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# Monica & Shelby

HI  
THERE!

**We are Shelby & Monica,**

—  
**AND IT IS A PLEASURE  
TO MEET YOU!**



We recognize that you are making a monumental and very difficult decision, and we appreciate you considering us as an option. We were each considering adoption even before we met, and having each been shown much love in our lives, we are excited to share that love. We are honored to be at this stage of possibilities!

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME  
TO LEARN MORE ABOUT US.**

# We were introduced by Shelby's grandmother

(THOUGH MONICA WAS UNAWARE OF HER  
REPUTATION AS A MATCHMAKER)!

Our relationship started as long distance, since we were about six hours apart. Through many long road trips to see each other, late phone calls, and some teasing from our families, our relationship grew from a distant family friend to someone we knew we didn't want to be without. Shelby moved to Missouri a year later, and we were engaged four months after that, and married in January of 2021.

We were very intentional during our engagement to seek counsel to give our marriage the best start we could, and we believe it has paid off.

We like to explore antique stores on the weekends



Our kale has gotten a little out of hand this year



We were engaged in October 2020

## HERE'S OUR STORY

**Our marriage is strong and peaceful for many reasons, firstly being because of Christ's work in our lives and having a community that encourages growth and honesty.**

**We also make it a point to find things we enjoy doing together, like our dance classes and game nights.** We love spending time together, whether it be fun new adventures or quiet nights at home, and we are excited to share that love with a child.



# Meet Monica

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“One of the many things I admire about Monica is her determination and sense of responsibility.”

—SHELBY



I've been trying to perfect my sourdough loaf, getting close!

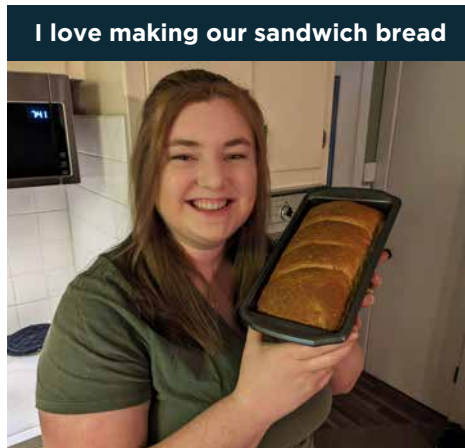


Monica takes pride in being organized and making sure everything is in its place. She plans wonderful trips and cooks delicious meals for us. I fell in love with her even more when I first heard her play the piano. Monica is truly multi-talented!

Monica works as a product and shipping manager for a regional music store chain. She puts her organization skills to

use every day making sure the musical instruments, learning materials, and equipment go where they need to go.

**Monica loves children and has spent many years taking care of them as a nanny, daycare worker and children's ministry volunteer. Her face always lights up when she sees a baby. I know she will be an excellent mother!**



## Fun Facts About Monica

My favorite vacation spot is **ORANGE BEACH, AL!**

I play **PIANO** and **CELLO**.

I love to read **AGATHA CHRISTIE!**

My favorite children's books were the **BOXCAR CHILDREN SERIES**.

My favorite ice cream is the **TONIGHT DOUGH** from Ben and Jerry's.

**MY SIBLINGS ALWAYS INSPIRE ME** to follow through on my goals!

I can't wait to take our child to the **WONDERS OF WILDLIFE AQUARIUM** in town!

I love going to **CORN MAZES IN THE FALL**.

One of my favorite things is going to see **MUSICALS AT OUR COMMUNITY THEATER**.

I fell in love with knitting in early 2023





# Meet Shelby

“Some of my favorite things about Shelby is his peaceful patience. He brings calm wherever he goes!”

— MONICA



# Fun Facts About Shelby

My favorite vacation was in **COLORADO**. I enjoy seeing the mountains.

I loved being involved in **BOY SCOUTS GROWING UP** and learned many skills I still use today.

My favorite dessert is **CHEESECAKE**.

My dream job is to work in **MEDIA FOR A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY**.

I like to ride my **RECUMBENT BIKE**.

I loved **THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULD** when I was little!

I play **ACOUSTIC GUITAR, BASS GUITAR, ELECTRIC GUITAR, MANDOLIN, PIANO, DRUMS, and PERCUSSION!**

My favorite ice cream flavor is **PEPPERMINT**.

My favorite musician is **JACK WHITE** from White Stripes!



