

BRANDI & JOSIAH



▶ #2091408 ◀



HELLO!

WE ARE **JOSIAH**
& **BRANDI**

**WE ARE
THANKFUL**

that you are taking the time to get to know us a little bit. We can only assume that you have a lot of decisions you are making in beyond-challenging circumstances that probably have a wave of emotions, so we sincerely thank you for this pause in life to meet us, on paper, at least.

We realized that adoption would be a key part of our family, even before we were married. We are aware that there can be really hard and unexpected circumstances where you have to ask someone else to raise your child, so we want to make ourselves available. Because of this conviction, we have never pursued biological children, as we always knew our family would be through adoption. As you consider future parents for your child, we would be honored to bring your child into our family.

OUR STORY

A cup of coffee makes everything better



We still enjoy eating pancakes together

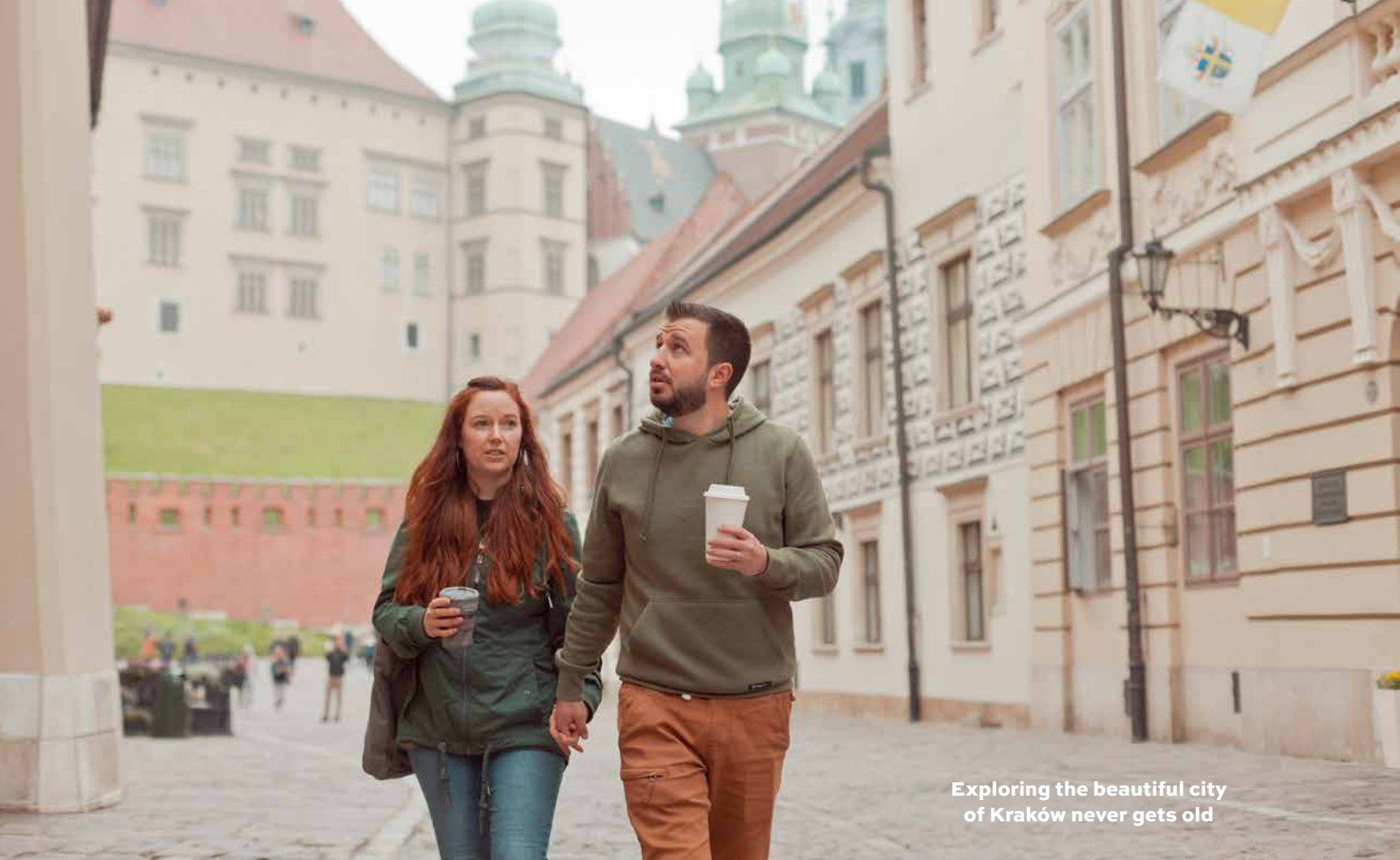


We met at a college pancake supper for small groups at church (very romantic).

