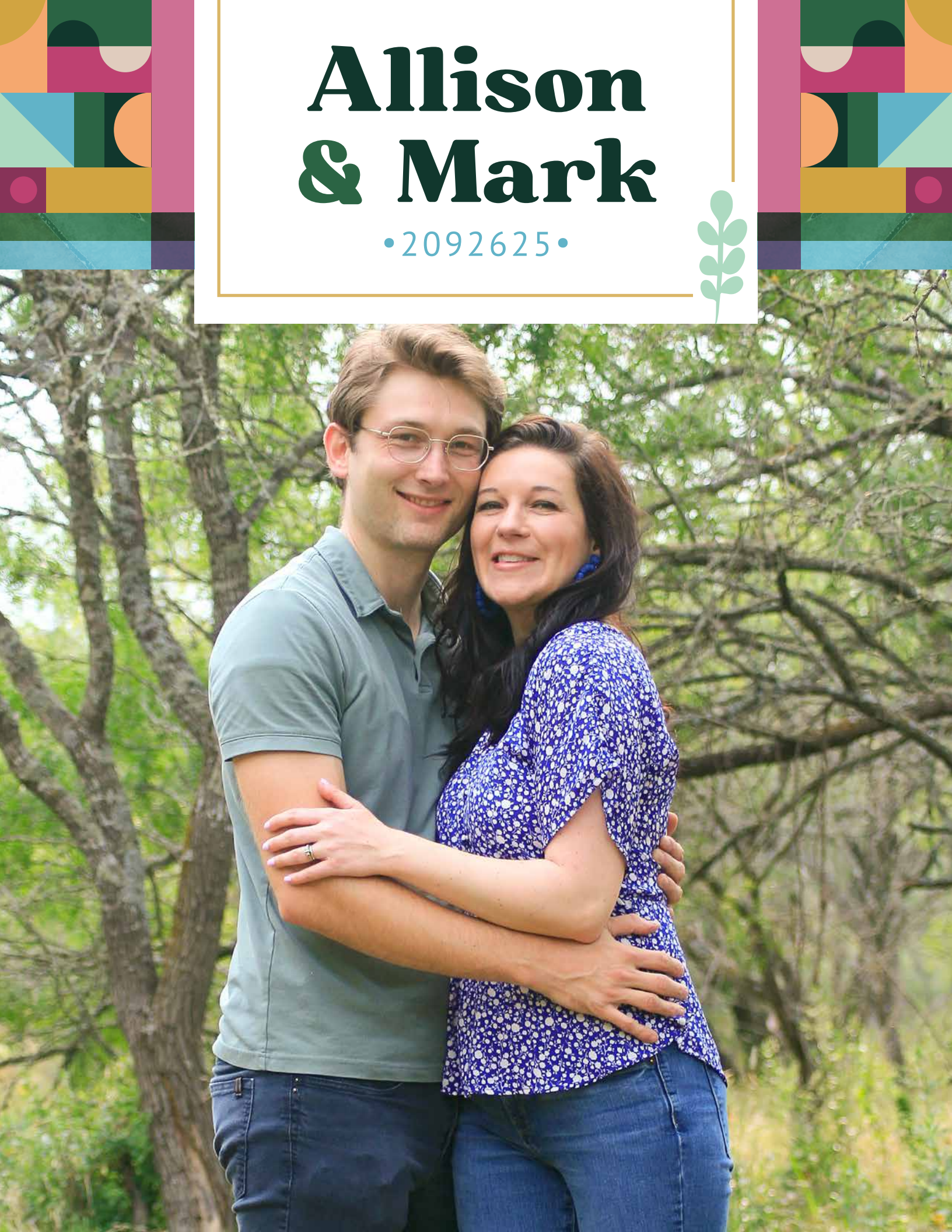


Allison & Mark

• 2092625 •





HELLO! WE'RE

**Allison
& Mark**

FROM

Austin, Texas 

We first and foremost want you to know that you are loved and valued by so many for your bravery, and that includes us as well.

