve weeks of paid parental leave. Once that time is up, we will enroll our child at a private school's infant daycare program and allow close family and friends to babysit some days.

I am happiest when I am surrounded by family and friends. I love getting brunch with my friends, laying by my mom's pool with my family, shopping with my mom, and going on date nights with Matt! I also enjoy some "me time." In those moments, you'll find me curled up with a good book, finding new ways to decorate the house, or catching up on reality TV. Music is also a huge passion of mine. I grew doing musical theater, and I still love singing around the house, playing piano, and watching musicals. I have made staying active a priority and I love Pilates and Barre classes!

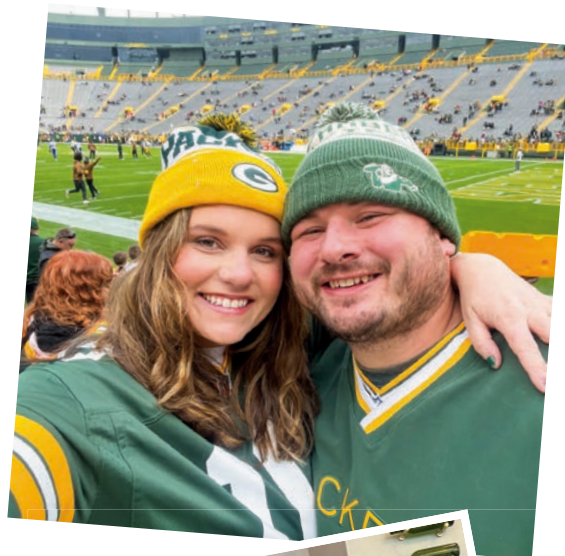


I can't wait for the day when I hold my baby in my arms and know, without a doubt, that this is what God has been preparing me for all along. While I am excited to share traditions that are close to our hearts, like Sunday family dinners, pool parties in the summer, and exploring new places together, it is the simple everyday moments that I have been waiting for my whole life. The quiet nights at home full of snuggles and bedtime stories, the mornings where I look out the window and see Matt pushing our child on the swing set, hearing the pitter patter of feet running around our house and giggles echoing down the hallway, and the sound of little voices asking questions about the world around them. It's the moments where we can sit at the kitchen table, coloring, laughing, and sharing stories from our day that will be my dream come true. While parenthood can be full of magical moments, I also know that it can come with challenges. I'm ready for every single one of them. In the good times, and the bad, our baby will always know that they are the joy of my life.

I pray that our child grows into a person who reflects the kindness and patience they see in Matt, the passion and dedication they see in me, and the bravery and selflessness they inherit from their birth parents who gave us the honor of raising them. Those qualities are part of their beautiful story, and I want them to feel proud of who they are, and where they come from.

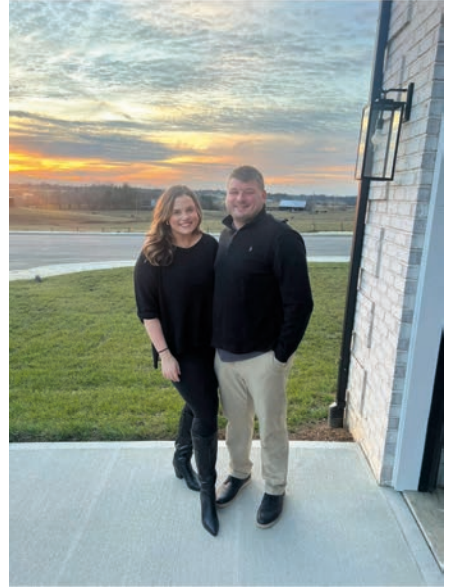
We've been married for five years, and while each year has brought its own changes, one thing has remained constant: our dedication to each other and our marriage. You often hear people say that marriage is hard work—and it is—but what we've discovered is that life itself is what's hard! The challenges and disappointments that life throws our way can be overwhelming, but having each other makes those moments easier to face.

Our teamwork and the deep respect we have for each other make our marriage strong. We're committed to talking things through, listening without judgment, and supporting each other unconditionally. When obstacles come our way, we approach them as a team, knowing that no matter what, we can face anything together.



