

# J. and Mary



2086963



# We're J. & Mary

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**hello!**

Thank you for taking the  
time to get to know us.







**We are honored**

**that you are looking  
at our profile as you  
consider placing your  
child for adoption.**



**VISITING THE FAMILY LAKE HOUSE IN THE SUMMER IS  
ONE OF OUR FAVORITE ACTIVITIES**



**SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO GO DANCE IN THE GARDEN  
WHEN YOU'RE DRESSED UP NICELY**

**Please know that we respect and value your desire to do what is best for your child, and we know that you are the only one who can make that decision.**

So, please know that we care about and respect YOU. You are valuable, and we cannot begin to imagine the difficulties that you may be facing.

But, with that said, thank you for taking the time to read our profile. It is a privilege for us to get to share our hearts with you and tell our story.



# Our love story

## We first met at college in South Carolina.



J. AND HIS FAMILY LOVE THE SOUTH CAROLINA GAMECOCKS. WE WATCH THEIR FOOTBALL AND BASEBALL GAMES THE MOST.

## We both worked for our school's media production team.

Though we weren't close at that time J. became interested in Mary after he graduated. For 5 years, we were close friends, but it took Mary a while to agree to a first date.

Once we started dating, it did not take us long to realize that we were meant to be together. Less than a year after our first date, we got married on December 15, 2018. Since then, we have adopted a goofy and lovable dog named Granger and moved to a little village in Central Vermont where we enjoy the small-town community and the beautiful world around us.



WE LOVE GOING TO BASEBALL GAMES. WE HAVE A MINOR LEAGUE TEAM NEARBY.

WE MAKE SURE TO VISIT THE OCEAN A FEW TIMES A YEAR.





# Our faith is central to who we are.

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As a pastor, J. spends most of his time studying the Bible, meeting with church members, and praying for those around him.

Mary is also active in the church. She leads the music on Sunday mornings and is loved by many in the church.



EACH WEEK MARY HELPS LEAD MUSIC AT THE CHURCH



MANY NIGHTS WE ENJOY HANGING ON THE COUCH AND WATCHING A MOVIE

## Music has been a big part of our lives.

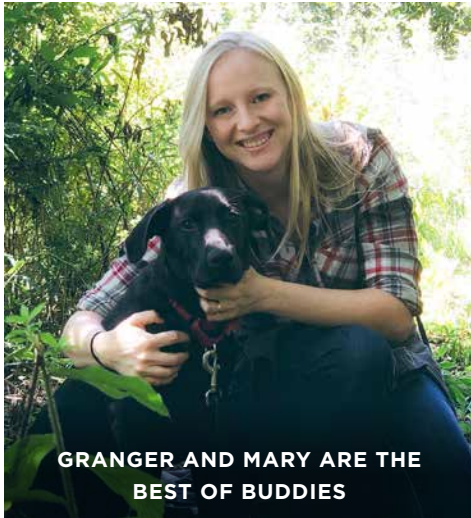
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Mary is certainly the more gifted of the two of us. She started piano as a young child, learned violin in middle school, and taught herself guitar in high school. Mary leads the church's music most every Sunday. From sun up to sun down, it is not uncommon to hear Mary humming whatever song is in her head at the time. J. grew up playing the drums and competed with his high school marching band. Though he doesn't perform anymore, J. will help out and play the drums at church once in a while.



EVERY SUNDAY J. PREACHES TO OUR CONGREGATION FROM THIS BEAUTIFUL PULPIT





GRANGER AND MARY ARE THE  
BEST OF BUDDIES

# About Mary

A few of Mary's  
favorite things

**SPORTS TEAM /**  
New York Yankees

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS /**  
Piano, guitar, violin, voice

**LUNCH BOX SNACK /**  
Chips and dip

**PERFECT DAY /**  
Good food, swimming, hiking, and a  
bonfire with friends

**DESSERT /** Anything with chocolate!

**CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT /** A morning cup of coffee

**PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD /**  
Get a maple creamie (Vermont soft serve ice cream) at  
the local sugar shack (where they make maple syrup)

**SEASONAL ACTIVITY /**  
Winter - ice skating / Spring - gardening / Summer -  
swimming / Autumn - hiking

**VACATION SPOT /**  
Maine coast

**SPORT YOU LIKE TO PLAY /** Baseball







DURING FALL, YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND MARY AT AN APPLE ORCHARD



OUR NEPHEW LOVES TO HANG OUT WITH MARY



MARY HAS BEEN KAYAKING FOR YEARS AND OFTEN IS ON THE LAKE



ONE OF MARY'S FAVORITE HOBBIES IS PHOTOGRAPHY



WHEN THE WEATHER IS WARM, WE LOVE TO GARDEN

## MARY BY J.

While in college, Mary and I worked together. In fact, she was my boss, and I wasn't her best employee. It took us a while to get along, let alone like each other. After I graduated, I had a chance to step back and see her more clearly.