Helping our niece, Nora, decorate the Christmas tree

I taught myself guitar in high school



We find some neat places on our travels



We even take our tabletop games on the road with us



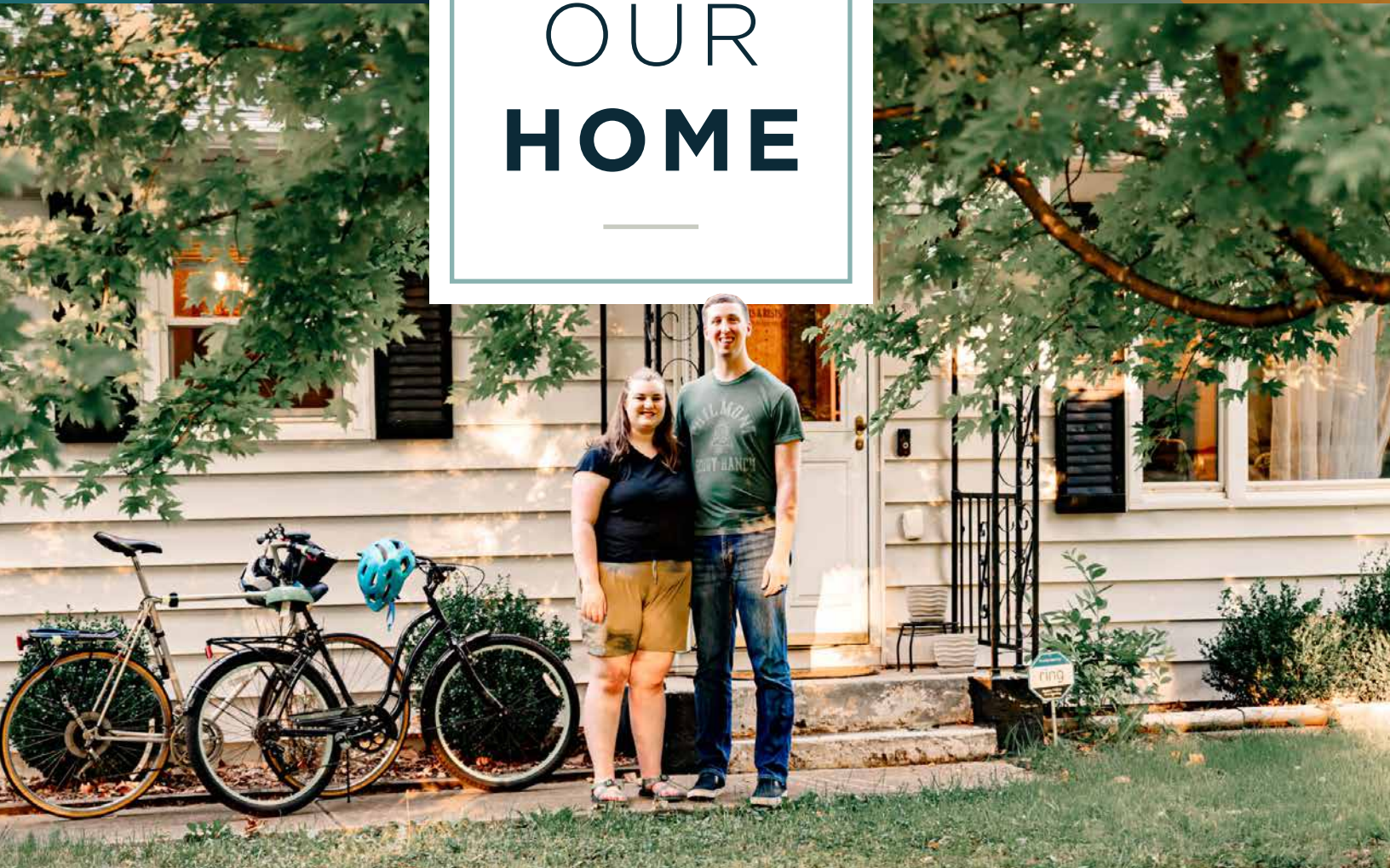
Shelby is willing to do whatever needs to be done and does a great job taking care of us. He works in communication at O'Reilly Auto Parts and has a terrific boss who encourages him to put his family first and is excited for us to grow our family!

Shelby loves riding his bike, and he and his mom do races together often! I love that his family is nearby and that we get to spend time

with them often. Shelby also loves tabletop gaming and paints his own miniatures. He also attends a yearly convention where he competes in them. I love seeing his strategic planning and creativity thrive while he plays!

**Shelby loves kids, and I'm so excited to see him become a father. He's already looking forward to reading bedtime stories and camping as a family!**

# OUR HOME



## We live in southwest Missouri.

We love being in the Ozarks and taking advantage of all the beautiful parks around us. We are near many places to hike and camp, along with caves to explore! Getting away for the weekend to camp is one of our favorite things!

We recently moved to the edge of a city, and we enjoy the amenities of an urban area while being tucked away from the “busy-ness.” **Our home is in a quiet neighborhood with lots of kids that we see in groups playing and riding bikes together.** We enjoy gardening, spending time together, playing games, or relaxing on our back porch.



We like to ride  
around our  
neighborhood too



# OUR PUPS

Hamlin prefers to be in someone's lap at all times



Bumi loves cuddles!



Both dogs love to go camping with us!