We first talked about how Josiah had recently broken his leg (as a physical therapy student, Brandi found this intriguing), then had our first date eating frozen yogurt and chatting for three hours.

We got married in Costa Rica in December 2012 and lived in Texas for the first number of years of our marriage but then moved to Kraków, Poland, in 2018 and have loved living here ever since.

Josiah's sense of humor always keeps things interesting, and it's usually difficult not to be in a good mood when he's around. Likewise, Brandi's bright personality and sincere interest in you can really make you feel valued.



Exploring the beautiful city of Kraków never gets old

▶ SOME INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR LIVES ◀

Josiah is a **pastor** of a Polish church and a **public speaker** around Europe.

Brandi spends much time with moms in Poland, just **building friendships** and helping them and their kids learn **English**.

We both have really **flexible schedules** and often work from home (*or in coffee shops*).

We believe **health** is very important and are constantly working to have healthy lifestyles.

We really enjoy **traveling** together and know this will look different with our children. But the memories, fun, and experiences that come from being in **various countries, cultures,** and **climates** together are unforgettable and valuable for us as a family.

We decided to officially start dating while **cooking** together. And all of these years later, one of the things we most enjoy doing together regularly is cooking together.

Our **church community** and **faith** are very important to us, and we have many friends and families raising their kids together, many from different countries, just like we will someday!

OUR FAITH

Brandi teaching moms English in a city family club



Our Christian faith is a central part of our lives and one of the main reasons we live in Poland.

We help pastor a church in Kraków and lead training schools all around Europe. Our faith is based out of love and a personal relationship with God, and so our lives reflect the joyful celebration and gratitude of our love and relationship with God and for others. You can see this in our everyday lives and our church on Sundays.



Josiah preaching at church

ABOUT **BRANDI**

**BY
JOSIAH**

Brandi is one of the kindest people you will ever meet, full of energy and life, but is so quick to see and notice everyone.

She loves to research things and is a passionate reader, which is why she did so well in school and earned her doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Brandi runs her own health and wellness business and is an English teacher. A big part of her life is centered around our church and city family clubs—“Ciocia (Auntie) Brandi,” as she is called, is a favorite for our friends' kids to play with. From time to time, she even provides some input and advice on developmental issues using her physical therapy background for the parents and kids.



She easily makes friends beyond the surface level and is always reliable.