Simply put, we are each other's best friend. Whether it's a trip to the grocery store, a fancy date night, or just relaxing at home, we always find ways to laugh and have fun together. Over the years, we've discovered that we enjoy a perfect mix of adventures that take us to new places and cozy moments spent at home. Trying new restaurants, going to concerts, or going to the movies are some of our favorite things to do on date nights! But we also enjoy the simple things—whether it's a cozy movie night at home, a long drive on the country roads listening to our favorite music, or cooking dinner together.

TIME TOGETHER



We love taking day trips to explore places like the zoo, aquarium, or local shops, and we're always up for catching a hockey, football, or basketball game! Whether it's a quick getaway or a longer trip, we enjoy traveling to both nearby spots and places farther away. Our trips to the beach are always a favorite, and we recently visited Green Bay, Wisconsin. We're excited to make it a yearly tradition to cheer on the Green Bay Packers!

Exploring new places is so much fun,
but there truly is no place like home.

When we are home, you can often find us taking walks around the neighborhood, playing cards and board games, watching our favorite TV shows or movies, or finding new projects to do around the house! No matter what it is, we always find a way to have fun and create new memories and traditions.



HOME SWEET HOME



The first time we stepped foot in our home, we immediately knew it was where we were meant to be. Spending the last several years making this house into a home has been so fun. Our house has three bedrooms, two bathrooms, and is located in an incredible neighborhood that is filled with other families. Katie loves to make the house feel bright, colorful, and pretty. But don't worry, Matt has put his special touch on his favorite part of the house: his man cave! He has filled the walls of posters and pictures of his favorite sports teams, and loves spending time watching sports, playing video games, and relaxing on the comfy couch with Lilly! **We love hosting our friends and family at our house for game nights, dinner, and to watch sports games!**

We were both born and raised in Kentucky, and grew up in the same small town. Our community is small, but mighty! Everyone is super passionate about growing the town we live in and offering more opportunities as each year passes. Between festivals, family-friendly parks, a charming downtown, and safe close-knit schools, there are so many reasons to be excited about raising our children here. We always say that Kentucky is a great state to live in, no matter if you want to be in a big city or take advantage of the beautiful land that our state has to offer!



Meet Lilly

We can't help but smile as we introduce you to our sweet dog, Lilly! She's nine years old and has the most gentle, cuddly personality you could imagine. Lilly is incredibly calm and patient, which is why our nieces and nephews adore her—especially the little ones, who love sitting with her and giving her belly rubs. Her favorite activities are snuggling on the couch and taking naps, and her snoring always makes everyone laugh. Lilly has such a warm, loving presence and brings joy to everyone who spends time with her. She's such a special part of our family!

Both of our families all live in the same state, and a majority of them in the same city! We love living so close to everyone. In fact, Katie's brother lives two doors down from us and Matt's brother, Robbie, and his family also live at the end of our street! We are both incredibly close with our siblings, so having them just a few steps away has been so nice! Each and every one of our family members have had such a huge part in offering support through our struggles with infertility and now, our journey of pursuing adoption. Everyone is anxiously awaiting the day that we walk through the doors with our baby in our arms.

FAMILY
is everything to us
and we feel so
blessed to both have
large families who
have shaped us into
who we are today.

Katie's Family

My family consists of my mom, Mary Jo, my stepdad, Tim, and my brother, Carson. Even though my dad, David, passed away when I was twelve, his memory is a big part of who I am today. I also have two stepsisters, Kayden and Ramsey. Ramsey is married to Wade, and they have two adorable daughters, Ivy (2 years old) and Vera (8 months old). I also consider my cousin Emily's son, Porter (5 years old), to be my nephew because I'm so involved in his life and we are incredibly close. Growing up with a cousin who was adopted as an infant, I've witnessed my entire family's continued heart for adoption as they have opened their hearts and home to others, embraced them as part of the family, and formed bonds just as strong as any blood relation.

My mom and Carson are a big part of our daily lives. My mom and I talk constantly, and Matt and I both consider Carson one of our best friends. We usually have Sunday family dinners at my mom's house, and it's common for other relatives to join in. In the summer, we spend weekends by their pool, and when it gets colder, we have family game nights. I think the best way to sum up my family is this: we laugh hard, celebrate big, love deeply, support unconditionally, and always show up for each other, no matter what.