As I watched her work with the students she led, I saw that she cared far more about them than their work. She wanted to see each grow into a mature person more than she wanted a "good job." This was the first thing that caught my attention, and it is why I started getting to know her.

Years later, Mary's selfless heart for others has grown. Everything she does is in the hope that those around her flourish. Professionally, she has worked for our state's education agency and now works with the local hospital system. In everything she does, she wants to help people be healthy and thrive. Mary is one of the most kind and encouraging people.

**The kids in our family and community love Mary's compassion and vivid imagination. She is great at making kids laugh, even while helping them learn.**





# About J.

A few of J.'s  
favorite things

## **SPORTS TEAM /**

Any sport played by the University of South Carolina Gamecocks

## **FAVORITE AUTHORS /**

J.K. Rowling, C.S. Lewis, Christopher Paolini, and C.H. Sprurgeon

## **COLLECTIONS /**

Books and Movies

## **DESSERT /**

Any kind of Ice Cream

## **HOBBY /**

Gardening

## **VACATION SPOT /**

I love all beaches, from Charleston, South Carolina, to York, Maine, to the Bahamas, if it has sand and salt water, I'm happy.

## **ACCESSORY /**

Hiking boots

## **HOLIDAY /**

Snow-covered Christmas

## **LUNCH BOX SNACK /**

Oreos with peanut butter

## **SPORT /**

Football







J. GREW UP IN A COASTAL FAMILY AND WE ARE FORTUNATE TO LIVE A COUPLE HOURS FROM THE BEACH



J. IS ALWAYS READY FOR A CUP OF COFFEE! HE IS METICULOUS AS TO HOW HE MAKES IT AT HOME



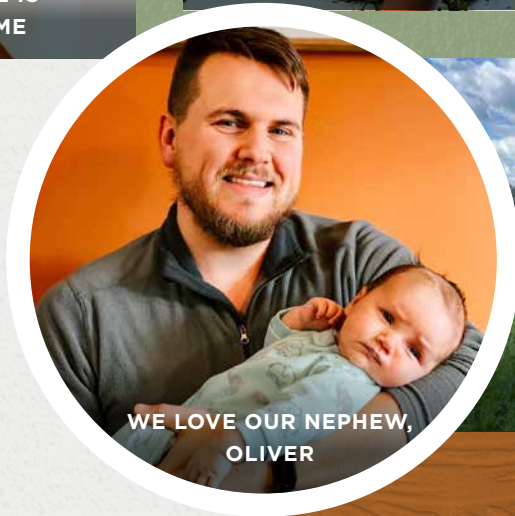
WE WON FIRST PRIZE AT THE COUNTY FAIR FOR THE BIGGEST SUNFLOWER HEAD

## J. BY MARY

The thing that made me fall in love with J. was his kind heart. I remember the moment when I realized that:

After I had a horrible day at work, J. and I went to dinner together. We were 'just friends' then, but as I was crying about my work concerns. He listened to me intently and genuinely cared that I was struggling. I realized that the kindness and compassion he was treating me with was the same kindness and compassion that he shows to everyone. That's when I fell in love with him.

I still see that kindness and compassion today in every aspect of his life. From pastoring our church to substitute teaching at our school, he treats everyone as if they are worthy of being loved and respected.



WE LOVE OUR NEPHEW, OLIVER



WE WORK A LOT WITH THE KIDS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

**Watching him interact with our nephews, leading kids camps, and teaching has shown me what an incredible dad he will be one day. He is loving and caring, and he makes everyone feel like they are valued and belong.**



**We live in—what we believe to be—the most beautiful place in the world.**



**OUR HOME IS BEAUTIFUL IN EVERY SEASON**

**our home**

**Our small town of Washington, Vermont, is in what is called the “snow belt” of Vermont.**

We get wonderfully mild summers, unbelievably picturesque autumns, and postcard-like snowy winters. Spring isn't quite as pretty when all the snow melts, but that is when all the maple syrup is made!



**WE LIVE IN A BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE IN VERMONT IN THE HEART OF THE MOUNTAINS**



**EVERY FALL WE GET TONS OF APPLES AND MAKE APPLE SAUCE, APPLE PIE, AND APPLE CRISP**



# Our home, continued

We spend as much time during the summer at swimming holes and working in our garden. During fall, we love to hike and enjoy the colors of the leaves. During the winter, we go sledding, snowshoeing (hiking in the snow with funny shoes), and cuddling up with a good movie or board game.

Both our town and church have year-round activities that help us enjoy the community around us.



IN VERMONT, WE CALL ICE CREAM CREEMES, AND WE MAKE SURE TO GET CREEMES AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK IN SUMMER!



