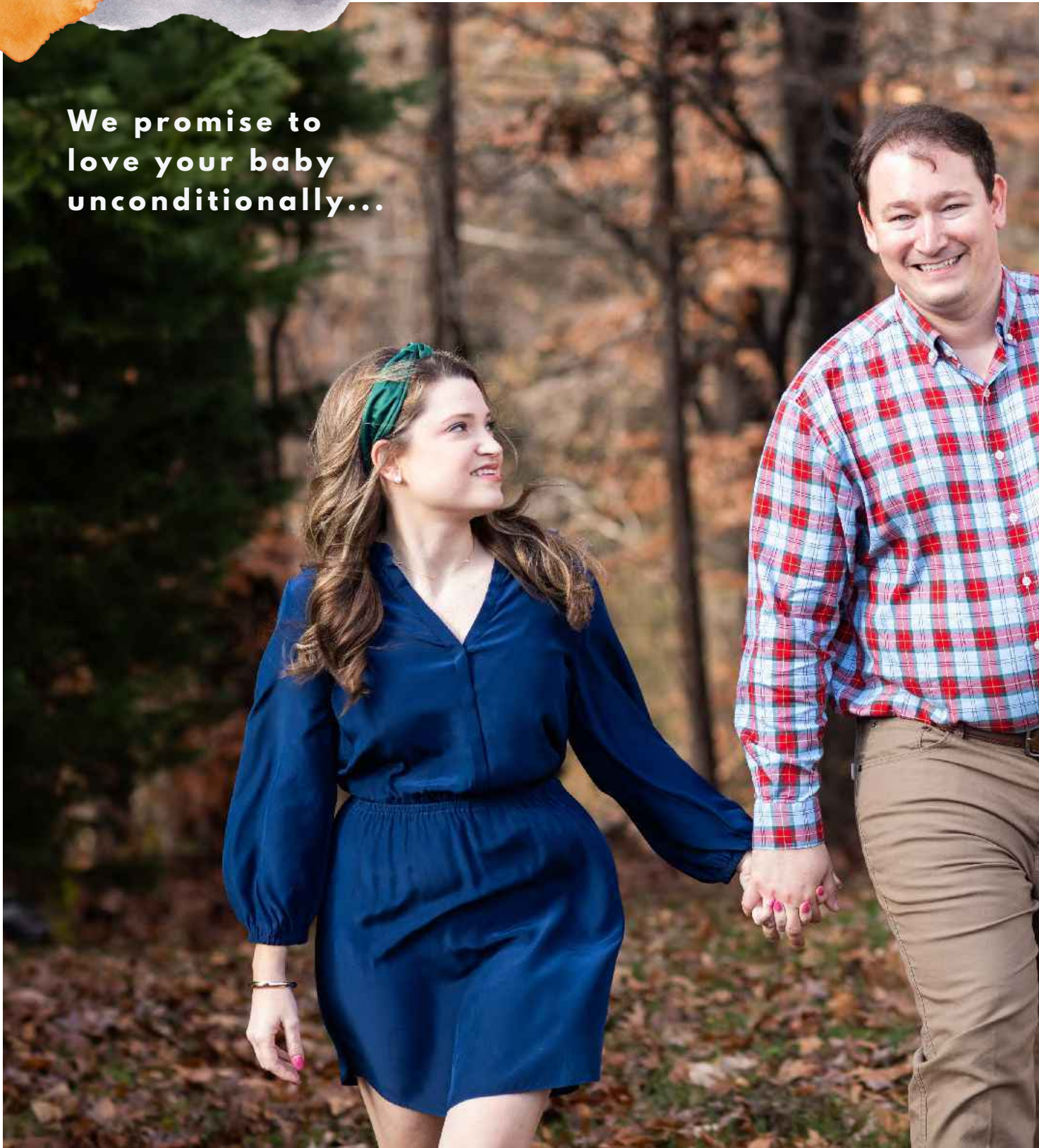




**ZACH + STEPHANIE**



**We promise to  
love your baby  
unconditionally...**





# HELLO

*it's so nice to meet you!*

Thank you for taking time to read about us. **We admire your strength and courage to consider making an adoption plan for your child.** We believe every life has value and meaning and that your child is made in the image of God.

