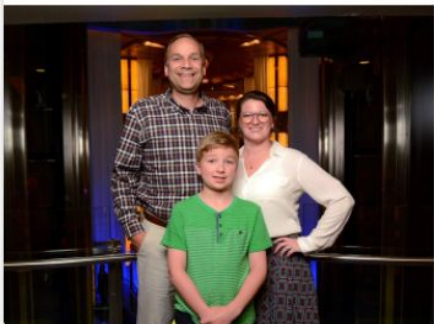




Our wedding day, celebrating Greg's sister's wedding, and our family photo on an Alaskan cruise.



## *about us*

We started our friendship in 2010 when we both moved to Washington, DC for new jobs. After working together and building our friendship for about five years, we realized our friendship had developed into something more.

It was soon after Greg introduced Melissa to Jason, his six year old son. This has since turned into a wonderful relationship, and we are able to spend time together each year for holidays and birthdays.

We do not currently live near to either of our families, but travel to see them or receive them as guests each year. We both have very loving and supporting families.

We both work from home full-time and in the same field, but hold slightly different jobs. Melissa works for a consulting firm based out of DC that focuses on HR compliance, pay equity analysis, and litigation support. Greg works for a start-up company based out of Austin, TX, which offers a suite of assessments designed to reduce bias in hiring for targeted fields.

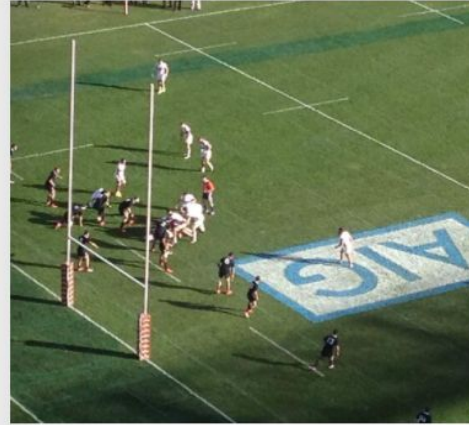
We attend the New Apostolic Church on a weekly basis and are very involved in the operations and cleaning/maintenance of the church.



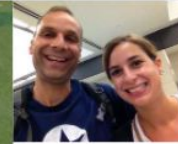


*a little about*  
**GREG**

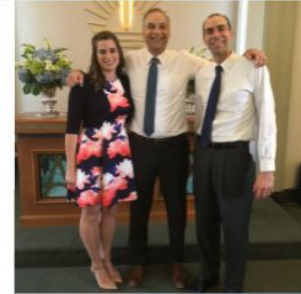
I grew up in a close knit community near Ann Arbor, MI. I have two brothers (one deceased) and a sister, and am now an Uncle to two nephews. My parents have been married for 55 years and counting. They have always taught the importance of family and brotherly love. I love to kayak and go on hikes. I enjoy sports of all kinds, but my favorites are rugby and ice hockey. I am able to find something to laugh at in every situation, love to travel, and always have some music playing. I graduated from Wayne State University in 2001 and went on to start my career in management consulting.



Watching the world's best rugby team in Chicago



Kevin and Kristin, Greg's brother and sister



Greg, mom (Sharon), and sister in DC. Greg and Jason at his orchestra program



Above: Exploring the beaches of New Zealand.  
Decorating the church for Sunday Service.  
Visiting Savannah with Greg



Below: Hiking in NC. Traveling with my mom (Deanna) in Italy. Kayaking in the marshes of Charleston.



*a little about*

## MELISSA

I was born and raised in Wichita, KS to two loving parents and two older brothers. Growing up, I spent lots of time with family and friends, and traveling for gymnastics competitions. Upon graduating from high school, I went to the University of Oklahoma for my Bachelor's, and then straight to graduate school at Missouri State University for a Master of Science degree. I moved to Washington, DC right after school to start my first full-time job.

I still love to spend time with friends and family, and traveling is one of my favorite things. I like working on the landscaping in our yard, going for long walks, and reading with a good record playing. I have recently taken up photography, and I enjoy preparing flowers for church.



