



Nick and Hannah

Hello

As we have prayed our way through this journey, please know you have been covered in prayers. We pray daily for you and your child. You are so loved. We picture and imagine who you and your child may be, and excitedly await what the Lord has in store for all of us. Please know that your child is already so deeply loved. They have two older brothers anxiously awaiting their arrival. We have brought our future child into our hopes and dreams of life, and we are excitedly waiting for the day it becomes a reality. We also want you to know that your heart is valued and cherished as you consider adoption. We promise to continue praying for you as you make this decision. We are honored that you have chosen to explore our book and hope you feel our love through the words and pictures that follow.

With love,

Nick and Hannah

Welcome to Our Story

We grew up in neighboring towns but met through mutual friends when we were in our early twenties. We dated for two years before becoming engaged.

For our engagement, Nick took me to a forest preserve in our town that we frequently visit. During the hike, to my surprise, our dog greeted us with a note on his collar stating “turn around.” Nick was on his knee with a ring. My parents and best friend were hiding in the trees, capturing the moments and waiting to join in the celebration.

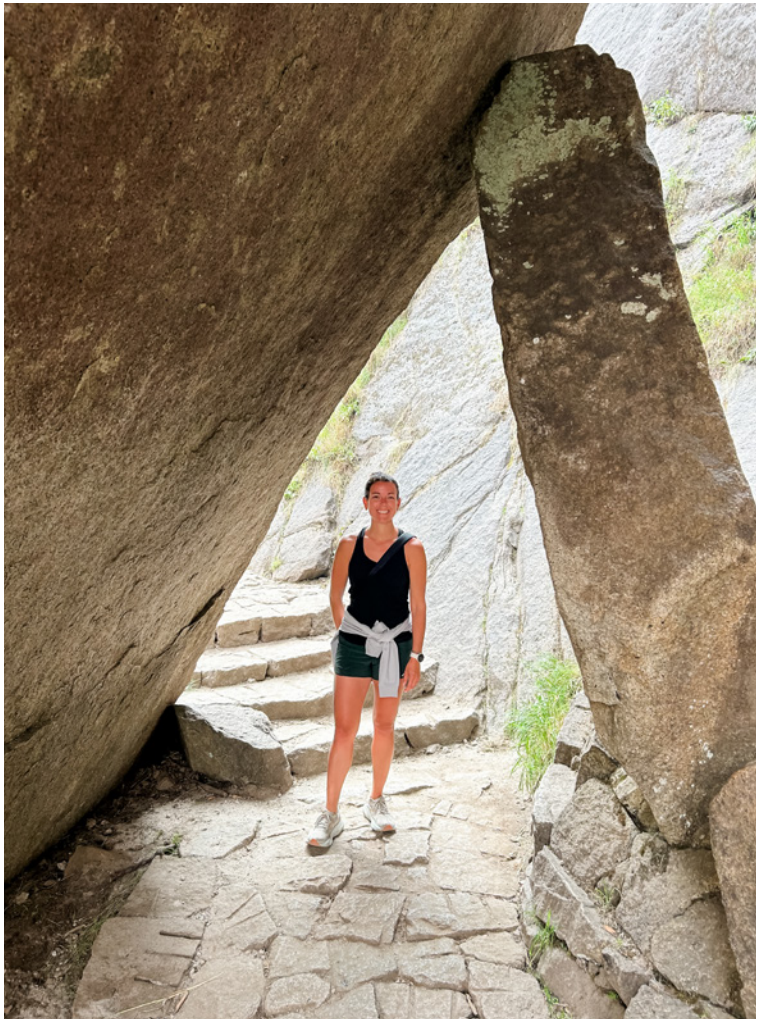
We got married in an old church that all of Nick’s family members were married in. It was an EXTREMELY hot day. We then moved the party to a reception hall and danced the night away. The only hiccup of the night was that we had some extra people attend and we ran out of food – oops!

As we approach our tenth anniversary, I look back at the young couple who got married with little clue of what they were doing. When we were first married, we were just two people trying to figure out how to become one. It is such a joy to look back and see the growth we have experienced. We balance each other out. Where one may have a weakness, the other provides the necessary strength. Instead of relying on ourselves, there is confidence in knowing we have each other no matter what. We have experienced loss, victories, joy, and waiting. Through it all, we look back on the journey and would choose it all again.

We look forward to the path ahead and are grateful to have each other to experience it with.



We are adopting because we know we have room in our hearts to love another kiddo. Since I was in high school, I hoped to pursue adoption one day. Now, being in a marriage, thankfully, we both share that desire. We have two boys whom we love deeply and have imagined, dreamed, and hoped for another little one to love. This child will be loved not only by their parents but also greatly cherished by two big brothers.