Stephanie learned when she was a teenager she would never be able to carry a baby due to an underdeveloped uterus. Although she was told early on she would never be a mother, she never lost hope she would be a parent someday. We talked about adoption even before we were engaged. Stephanie has seen her cousin adopt two children and witnessed the beauty of adoption first hand. **We have so much love to give a child and we feel we are at the right place in our lives to grow our family.** We feel equipped to handle life's hardships and feel we can provide for a child in every way.

We want you to know that if you choose us, **we would love your child unconditionally and would support their hopes and dreams in every way possible.** We want you to know we are praying for you and your baby throughout your pregnancy and that God will provide peace in whatever decision you make.

## ZACH & STEPHANIE



*our love*

# STORY

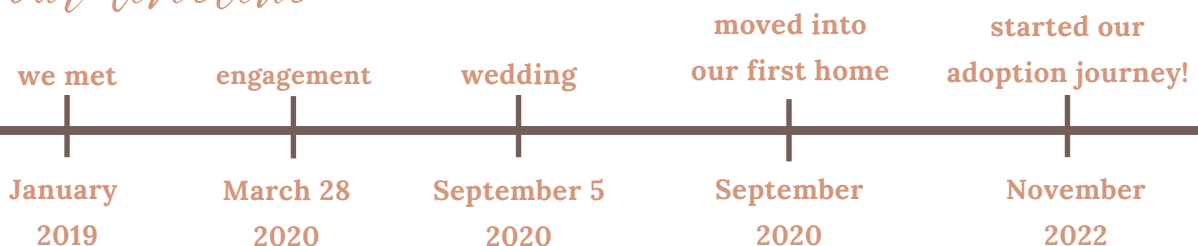
We met on a dating app! We messaged back and forth for a week or so, then met up for our first date at a Tex-Mex restaurant in town. During our first date, we were both surprised the conversation was so easy! We felt like we had known each other for a long time. We had so much in common, including many mutual friends. **Our faith and values aligned and we laughed at each other's jokes.** We enjoyed getting to know each other for the following year and a half. We cooked together, traveled, went on walks, and planned our future together.

We got engaged March 28th, 2020, the first weekend of COVID lockdowns. Zach's original plan was to leave town for a mountain getaway. With lockdowns ensuing, the trip was canceled. Zach improvised and we went on a walk at a local park. He brought his GoPro with him to "take pictures of the dog." Mid-way through the walk, Zach set up a camera to take a picture of us. When the picture was about to snap, Zach got on one knee and proposed!

We initially were planning a large wedding at a hotel downtown. But with COVID19 raging on, we moved our wedding to Zach's grandmother's land and had a small ceremony with 14 guests. Although we were missing a lot of friends and family, it was the perfect day to officially begin our life together.

**We're a perfect match. Our differences make us unique, and our similarities complement each other. We're best friends.**

## *our timeline*







# ZACH

**I own an insurance agency and love being in an amazing position to help people.** Luckily, because I work for myself and have employees that can work independently, I can be as flexible as I need to be, take time off when needed, and even work from home: **it's the perfect family-friendly job!**

In my free time **I love home improvement projects**, yard work and gardening. We have an herb garden in the summer and grow fruits and vegetables. I enjoy **creating and building things** like our outdoor fire pit, patio, garage work bench, and basement game room. I always like having something to do and it's hard for me to just sit around. I also enjoy **camping** with friends, **working on my own cars**, and, as Stephanie will tell you, **decorating for Christmas!**



**" I want my child to know they are loved, wanted, and have purpose."**



# STEPHANIE

I am a **registered dietitian** and I currently work in a dialysis center helping patients who have kidney failure and are on dialysis. I recently made this job change to **have more flexibility as we welcome a baby into our home**. Half of my time is spent working remotely and I can adjust my hours as needed which will allow Zach and I to plan our schedules so one of us is always home with the baby.

I enjoy **reading, traveling, singing, and going to consignment and antique shops**. I am passionate about **cooking** and enjoy making healthy foods taste good. I love finding new recipes and trying them out! I also love **working out**, whether it's doing yoga or just going for a walk outside.





"My greatest wish for my children is that they know they are loved unconditionally by us and their first mother."