We can't imagine the difficult decisions that have led you to possibly choosing adoption, and we can't begin to know your feelings during this process, but what we do know is that we are so thankful for your selfless love, courage, and strength for choosing life for your baby. We admire, love and respect you. God has placed adoption on our hearts as the way to grow our family and we have talked about adoption plans ever since we started dating. God recently led us to pursue infant adoption, and here we are! Thank you so much for wanting to get to know us more and looking through our profile book. We can't wait to meet you.

OUR Story

WE MET IN COLORADO AFTER SECRETLY LIKING EACH OTHER ONLINE FOR FOUR YEARS, AND WE'VE BEEN MARRIED NOW FOR 10 YEARS.

We got married in a small, simple ceremony at a historic courthouse, followed by an evening cake reception in Mark's parent's backyard.

Our view of marriage is that it's not all about a big ceremony, but rather the journey and growing together along the way. We love each other deeply and are committed to helping, serving, and loving each other for the rest of our lives.



MARK HAS 7 SIBLINGS AND WE'VE ENJOYED SO MANY OF THEIR WEDDINGS



OUR FIRST KAYAK OUTING BEFORE WE EVEN HAD OUR FIRST DATE!

WE LOVED VISITING JAMAICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, MEXICO AND SEVERAL OTHER CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES



Although we don't have children of our own yet, we both come from loving, close families so adopting children has always been a desire close to our hearts.

While our path to get here hasn't always been fast or easy, we have remained faithful to God's plan and are excited to finally be parents. We love spending time with each other! Mark enjoys lots of outdoor activities like biking, hiking, jogging, taking care of our yard, grilling, and golfing. Allison enjoys jogging, hiking, reading, getting together with friends, cooking, and living a healthy lifestyle. We both volunteer on Sundays on our church tech team and are involved with a weekly Bible study group.

ALL ABOUT

Allison

by Mark

Allison is positive, cheerful, always willing to help and dedicated to following Jesus.

Not only was I attracted to her beauty when I first met her, but her kindness with me and anyone around her. She encourages me in my work and life, always ready with a smile and kind word, wanting to listen and pray for me and others. I'm also thankful for how much more of a planner Allison is and we balance each other out really well. She's a great cook and is looking forward to all the new things that she can prepare and make as our family grows. I love being active with her, going out for walks and hikes or swimming at the pool. I know Allison will be a great mom. She is very patient and watching her interact with nieces and nephews, I know that she will love and take great care of any child we are blessed with.



WE ENJOY TRAVELING, AND THIS VACATION TO DISNEY WAS EXTRA SPECIAL!

ALLISON IS GOING TO BE A WONDERFUL MOTHER!



A Bucket List item for Allison this past year was to go to Disneyland for the first time ever!

It was an amazing week-long, 60+ miles of walking, food and fun-filled trip that she will remember forever. Mark grew up going to Disneyland often, so it was fun to experience all the firsts through Allison's reactions.



A FEW OF Allison's

FAVORITES

Vacation spot

Any state with mountains

Can't live without

Chick-fil-A

Seasonal activity

A trip to a beach

Sport you like to play

Soccer

Dream job

Proofreader

Ice cream flavor

Chocolate

Children's book

God Gave Us You

Dessert

Peach pie

Place to take a child

The park, a splash pad in the summer, or an interactive children's museum.



VISITING THE OREGON COASTLINE WAS STUNNING

I CROSS STITCHED THIS ABC'S SAMPLER FOR THE NURSERY!



FULFILLED MY DREAM OF LEARNING TO PLAY TENNIS



READING BOOKS TO OUR NIECE



ALLISON IS ALWAYS UP FOR AN ADVENTURE!