A LITTLE SNOW DOESN'T SLOW US DOWN WHEN GOING FOR A HIKE



MANY NIGHTS ARE SPENT ON THE COUCH WATCHING TV AND MOVIES



GRANGER MAKES SOME OF THE FUNNIEST FACES!

## OUR DOG, GRANGER

Granger is certainly the most lively member of our household. There is little in life that doesn't please her. We rescued her a few years ago, and she has proven to be one of the most gentle dogs around young children.

Her favorite activities include playing fetch, being around children, running in the snow, and sleeping in the sun.

Our home and town come alive during the holiday season.

With a fresh-cut tree in the living room, the house decorated, the town lit up, and Christmas music playing on repeat, it is difficult not to get in the Christmas spirit here each year.



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT!



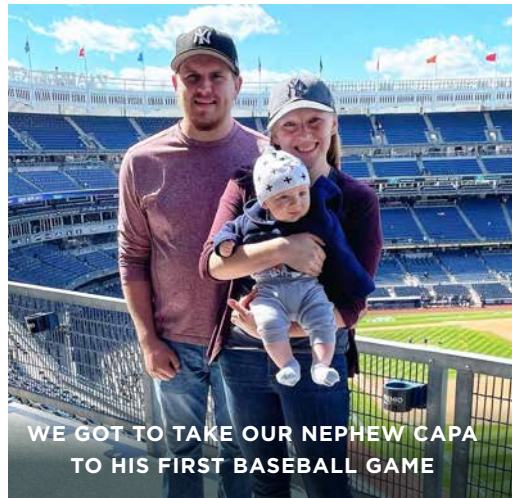
# Our Loving Families



MARY'S FAMILY LOVES PETS. THERE'S ALWAYS A DOG AROUND TO PET IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR ONE.



EVERY YEAR, MARY'S MOM DRESSES UP AS MRS. CLAUS



WE GOT TO TAKE OUR NEPHEW CAPA TO HIS FIRST BASEBALL GAME



WE LOVE TO VISIT FAMILY OVER THE HOLIDAYS!

**We are fortunate enough to have family all up and down the East Coast. From Long Island, New York, to Columbia, South Carolina, we enjoy getting to travel to see them all.**

Both sets of our parents live in South Carolina, and we make it a point to visit as often as we can. Usually, these visits are filled with stories, laughs, jokes, and trips to a baseball game or the zoo.

We have two nephews who live in New York—only about five hours away. Both are full of energy and love being around anyone willing to play with them.

Animals play a vital role in both families. Among the family, we have cats, dogs, chickens, ducks, goats, horses, a pony, and a donkey. Because of this, our nephews are some of the best in their classes at identifying animals and making their sounds.



MANY MEMBERS FROM MARY'S FAMILY AT OUR WEDDING



SOME MEMBERS FROM J'S FAMILY AT OUR WEDDING



# Thoughts on Parenting

**We are not wanting to gain a child, we are wanting to expand our family.**

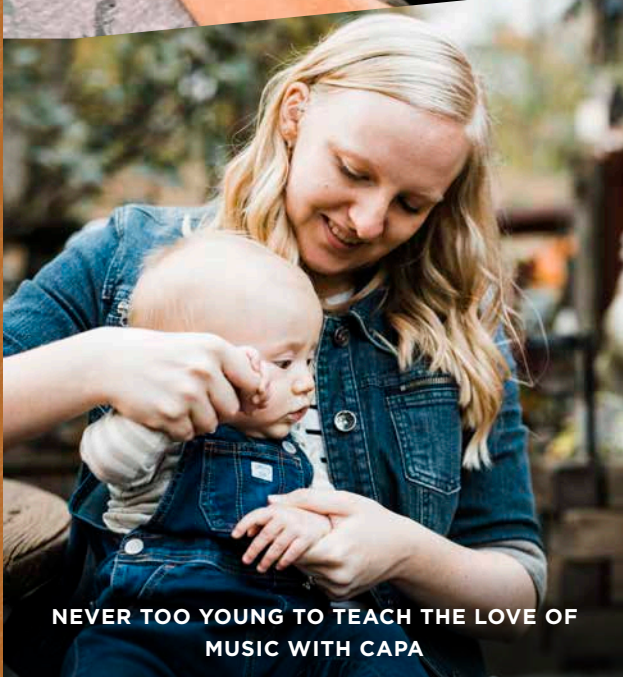
We plan to study, learn, and teach as much of your child's story, history, and heritage as we can. But more than just our child, we want to get to know you and facilitate a strong relationship between you, the child, and us.

While we cannot make any blanket promises as to what visitation and communication will look like, we do want to be as open as is wise and safe for everyone.