# OUR *home* AND NEIGHBORHOOD

One of our favorite places to walk and relax...the large park just around the corner from our house



Our home



Our backyard and the short, quiet street we live on, complete with the world's best neighbors



GREG'S  
EXTENDED  
*family*



Greg's family calls southeastern Michigan home. Parents Gerry and Sharon have three married children (son Kevin married to Penny, daughter Kristin married to Dan), three grandsons (Colin (16), Jason (12), and Andrew (11)), and lots and lots of sunny days and family time at their lake house.



MELISSA'S  
EXTENDED  
*family*



Melissa's family is a little more spread out with a mom (Deanna) in Kansas, dad (Stan) in Missouri, and both brothers and their families live in Texas. Brother (Troy) and sister-in-law (Amanda) have two children, Asher (12) and Hayven (7). The other brother (Schaan) and sister-in-law (Michelle) have two children, Bryaana (19) and Braadyn (17). Melissa still has one grandmother (Jean) living in Kansas.



We love traveling with our friends as well!  
Above: Emilee, Kathlea, Sandra, Greg, Scott, and Melissa in USVI  
Below: Sandra and Melissa in Charleston. Emilee, Scott, Melissa, and Greg in Scotland.



## THESE ARE OUR FAMILY & FRIENDS



Steve (Uncle), Stan (Dad), Melissa,  
and Greg



Greg & Melissa with Todd & Jenny  
(cousins)

Toni (friend), Melissa, and Kristin  
(friend)



Pam (Shea's mom), Melissa,  
Deanna, and Shea (childhood best  
friend)



Greg with Nathan, Lindsay,  
and baby Lily (friends)



Greg with neighbors Kennedy and  
Gerard at Halloween

## Not All Fun and Games....Well, Most of the Time



As a family, we genuinely have a great time together. We look forward to the time spent together either traveling, spending time at the lake, or visiting for the holidays.

Fun at the lake

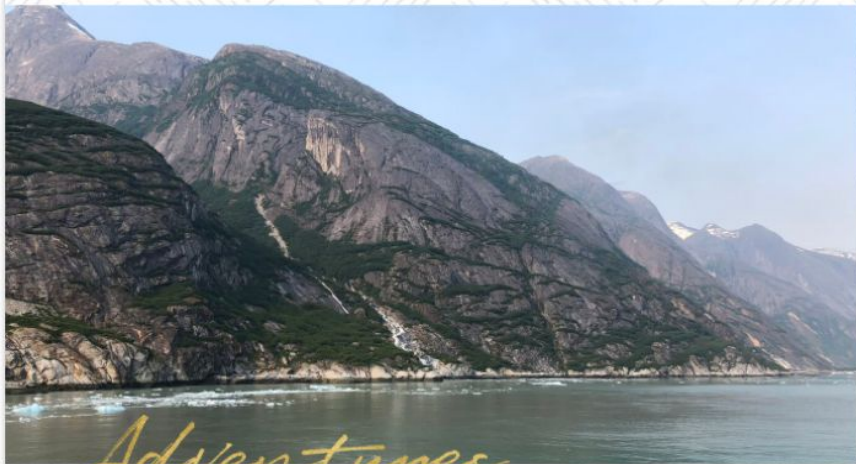


Celebrating the holidays and spending time together



Always time for a good board game and other wild shenanigans





# Adventures

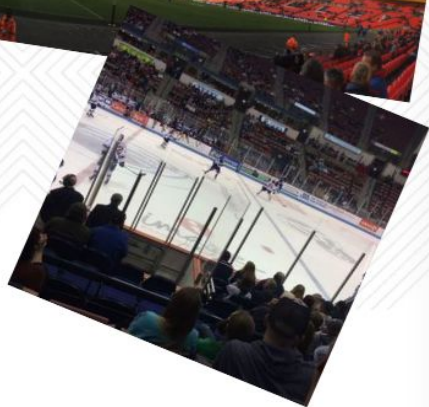
Together we love to see and experience new places, people, and foods! We appreciate the beauty of the world around us, and try to soak in as much as we can each year, whether it's around our home or a far off destination. Recently we have had the opportunity to go on an Alaskan Cruise, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and Ireland.