ALL ABOUT

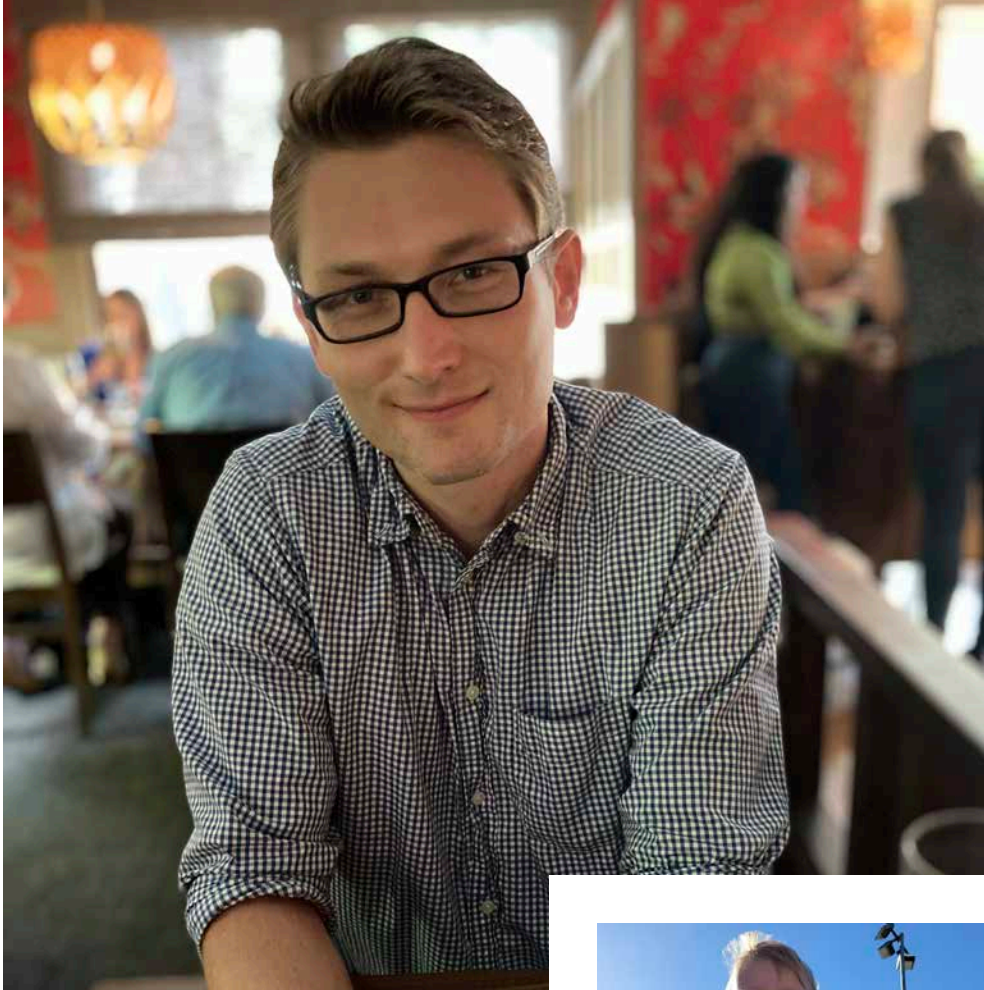
Mark

—
by Allison

Mark is a kind, helpful, funny, and smart man.

His relationship with God is central in all he does and it's one of the reasons I was first attracted to him! Being an engineer means Mark loves to solve any problem or find a solution if he can, and he enjoys fixing anything around the house and on our cars. He's always so helpful to me in whatever I need and he enjoys helping out our neighbors, community, and church family. I'm so excited to see Mark become a father, and I already know he'll be an amazing dad because I've gotten to see him interact and care for his nieces and nephews over the years and he's always eager to hold them, soothe them, or get down on the floor and play with them. He has a calm demeanor and is a great listener, always willing to give ideas to help someone out or just sit and empathize with them. We love to laugh together, go on adventures, or just enjoy a night in on the couch talking about our day or what's going on in life. He's just started getting into golf, which he's really enjoying and I love that he has a hobby that enables him to spend quality guy time with his dad, brothers and friends.