BRANDI'S **FUN FACTS**

LANGUAGES I SPEAK

Polish, some Spanish, and want to learn German next



FAVORITE SPORTS TEAMS

University of Alabama, Denver Broncos, Golden State Warriors



MY HOBBIES

Reading with a cozy blanket and good coffee, swimming, running, and Pilates



GIFTS I LOVE TO CREATE FOR OTHERS

Homemade cosmetic and house products



THREE FOODS I LOVE

Hummus, Indian food, and Mexican food



A RANDOM FACT

I do a handstand every day



FAVORITE ANIMAL

Besides our dog, penguins



FAVORITE MOVIE

Patch Adams



MY FAMILY ROOTS

Irish, Spanish, Native American, and African

Handstands are a great way
to start the day



ABOUT JOSIAH

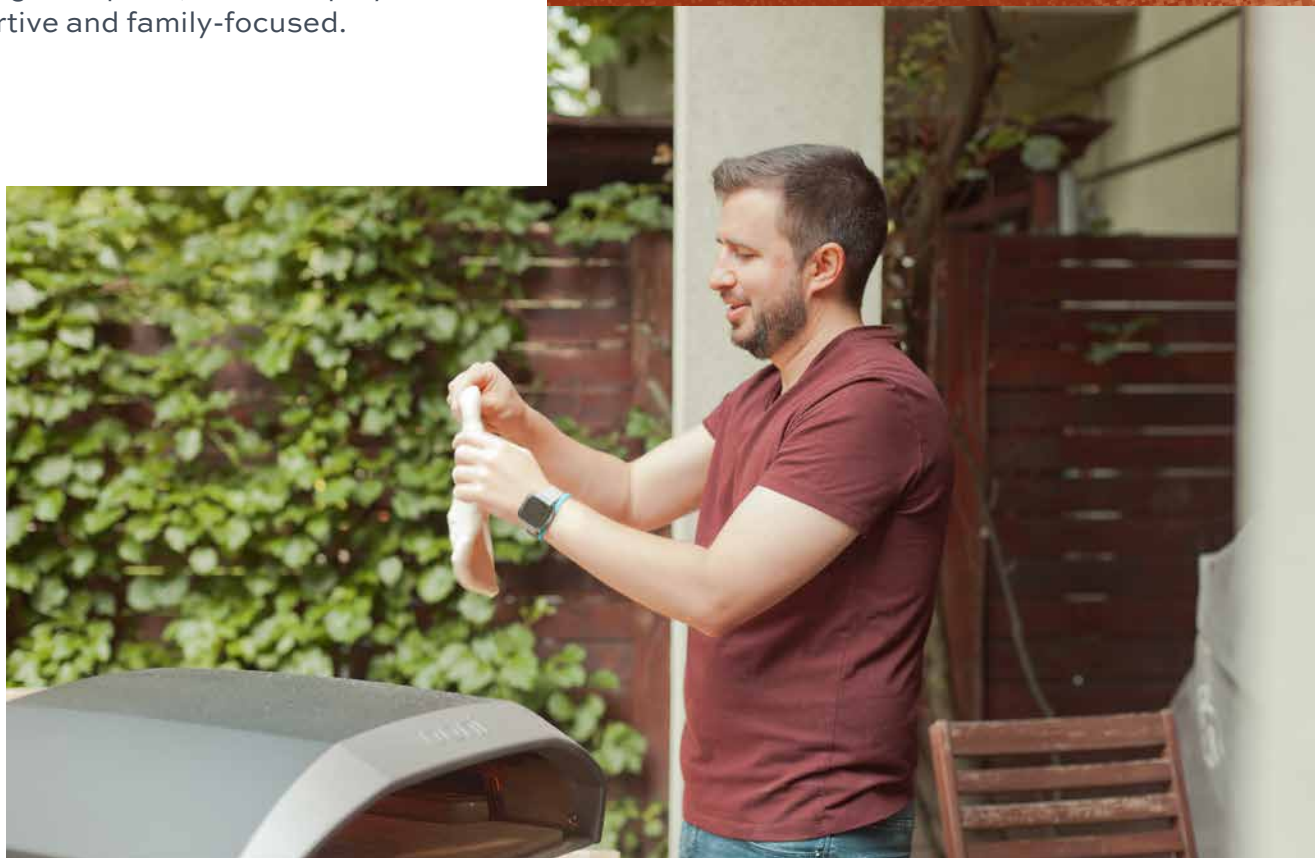
BY
BRANDI

Josiah is always lighting up a room and making people laugh with his sarcasm. He is an incredible listener and very encouraging and supportive; he always wants more for our family, which truly comes first to him. He has a lot of wisdom, and people really enjoy being with him. Josiah always makes kids laugh and is excited to be a dad to our children.

Josiah is one of the pastors at our church in Kraków and is the European director for a non-profit mission organization. He has a passion for teaching and seeing people grow. He has a very flexible schedule and will be able to take extensive time off when we start our family through adoption, as his employers are very supportive and family-focused.



Creating pizza is an art





Josiah transporting supplies for Ukrainian refugees



Josiah talking with our Ukrainian drummer friend



JOSIAH'S
**FUN
FACTS**

MY HOBBIES
Cooking, watching movies/TV series, and traveling

I LOVE COFFEE
I enjoy visiting various coffee shops and restaurants in our city for meetings and working

FAVORITE SPORT
I love to ski (my first conversation with Brandi was about my skiing accident—but don't worry, I'm very safe and actually a great ski instructor)

FAVORITE CANDY
Most things chocolate, but especially Reese's

COUNTRIES VISITED
25+

SKILL I'VE BEEN LEARNING
Day-trading

A RANDOM FACT
I created a sourdough starter (named Chubba) in 2020 which I love to use in making homemade pizza, tortillas, and banana pancakes

FAVORITE MOVIE
Batman movies

CAR IN HIGH SCHOOL
1969 Ford Mustang

HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS
In 2022, I helped lead a humanitarian project that took care of over 1,000 refugees from Ukraine for over 7 months and sent over 350 tons of humanitarian aid to people in Ukraine

Kraków is a great place to raise a family; it is extremely safe and child-friendly with so many parks, festivals, activities, and family clubs.



Enjoying our city's main square

WHERE WE
LIVE

We live in one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, Kraków, Poland. Even after more than four years, we still are in awe that we live in such a unique city. On our daily tram ride into the city, we pass a castle built in the 1300s, a river full of ducks, swans, and riverboats, trees and parks everywhere, and historic architecture with modern interior design.

The home we are building in 2023 is on the side of a hill with a view of the Polish mountains, an established neighborhood with young families, and a park less than a two-minute walk away. In addition, we will have a large yard to enjoy the four seasons and a large garden of all different vegetables and fruits for our children and us to play, learn, and eat from.



Indian food picnic at a quarry 10 minutes from our home



OUR DOG **SKYE**

IN HER OWN WORDS

“I joined the family in 2015, and I think sometimes people like to come to my house, not to see my parents but because

of me (although my parents are amazing!). Everyone is my best friend, and I am very calm. I am a whippet border-collie mix and was born in 2014.