Our niece loves to visit Bumi and give him some love

**We have two dogs, Bumi and Hamlin.**

They are both rescues and total cuddle bugs! Their favorite thing is snuggling up on the couch with us to demand belly rubs. They

are very loving toward kids too! They love to race our neighbor's dogs up and down the fence in our backyard!

# Meet Our Loved Ones

BOTH OF OUR FAMILIES ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME A NEW CHILD!



Monica's mom, siblings and their families



Christmas at Silver Dollar City with Monica's dad

**Monica has three siblings and six nieces and nephews!** Her family loves to get together for game days. They are competitive and hilarious, and those days are always special. They are also always willing to help each other with projects, as inevitably one of them is in the middle of a home renovation that could use some extra hands. **We love that her family is always there to encourage and support each other.**

Monica and her sister on vacation



Monica's sister and brothers at her college graduation



Meeting our youngest niece, Sara, for the first time



Family is very important to us!



We enjoy theatre productions as a family



We enjoy spending time together as a large family



**Shelby has one sibling and two nieces.** His family enjoys getting together as often as possible! His parents and sister's family all live nearby, so it's easy to grab lunch together, or get together

for a niece's band concert or basketball game. His family has a tradition of getting together with the rest of his extended family every year for a weekend camping trip, and that has been a great way to keep everyone close.



Shelby and our nephew, Elijah

# Our Faith

OUR FAITH IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US.

We attend a fantastic church and have enjoyed forming friendships there over the years we've been in Springfield. We love to pray together and have found that to be a great way to connect after the busyness of the day.



Playing the piano together



WE  
LOVE TO  
TRAVEL

Vacation in Orange Beach, AL

**Our bucket list includes traveling to eventually see Israel, Italy, and Ireland! We also would love to see a few more of our national parks.**



We had so much fun at Disney World!



Our blackberry bush was only a foot high before this year

**Our Thoughts**  
ON  
PARENTING

**Both of our families have a deep background of valuing family time, and spending that quality time as a family is something we definitely want to pass on.** We also value our faith and being part of a church community, and we hope our child will as well. We are excited to share our love for nature, games, and music with our child! While we don't have a strict parenting philosophy we're planning to adhere to, we hope to encourage our child to have confidence in themselves and their abilities, and to treat all other living beings with respect.

# DIVERSITY & OPEN ADOPTION

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## We are open to transracial adoption,

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and if that occurs, we are excited to learn about our child's heritage and teach it to them to the best of our abilities. We would gladly welcome any help from our child's birth family in this regard. We are also lucky to live in an area that has many different cultures and opportunities to engage with them!

We also consider it a privilege to get to know our child's birth mother and having her be a part of our child's life! Our child will know how much they are loved by both of their families, but that it is our joy to raise them. We hope to have a close relationship that benefits the child as much as possible.



# Family information



## **DATE OF MARRIAGE:**

01/01/2021

## **INTERESTS AND HOBBIES:**

We enjoy playing board games with each other, bicycling, and playing music together! Separately, Shelby plays tabletop games at the local game stores and with his friends. Monica loves to bake and knit.

**HOME:** We live in a cute, three bedroom house that we've enjoyed remodeling for the past two years! Our neighborhood is on the outer edge of the city, and we enjoy that it is quiet with lots of kids around!

**PETS:** We have two dogs, Bumi and Hamlin, that are energetic and loving!

## **FATHER'S NAME:**

Shelby

## **MOTHER'S NAME:**

Monica

## **OCCUPATION:**

Communications  
Specialist

## **OCCUPATION:**

Operations  
Associate

## **EDUCATION:**

Bachelor's

## **EDUCATION:**

Bachelor's

## **RELIGION:** Christian

## **RELIGION:** Christian

## **DATE OF BIRTH:**

08/30/1995

## **DATE OF BIRTH:**

06/30/1997

## **HAIR COLOR:**

Brown

## **HAIR COLOR:**

Brown

## **EYE COLOR:** Blue

## **EYE COLOR:** Blue

## **HEIGHT:** 6' 10"

## **HEIGHT:** 5' 10"

**WHY ADOPTION?** Adoption has been on our hearts and minds, even before we knew each other, and now it feels like the right path for our life.

**OPENNESS TO BIRTHPARENT(S):** We are open to all options, from photos and updates to in-person visits. However, we understand and respect that all birth parents have different desires when it comes to openness. If we need to limit contact for any reason or create some distance, we are glad to accommodate.

**CHILDCARE PLANS:** Monica is excited to stay home with our child!

# That's a wrap!

**THANK YOU FOR  
GETTING TO KNOW  
US A BIT!**

**We are thrilled to be welcoming a child into our lives and can't wait to love and care for them.** We know that having you in their lives is very important, and we want you to know that we are excited to get to know you and for you to be a part of our lives as well!

**We know that there is only so much that can fit in a book, and we would love to answer any question you may have!**

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

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