ALL SMILES WHILE OUT TO EAT



COFFEE + MARK = LOVE



OUR NIECE ENJOYS THE VIEW FROM UNCLE MARK'S SHOULDERS

GIVE MARK A BIKE AND A HELMET AND HE'S HAPPY



A FEW OF Mark's

FAVORITES

Vacation spot

The beach

-

Can't live without

Coffee

-

Seasonal activity

Swimming

-

Sport you like to play

Golf

-

Musical Instruments You Play

Guitar and Piano

-

Ice cream flavor

Chocolate

-

Children's book

Mike Mulligan and His Steam

Shovel

-

Dessert

Lemon Bars

-

Place to take a child

The park

-

Hobby

Photography

THE
PLACE THAT
**we call
home**

AUSTIN IS A GROWING CITY AND WE'VE RECENTLY BUILT AND MOVED INTO A TWO-STORY HOME IN A QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD WITH LOTS OF TREES SURROUNDING NATURE, WHICH WE BOTH LOVE.



OUR NEIGHBORHOOD POOL



WE LOVE OUR NEIGHBORHOOD PARK



OUR PORCH AND BACKYARD ARE GREAT!



WE LOVE

living in Texas!

AUSTIN IS A
WONDERFUL PLACE TO
RAISE A FAMILY.

Mark installed all the flooring, upgraded the kitchen island already, and his next project is redoing the laundry room! He loves planning out and making home renovations come to life, which Allison is very thankful for. In hot Texas summers we really enjoy our neighborhood pool and there are plenty of local water parks and splash pads.

We also have great hiking and biking trails nearby, grocery stores, parks, restaurants, emergency services, the library, our church, and some fantastic Christian preschools that Allison has already been researching.

Travel and adventures are easy to be had with major highways and the airport close by. We love getting together with friends and neighbors, envisioning many playdates in the future. The back porch is one of our most favorite spots. Allison has loved dreaming up, designing and decorating the nursery and Mark put the crib together!



MARK PUTTING THE CRIB TOGETHER



ALLISON IN THE NURSERY!

BROWSING
BOOKS
TOGETHER



HANGING OUT ON THE COUCH TOGETHER





MEET OUR

Loved Ones

WE LOVE

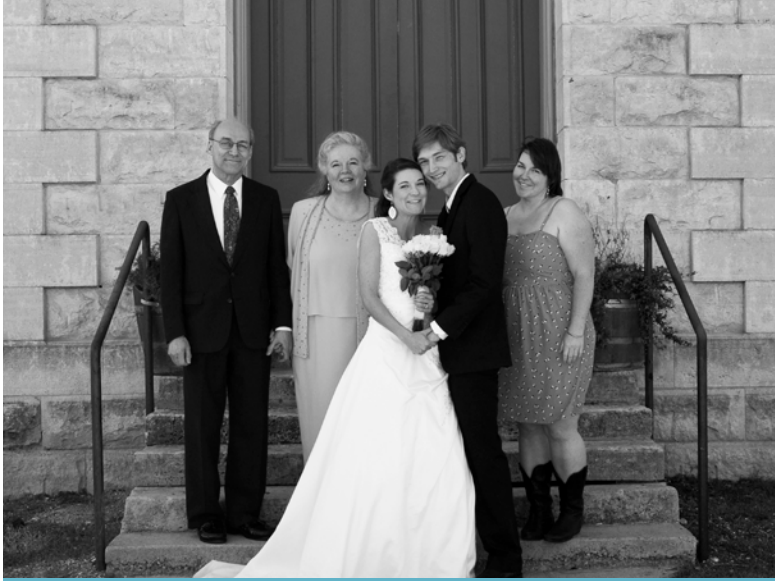
**our big and
growing extended
families!**



WE BOTH HAVE RELATIVES WHO WERE ADOPTED, FROM THE FOSTER CARE SYSTEM AND TRANS-RACIALLY, AND IT EVEN MORE CEMENTS ADOPTION IN OUR LIVES AS NORMAL, WONDERFUL, AND TO BE CELEBRATED!

OUR TWO FAMILIES ON OUR WEDDING DAY





WITH ALLISON'S FAMILY ON OUR WEDDING DAY

Mark has 7 brothers and sisters, 8 nieces and nephews and there are more weddings and babies to come!