Matt's Family

My family includes my mom, Charlotte, her boyfriend, Art, as well as my dad, Robbie, and stepmom, Robin. I am the second oldest of four kids. My brother, Robbie, is married to Katie, and Brent is married to Presley. My third brother is Dylan, and my sister, Hannah, is married to Chris. Robbie and Katie have three kids—Jayden (13), Rayleigh (9), and Payson (3)—and Brent and Presley have a daughter, Harper (6). I also have a lot of aunts, uncles, and cousins as well! I am very close to Robbie, who I look up to for advice and support. Since they live on the same street, we spend a lot of time with Robbie and his family. We love seeing our nieces and nephews nearby, watching them play outside, or answering the door when they come by to say hi. Robbie and I share a love for the Green Bay Packers, Nascar, and college basketball, and we enjoy going to games together. Every holiday and birthday is filled with laughter, and we're so thankful to have such a close-knit family.





HOLIDAY FUN

We love any chance to celebrate, whether it's a holiday or a birthday! Being surrounded by friends and family is what makes the moments special, and we have our parents to thank for teaching us the joy of traditions. One of the best parts of living close to both our families is that we get to celebrate without the stress of travel, leaving us more time to relax and enjoy the festivities.





A few of our traditions include our annual Halloween party that we host on trick-or-treat night, with our nieces and nephews running in and out of the house with their candy and going to and from our parents' house on Thanksgiving to enjoy our moms' home cooking. We love watching fireworks at an annual Fourth of July party with all of Matt's childhood friends, and piling in the car at Christmas time to drive around in our pajamas to look at Christmas lights.

Katie treats birthdays as their own holidays, just like her mom always has! In our family, your birthday is your day to request your favorite meal, activity, and be surrounded by everyone who loves you.

No matter the holiday, big or small,
we use it as an excuse to be with our
favorite people and create memories!



God is the center of our life, family, and marriage.

FAITH + EDUCATION

We plan to raise our child in the Christian faith, hoping that they establish their own relationship with the Lord. Some of Katie's favorite childhood memories are being involved with the children's program at church growing up, and we can't wait to provide the same memories for our child as they grow up being involved in our church.

We plan to send our child to the same private school that Katie went to for preschool. Once they reach kindergarten, they will attend public school. The schools in our community are close-knit, and based on our experience as well as our friends with children currently in the school system, we feel confident that they provide a safe and positive experience.

We know that every child's journey is different, and we will support them no matter what path they choose. Katie went to college, and Matt attended trade school, so we understand that both options—and many others—can lead to success. Whether our kids decide to go to college, trade school, or something else, we will encourage them to follow a path that makes them happy and gives them a stable future. Our main goal is to help them find what they love and support them in reaching their dreams.





As you have read through these pages, looked at the pictures, and pictured the future for your child, we hope you see us for the family we truly are beyond these pages: a family who isn't always picture-perfect, but never fails to show up for each other, to learn from our mistakes, and to keep growing stronger together. Our home is filled with love, laughter, and the kind of support that can only come from a family who's committed to being there, no matter what.



We can imagine that this part of your journey is overwhelming, and we know how scary the unknown can be. But if we can help by making you some promises, it is this:

- + **We promise to always make you feel seen, loved, appreciated, and secure in every decision you make. We will never take your role in our lives for granted. While we will love and cherish our baby, we will also love and honor the person who gave us the gift of raising them.**
- + **We promise to support our child as they ask questions and think about their adoption story. We want them to be proud of their background and our family's story, and feel comfortable talking to us about anything. We will always help them understand their feelings and answer any questions they have about adoption.**
- + **We promise to always speak about you with love and respect and to pray for you regularly. We want you to be a familiar face in our family's life, if that is what your heart desires too!**
- + **Just as you have done, we will always put this baby first—making decisions in their best interest and protecting them with all our hearts.**

We hope the love and laughter that fills our home have come through these pages. We pray that you feel comfortable and at ease, as if you've known us forever. And if it feels right for you and your baby, we hope we can welcome you into our lives in whatever way feels most comfortable for you.

*Love,
Matt and Katie*

We want you to feel loved and seen, and know that no matter your decision, we will always pray that you find exactly what you are looking for.