## ZACH *in Stephanie's words*

Simply put, to know Zach is to love him! **He brings joy to those around him through his humor and kindness.** He cares deeply for others, which is evident by his actions. I like to call him “Mr. Fix It” because he can fix just about anything in the house that isn’t working. **Zach has a zest for life and has many things he is passionate about, including his faith, his family, his insurance agency, the Brave’s, Christmas, and of course our dog—Oliver.** Zach is a wonderful and attentive husband.

One of the things that made me want to marry Zach is knowing how good of a father he would be. **He is the type of person that always puts his family first.** It is amazing to watch Zach interact with our friends and family member’s children. Last year, we visited my out of state cousin and their little boy Gabe loved Zach so much that when our trip came to an end, Gabe burst into tears when they dropped us off at the airport. **Zach will be a “hands on” dad and will be very involved in our child’s life.** With Zach’s love for life and strong values, he will encourage our child to be the best they can be and help them deal with life’s challenges. **I’m confident Zach will be the best father!**



# STEPHANIE *in Zach's words*

**Stephanie is sweet and kindhearted.** She has a peaceful, even-tempered disposition, even in the face of conflict. Stephanie holds true to her values and always strives to do the right thing, even if it's not the easiest. She's passionate about her job as a dietitian and enjoys helping her patients. **Although Stephanie is hard-working when she needs to be, she also knows how to relax and have a good time.** Once you get her laughing, she won't be able to stop! She has an eye for design and keeps our house looking beautiful.

**I know Stephanie will be an amazing mom: she loves kids.** She is so sweet and soft-spoken with them; caring for their needs above her own. Luckily, kids love her too! We both volunteer in the nursery at church and babysit often for friends. Stephanie enjoys reading to them with great animation and joy – she is a great storyteller! Stephanie will be such a great mom.





## *our life* **TOGETHER**

**We love spending time with family**, whether it's celebrating someone's birthday or having a game night. **We love cooking together and trying new restaurants.** We often go to the sushi restaurant where we had our second date. We enjoy doing home improvement projects, whether it's laying a concrete patio, or reconstructing and painting a piece of furniture.

**We love traveling and try to go to the mountains or the beach once a year.** Some of our favorite vacation spots are Charleston, SC, Asheville, NC, and Blowing Rock, NC. We also enjoy making weekend trips to see Stephanie's parents, who live about 2.5 hours away. We travel to central Alabama to see Stephanie's extended family at least once a year. This side of the family meets up at Disney World every couple of years, which is always a good time! While we love traveling and seeing the world, we also really enjoy being at home. To us, home is where we are comfortable and at peace. We build memories by playing with our dog or watching a movie on the couch. **We always eat dinner at the table, and plan to continue this once we have children under our roof.** Eating at the table is special to us because it gives us a chance to de-brief about our day and have a chance to really listen to one another. Zach has a big family in the town we live in. There is frequently a get-together for a birthday or holiday. We also go to the same church as Zach's family, so we get to see them on a weekly basis.





## *our extended* **FAMILY**

### **Zach's Family:**

My parents, Greg and Jennifer, have been married for 35 years. They live in town, only about 10 minutes away. My dad is a logistics and warehouse manager for a large construction company and my mom teaches 6th grade at a local Baptist School. Both of my grandmothers (Nana Jean and Grandma) are living, and both are within 20 minutes of us. I have two younger, single brothers, Patrick and Matthew, who also live in town. My aunt Cathy lives right down the road from us and her two kids Lindsay and Ben are like siblings to me. Lindsay is a freshman in college and Ben is a junior in high school. I have other extended family who live close by as well.



### **Stephanie's Family:**

My parents, Steve and Debbie, have been married for 36 years. I am an only child. I have six cousins, but the one I am closest to is Emily, who has adopted two kids (Emma Claire and Gabriel) with her husband. My grandfather, Ferrel, is 88 and is such a character. He has so many good stories from his life that he loves to share with his grandchildren. He still plays the clarinet in the orchestra at his church every Sunday.