Brandi loves animals and hopes to have many pets when we move into our new home: turtles, rabbits, and maybe an indoor pot-bellied pig.”



We both love our morning forest walk

▶ SKYE'S FAVORITES ◀

Walks and runs with Brandi

Taking lots of naps

Blankets

Learning new tricks (because it means more food!)



FAMILY & FRIENDS



Unkie J with our niece and nephew



Of course the grandchildren are the stars of the family



Pumpkin patch with Brandi's family



We're never too old for wagon rides with dad

Times with Josiah's family is always full of fun, with lots of games, outdoor activities, and storytelling. Josiah's parents absolutely love being Tinnie and Chief (to one grandson and two granddaughters). They both have jobs where they travel worldwide, so they visit us in Poland three to four times a year.

Brandi's family enjoys camping in Colorado, watching football (as Brandi's dad is a high school coach), and playing dominoes. While Brandi's siblings do not yet have children, her parents are very excited about being grandparents to our children and spending time with them.

One of the things we love about living in Poland is the value of family. Many of our friends have young kids or are currently planning a family. Brandi spends time in family clubs in the city with young moms already, teaching them English and learning from them. We have a large community that is ready to join in to help us whenever needed and be our extended family here in Kraków. We have several friends who have adopted, so we have a great support network who has been and will continue to be with us on this journey.



One of the things we value as a family, which we believe is very important, is understanding and discovering the world and its cultures.

We live in Kraków, Poland, a beautiful city full of a vibrant international community, which has made our lives better because we have friends from all over the world. Not only is this enjoyable, but it gives us such a unique perspective on understanding the world. We can't wait to raise a child in this type of environment, having an appreciation and celebrating the diversity found in this world.



Kids are always the center of our church parties





We cannot wait to be parents, to share this world with our children. We look forward to the adventures we will have and teaching our children to grow in responsibility so that they can improve the world around them.

OUR FINAL
THOUGHTS



We believe it's important to help him or her find their passions in life, and we look forward to helping our child discover and foster their own dreams. We will have a home full of unconditional love, play, laughter, and encouragement so our children will be confident in who they are. Different cultures and backgrounds help make the world a more beautiful, complete place. As parents, we will help our child have a strong connection to their heritage through things such as:

Finding families who have children of **their race** and **play together** (Kraków is a very international city, full of various cultures and backgrounds)

Cooking foods from their background

Listening to various kinds of **music**, learning a **new language**, watching **movies** that include various races

Reading books about and with pictures of children of their race

Differences do exist and this should be celebrated. We will remind our child that they are **valid** and **worthy**, and we want him/her to **embrace** all of who they are.

FAMILY INFORMATION

Father's Name: Josiah
Occupation: Pastor
Education: Bachelor of Science in History and Masters in Intercultural Studies
Religion: Christian
Date of Birth: 2/24/1988
Hair Color: Brown
Eye Color: Hazel
Height: 5'9"

Mother's Name: Brandi
Occupation: English Teacher & Wellness Specialist
Education: Bachelor of Exercise and Sport Sciences and Doctorate of Physical Therapy
Religion: Christian
Date of Birth: 1/4/1990
Hair Color: Auburn
Eye Color: Blue
Height: 5'3"



Date of Marriage: December 18, 2012

Interests & Hobbies: We both enjoy cooking together, traveling, skiing, and visiting local coffee shops and restaurants. Josiah also enjoys making homemade pizza, watching movies and TV series, and day-trading. Brandi enjoys reading, spending time with friends, swimming, running with their dog, and Pilates.

Home: We live in one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, Krakow, Poland. It is a great place to raise a family, extremely safe and child-friendly. We are building a home in 2023 on the side of a hill with a view of the Polish mountains, an established neighborhood with young families, and a park less than two minutes away.

Pets: We have a whippet border-collie mix dog named Skye. She is very calm and loves to take naps in the sun or in her blanket.

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption? We realized that adoption would be a key part of our family, even before we were married. We have never pursued biological children, as we always knew our family would be through adoption.

Openness to birthparent(s): We have love and respect for you and are open to developing a relationship with you if you desire. We welcome the opportunity to share pictures and videos and travel to the U.S. annually for us to be together.

Childcare plans: Brandi has a flexible schedule and will be at home with our child. But in Poland, she is eligible for one-year maternity leave. Josiah also has a flexible schedule so outside daycare will not be needed.



**Thank you for getting
to know us, and we
hope that we will
have the opportunity
to meet in person.**

We would be honored to have the privilege of being your child's adoptive parents, as we promise he or she will have a life full of love, of laughter, of adventure, and of discovering his or her spirituality and passions. We are committed to ensuring your child will always know who you are and have the opportunity to continue a relationship with you and your family if you desire.

If you have felt a connection that we may be the type of family you desire for your child, please feel free to reach out to us with any questions.