Upper left-hand corner going clockwise: Ketchikan, AL, Connemara Nat'l Park, Ireland; Balmoral Castle, Scotland; Pictured Rocks, Upper Peninsula; Grandfather Mt., North Carolina; Rock of Cashel, Ireland; Lake Tekapo, New Zealand; St. John's Island, USVI

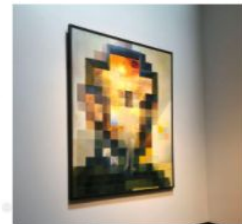
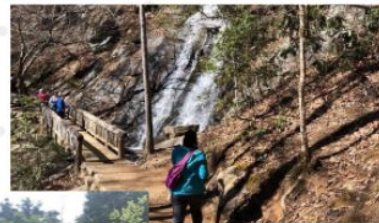


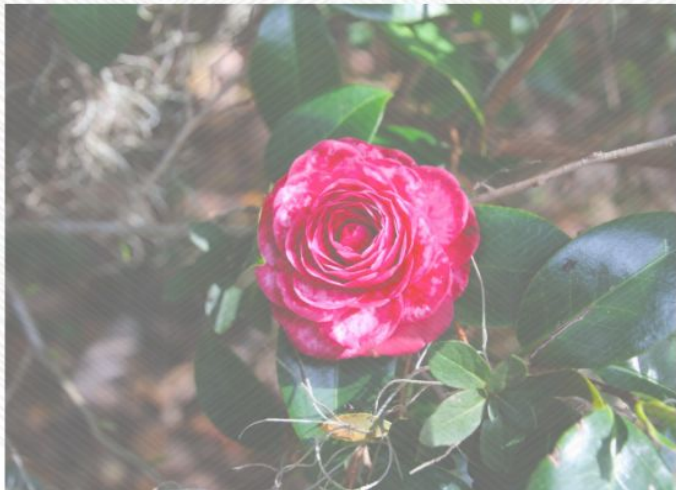




## *Our Interests*

In our free time, we like to attend concerts for bands we enjoy, try new restaurants, go to rugby matches, hike and kayak, visit art galleries or botanical gardens, and go to the theater.





Thank you for taking a minute to review our book. We are excited for the opportunity to share this with you. We are thinking of you as you embark on this journey and wish you great joy and peace wherever life takes you.

<b>Father's Name:</b> Greg	<b>Mother's Name:</b> Melissa
<b>Occupation:</b> Dir. of Assessments	<b>Occupation:</b> Hiring/Assessment Consultant
<b>Education:</b> Ph. D	<b>Education:</b> Master of Science
<b>Religion:</b> Christian-New Apostolic	<b>Religion:</b> Christian-New Apostolic
<b>Date of Birth:</b> June 4, 1973	<b>Date of Birth:</b> October 21, 1985
<b>Hair Color:</b> Blonde	<b>Hair Color:</b> Brown
<b>Eye Color:</b> Blue	<b>Eye Color:</b> Blue
<b>Height:</b> 6'4"	<b>Height:</b> 5'5"

<b>Date of Marriage:</b> April 22, 2017
<b>Children:</b> Son/Stepson (12); lives with his mother in Michigan
<b>Interests &amp; Hobbies:</b> Greg-Music, reading, and cooking. Melissa-Gardening, reading, and traveling.
<b>Home:</b> Two story home with 3 beds/2.5 baths and a large backyard
<b>Pets:</b> None
<b>Why interested in building our family through adoption?</b> We want to give a child a loving home and we don't currently care for any children of our own.
<b>Openness to birthparents:</b> Open to regular communications and one annual, in-person visit
<b>Childcare Plans:</b> Both parents will care for the child immediately and then competent care/schooling will follow once the child is old enough.