**When we adopt, it will be the first grandchild for both sets of parents, so to say they are excited is an understatement! Our grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins are thrilled that we will be adding to our family and they are all very supportive of adoption.**



# OUR HOME

*and community*

We love our home, which we purchased in 2020. **We live at the end of a cul-de-sac, so the street is quiet, and we know all of our neighbors.** We have a two-story home with a finished basement that we have turned into an office and game room. We have two bathrooms, three bedrooms, and an open kitchen and living area. Zach built a day bed and a built-in bookcase in the soon to be nursery. We also have a built-in 2.5 car garage filled with Zach's tools and gadgets. We have a deck that connects to the kitchen on the main level with a table, chairs, and umbrella. The stairs from the deck lead down into the fenced in backyard with our firepit and lower patio. **Zach loves yard work so the entire yard always looks nice with flowers growing in the summer. We welcome company over and love making new memories in our home!**





**We love our community in the Southeast!** Our city has really grown over the last 10 years, expanding the downtown area with more restaurants and shops. **Our home is close to everything and we are blessed to be in an excellent school district.** There is also a nice park within walking distance of our home with a playground, walking path, and tennis courts. We love our neighborhood because everyone is always out walking, waving as you pass by (it's a southern thing I guess!). **We can be in the mountains in less than an hour, the beach is only a few hours away, and our families are all within driving distance** (some closer than others). We like to go to events locally, eating good food and meeting new people.

**Our city is a  
great place to  
live with  
friendly people  
and a lot to  
do!**

*meet our dog*

# OLIVER

We have one dog named Oliver or “Ollie”, who is an 18 lb Havanese. Stephanie rescued him in 2017. He is an extremely gentle dog and so good with children. Once Zach met Ollie when we first started dating, he fell in love with Oliver just like Stephanie had!





*fun family*

# TRADITIONS

**Christmas is our favorite holiday.** We decorate the weekend of Thanksgiving and pick out a real tree every year. Stephanie decorates the tree while Zach puts up lights outside. We are always excited for the '25 days of Christmas' on ABC/Freeform and look forward to new movies on the Hallmark channel. We celebrate Christmas with both of our families, and usually both sides of each family. **We hope our child will love Christmas as much as we do!**

We also like celebrating the **4th of July**. It's a great time to take the day off, cook out and enjoy fellowship with friends and family. Zach's brother and his dad are amazing cooks. They usually smoke meat for hours in preparation for this holiday. There are a few places in town that offer free fireworks shows like the local country club and minor league baseball team. We always enjoy catching one of these shows too.

Zach looks forward to having **father - daughter/son breakfasts every Saturday morning**, like he enjoyed doing with his dad when he was a child. Stephanie can't wait to **read to our child before bed every night**. She also looks forward to leaving sweet notes in our child's lunchbox.

# OUR FAMILY



## *community + travel*

We plan to stay in this house for the near future. It still has plenty of room for us and our future children. When we do need to upsize, we will want to stay in the same area, close to friends and family. Ideally, we would love to adopt more than one child. We also enjoy traveling, so when our child is old enough to visit places out of town, we plan to do so! As our family grows, we are excited to start new vacation traditions with them.

## *faith + church*

Our hope is that our child knows they are loved and valued just as they are. We want them to know they have a purpose, and we want to help them make their dreams a reality by encouragement and loving guidance. We want our child to love others well and show empathy. We belong to a wonderful church that will help strengthen our child's faith.

# VALUES



## *education + dreams*

While we live in an excellent public school district, our hope is to send our children to private school, if financially possible. Ideally, we would want our child/children to attend the private school where Zach's mother teaches middle school. We would hope our child aspires to go to college but understand that these days it is not as important to success as it was a few decades ago. We want to inspire them and encourage them on the path that they want for themselves. We do not want to push them to do something they do not want, but educate them on all of the options available so they can make a wise decision. We will support and pray for their future. We will set aside money for college, so we are able to support their education.





# OUR PROMISE

*to you...*

**We promise your child will be loved unconditionally by us and both of our families.**

**We promise to provide a safe home environment for your child and will support their hopes and dreams in every way possible.**

**We promise your child will know their adoption story from the start and grow up knowing how great your love for them was and is.**

# THANK YOU

We want to thank you for taking the time to read about us and to get a glimpse into our lives. We would be honored if we were chosen to raise, mentor, love, and guide your child through life.

*Zach & Stephanie*







# OUR STORY

*is just beginning...*