Meet Hannah

by Nick

From the moment I met Hannah, I wanted to be a better person so I could be the godly man that she deserved. Her middle name is Grace for a reason, and it's because she is so full of grace towards all people. I love that she has the biggest heart towards everyone. She is a perfect balance of kindness and strength, not only in life but especially as a mother. She will ALWAYS put the needs of our boys and me before her own. She takes care of herself spiritually, physically, and emotionally. She is organized and structured, yet always willing to go with the flow.

Hannah is an excellent example of God's love. She loves our boys, her family, and most of all me hard and well. I could not even begin to imagine going through life without her by my side.

Our boys know their mom will be there for them and get them what they need, no matter how it has to happen. As a mom of boys, she is more than willing to meet them on whatever level they may need, whether playing with tractors or toys, walking the creek while we fish, or coaching their sports when I'm unable. We teach them to pray, and listening to her pray with them is something that will always move my heart. Hannah is a great mom because she is supportive, a good listener, understanding, and helps them overcome challenges. Every morning when they wake up, and every night when they go to bed, our boys know that their mom will always be there for them.





Meet Nick

by Hannah

Nick is a wonderful man of God. He works hard to provide for our family. Initially, his smile and outgoing personality were what attracted me to him. One of the things that attracts me to him now is the way he loves our kids. He is involved in what they are interested in and coaches all their sports teams. I know the kids and I are his top priority. He is always willing to dive into whatever adventure or trip I may have planned for the family.

Nick is involved in all that our kids do. He works a job that can require overtime, but always makes it a priority to attend all our kids' events. He is a dad who will get down on their level and be precisely what they need. Whether that may be a playmate, a guiding reminder, or a safe place, he is a teacher to our boys and sets an example for them to develop confidence. He brings joy to the house by continually joking around with our sons and doing anything to make them laugh. Our children feel secure with him. He has been a coach on multiple teams/sports our kids have played in, and does an excellent job not only teaching skills to my kids, but also to all the kids on the team. Before having children, he volunteered as a basketball and football coach at our town's high school. He was a positive, encouraging male role model for many of the high school boys. Our nieces and nephews adore Nick. And he loves them as his own. At the end of the day, our boys go to bed knowing Nick loves them, and that is the best thing they could end a day with.

Our Boys

Jackson is very outgoing and makes friends easily with anyone he meets.

He is observant and enjoys figuring out how things work. He is the absolute best big brother to Jameson. He is sensitive and tender-hearted toward what others are feeling, and he wants to ensure that people's needs are met. He is joyful and has a special sparkle when he smiles. He is an encourager who celebrates others' victories. He likes being outside, playing with tractors, and hopes to be a farmer someday.

Jameson is more reserved socially, unless he considers you one of his people; then his bold, funny personality comes to life. He continually has us all laughing. He has the best imagination. He is loyal to his family and cousins. Jameson enjoys exploring outside and making his own little worlds of play with his imagination. He loves hard and absolutely adores his big brother. He would like to be a police officer when he grows up.







Our Home is Our Happy Place

We have a ranch-style home with three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Our boys share a room (their choice) and are happily awaiting to turn the third bedroom into a nursery. Our home is in a wooded area with a creek, but only five minutes from town, allowing us to ride bikes to the nearby park. We are happy here because it is quiet, allowing the kids to run around and play freely. Our neighbors are either relatives or long-time friends with young children, making it a fun and kid-friendly community. Two minutes from our house is a property that my family owns, called "The Traincar." On the property is a large in-ground pool and an old train car. This is a home away from home for us. We enjoy swimming in the pool or walking the creek that runs through the property.

We live in a town of just under 11,000. The community is surrounded by agricultural land and wooded forest preserves, and has a major river running through it. The local school district has three elementary schools, a middle school, and a high school. We have three parks we enjoy visiting frequently. A YMCA in town provides a pool where our kids have taken swimming lessons. The community provides resources for extracurricular activities, including scouting, youth sports, theater, and 4-H.

In Our Home We:

Love Jesus and shine His light to others

Like to make each other laugh

Respect one another

Love one another

Have snacks on the ready

Are each other's number one fans and biggest supporters

Always end the day with a running hug

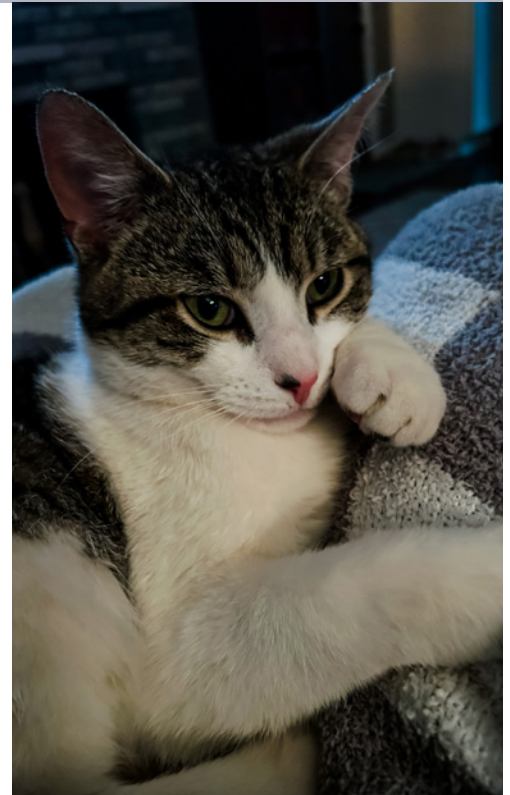
Do pizza Sundays

Always make time to relax before bed

Love the outdoors

Say prayers before going to sleep

Say there is no such thing as too much milk





Our Families

Nick is the youngest in his family, with an older brother and sister. His brother is married with three sons and lives in the neighboring town to us. His sister has a daughter, and they live with his parents in his hometown, which is just 15 minutes away from us. We see them almost monthly as we provide support to them in their activities, and they reciprocate by supporting ours. His parents do an excellent job of showing our boys love when we are all together, and our boys love their cousins. Nick, his brother, and dad have always been close and try to talk on the phone as often as possible to check in, stay connected, and support each other through whatever may be going on. His mom is always good with the kids and shows love for all of us.

I have three younger brothers and three sisters-in-law. All my siblings and my parents live within 15 minutes of us. I have five young nieces and nephews. I have an excellent relationship with my parents and siblings. We see them weekly, and all of them have a very impactful relationship on me, my husband, and our kids. Next to Nick and me, my parents are our kiddos' favorite people. They are so active and supportive in our lives, and I love them for that. I also work with my dad and one of my brothers, and therefore see them daily, which allows me to have a strong working relationship with them.

We celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, the 4th of July, Labor Day, and Halloween. Thanksgiving, we always spend with extended family, and the next day, we go to cut down our Christmas tree. We attend a church service on Christmas Eve, and Christmas morning is spent at home enjoying a breakfast casserole and the joys of gifts—the extended family celebrates throughout the Christmas and New Year's Eve days. Traditions associated with Easter include church services, followed by extended family gatherings and Easter egg hunts. 4th of July, Labor Day, and Halloween are all about parades, fireworks, and candy.



The Little Things

Nick Likes

Golf
Fishing and hunting
Coaching our kids in sports
The Chicago Cubs
Illini collegiate sports
Watching any sporting event on TV
A chocolate shake when we get ice cream
Any adventure Hannah proposes
Camping with family
Nachos for an appetizer

Hannah Likes

Running
Workouts
Reading
Time with family
Ice Cream
Sports
Adventures and exploring the world
Naps whenever possible
Camping with the family
Lots of time outside





This and That

We love to travel and to make those core memories. Points of interest are anywhere we can be and experience God's beautiful creation. There are many different places, and we try not to visit the same place twice.

We both serve in our church. We both want to be outside as often as possible, and nothing is better than ending the night with a bonfire.

There is nothing better than being surrounded by the best of family and friends.

What Others Say

Sam – “Nick and Hannah not only pour everything they have into their boys, but into everyone around them. Their love truly knows no limit, and our family has been blessed by their kindness too many times to count. To know them is to love them.”

Natalie – “They are such a blessing in our lives and in the lives of our three children, who, I might add, are absolutely obsessed with Aunt Hanney and Uncle Nick! The love, joy, and steady presence that they bring into our family is something we are endlessly grateful for, and we know that any child will be deeply blessed to be welcomed into their home.”





Goals and Plans

As a family, we attend church on Sundays and occasionally on Wednesdays. We love Jesus and always hope to point our children to him through our love, words, and actions. We are both working parents, doing so to provide the best for our children. Our kids currently attend a private school in the neighboring town and will likely transition to public school for middle school and high school. Nick works in the electrical trades, and I work in my family's business as a general contractor. We recognize the importance of both college and trade school and will support our children in whichever direction they choose to pursue.





A Last Note _____ Before You Go

Thank you for journeying through our book and getting to know us. We hope you felt the love through the pages, and we pray that you felt a sense of peace as you read and imagined your child becoming a part of our story. We want to leave you with the hope that you know you are loved deeply by our Lord Jesus Christ and by us. We will continue to pray for you and your child. We promise to provide a life for your child that will be supportive in their hearts, dreams, and desires. We promise to point your child to Jesus. We promise they will never go to bed without knowing they are so deeply loved. They will be covered in affirmations, joys, and prayers. We promise to celebrate with them in their highs, hold them in their lows, and guide them through the daily walks of life. They will be heard, they will be safe, they will be supported, they will be celebrated, they will be provided for, they will be cared for, and they will be deeply loved.