J. GOT OUR NEPHEW CAPA TO FALL ASLEEP IN HIS ARMS



NEVER TOO YOUNG TO TEACH THE LOVE OF MUSIC WITH CAPA



OUR NEPHEWS, CAPA AND OLIVER, ARE GROWING UP FAST. WE LOVE WATCHING THEM IN ALL DIFFERENT STAGES OF LIFE.







TAKING A BREAK TO ENJOY THE VIEW  
AT THE TOP OF A MOUNTAIN

# our hopes



**Our greatest goal as future parents is to fully love your child.**

We hope to provide a safe home that is filled with fun activities and happy memories. We plan to encourage adventure, imagination, self-expression, creativity, and a joy for learning.

While we cannot begin to imagine what your child's future holds, we hope to be a loving part of it.



WE LOVE TO GROW GIANT SUNFLOWERS IN OUR GARDEN.  
THIS ONE GOT A BIT BIGGER THAN EXPECTED!





# family information

- **Father's name** / J.
- **Occupation** / Pastor
- **Education** / Master of Divinity and Bachelor of Arts in Intercultural Studies

- **Religion** / Christian
- **Date of birth** / March 4, 1992
- **Hair color** / Brown
- **Eye color** / Blue
- **Height** / 5' 10"

- **Mother's name** / Mary
- **Occupation** / Digital Communications Specialist
- **Education** / Master of Fine Arts in Collaborative Design and Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Media

- **Religion** / Christian
- **Date of birth** / August 11, 1994
- **Hair color** / Blonde
- **Eye color** / Blue
- **Height** / 5' 4"

- **DATE OF MARRIAGE** / December 15, 2018

- **CHILDREN** / None

- **INTERESTS & HOBBIES** / We both love being outdoors. Living in Vermont, we have access to some of the best scenic landscapes right outside our door. From hiking the mountains to swimming the streams and kayaking the lakes, we love to enjoy the world outside our front door.

Another great passion of ours is cooking. During the spring and summer, we have a large garden where we grow fruits and vegetables. Many of these find their ways into dishes, pickle jars, or relishes that we love to share with friends and family.

Lastly, we love our small town. J. is involved in the local town leadership, and Mary loves to photograph all the town events for our historians. Both of us are active in the local church and help the town in any way we can.

- **HOME** / We live in a beautiful, historic Victorian home in a small Vermont village. Our home is always warm and cozy, and during Christmas, we love to fill our bay window with the largest tree we can fit for the whole village to see.

Our village has about 1,000 people in it. It's one of those places where everyone knows everyone, and we are all working together to help each other out. During the summer, there are a ton of town cookouts and events, and the children always love getting to see Santa at the town hall just before Christmas.

- **PETS** / We have a three-year-old dog named Granger. She was a rescue, so while we do not know exactly what breed she is, we think she is a mix of Labrador retriever and hound. The most important thing about her is that she is full of love and fun. She loves being around kids and her favorite activity is to play fetch in the yard and chase with other dogs at the dog park.

- **WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BUILDING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH ADOPTION?** Both of us had a strong passion and desire for adoption, even before we started dating. This shared passion was actually one of the things that helped us move towards starting a romantic relationship. For both of us, the desire to adopt was two-fold:

1. We are Christians, and we believe that every life is valuable. As such, we see adoption as a way to provide love and care to difficult situations, and hopefully provide a loving and stable home for someone who may not have had one.
2. As Christians, we believe that we are spiritually adopted into Jesus' family, and we wish to physically extend the same love and compassion to your child.

- **OPENNESS TO BIRTHPARENT(S)** / While we can never truly know what an expectant parent is going through, we respect and value every person that is going through this process. Our hope is that we can walk alongside the birth parent(s) and build strong relationships. We want to know everything we can about our future child's life and want to be able to foster a relationship between him/her and the birth parent(s).

This would mean that we want to be present through the pre-birth process, and we want to keep open lines of communication during the child's life, as much as is healthy and safe for the child. The specific details of the relationship will depend on many factors—including situations, locations, and the comfort levels of everyone involved. But we do hope to foster as much of a relationship as is good for the child.

- **CHILDCARE PLANS** / Both of us work from home, and J.'s schedule is usually pretty flexible, so we hope to provide most of the childcare ourselves. But, when we need help, we are part of a great community through our church and town. There are many older couples in our church who would love to help look after the child early on. As the child grows, there is a great daycare in town, and a good school walking distance from our house (J. subs at the school from time to time, so he can attest to love and care of the staff firsthand).



**thank  
you!**



Nightlight Christian Adoptions / (502) 423-5780 / [impregnant@nightlight.org](mailto:impregnant@nightlight.org)

**Thank you so  
much for taking  
the time to get  
to know us.**

We have loved getting to share a bit of our story with you. It is humbling for us that you would even begin to consider us the best place for your child. There is nothing we'd love more than to be a part of your child's story. Please know that your child will know of the love, care, and sacrifice you have given to him/her.