It's so fun to get together for holidays, movie nights or even just a meal all together. It always includes lots of laughter, fun and kids running around, playing with toys and with aunts and uncles. Mark's dad is retired and is very helpful and active in his kid's and grandkid's lives. Mark's mom was an amazing mom (8 kids! We don't know how she did it all) who passed away from cancer in 2021. Allison has a slightly smaller family, with only 2 older sisters and no nieces or nephews yet. Allison's mom lives in Michigan and she always enjoys visits and time spent together. Texas to Michigan can seem like a long way away, but Allison's family grew up moving around and living in many different states, so the distance isn't a burden, it's just life! Her dad passed away from a heart attack in 2022 and he was a wonderful, loving man.

We also have a great diverse group of friends who are so excited for us and wanting to help out in any way they can when we become parents.



FUN ACTIVITIES WITH MARK'S BROTHERS

VISITING OUR NEWEST NIECE, EVELYN



WE LOVE GATHERING WITH MARK'S BIG FAMILY!



TRADITIONS

that we
love!

CHRISTMAS IS OUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY TO CELEBRATE!

Every year Allison decorates the house and we enjoy getting a fresh Christmas tree to put in the living room.

The sound of Christmas music can often be heard in the house all December long, along with the smells of freshly baked holiday desserts that Allison makes. We both look forward to family traditions and gatherings, singing carols and making treats for the neighbors. **Christmas morning brings so much anticipation and excitement and we can't wait to share that delight and wonder with a child.**



WE LOVE EXPLORING THE OUTDOORS TOGETHER

A QUOTE FROM OUR CLOSE FRIENDS

“Mark and Allison are steady, loyal and can always be counted on to show up when they say they will. They are hard workers, kind, compassionate, easy going and love to laugh.”



OUR

Values

We very much hope to encourage and give our child a love for learning.



WE COULDN'T WAIT TO MEET AND HOLD OUR NIECE!

We both grew up exploring different cultures, countries, foods, history, and religions and want to pass that curiosity and worldview on to any children we are blessed with. We believe that learning about things outside of your everyday and normal life will broaden how you see others, how you see yourself, challenge what you thought before, and really love and respect everyone for the unique individual they are. Learning new things and a focus on education can open so many doors (and hearts!) in life and will benefit the learner and those around them for the better.

AND Promises

Our promise to you is to always unconditionally love and support you and your child. We promise to raise your child in a loving home where he or she feels safe, encouraged, and celebrated. We promise to teach him or her about Christ and His grace and love for us. We promise to teach your child about the love you have for him or her and the sacrifices you've made. We promise to create an environment of openness where we have conversations throughout life about you and adoption so your child feels comfortable asking questions about his or her background and heritage. Should you choose us as the family for your child, we would love an open relationship with you at your comfort level. You will always have a place in our family and in your child's life. We promise to always be real and truthful with you, even when it's hard or awkward! Being a part of your child's life is very important to us and we know it will be important to them as they grow up.



OUR THOUGHTS

about
diversity

We grew up learning about all of the different races, ethnicities, and cultures. We are so thankful our parents taught us from the start that everyone is created equal, no matter their language, customs, or color of their skin.

We firmly believe that every human being is equal, worthy of love, special, and has a unique purpose on earth. It's deeply saddening to see people treat others of a different race or skin color unequally or with mistrust. We will educate and have a continuing conversation throughout life with our children about the beauty of different skin colors, how we can be kind and fair to everyone regardless of what they look like, the importance of different cultures and customs, and to seek out mentors, friends, communities, and activities that promote each individual child's heritage and cultural background. We will give a broad view of the world and celebrate people for who they are.



Father's Name

Mark

Date of Birth

August 12, 1984

Occupation

Hardware Engineer

Hair Color

Blonde

Education

Bachelor of Engineering

Eye Color

Green

Religion

Christian

Height

6'2

Mother's Name

Allison

Date of Birth

February 18, 1985

Occupation

Proofreader

Hair Color

Brown

Education

Medical Transcription

Eye Color

Green

Religion

Christian

Height

5'6

- **DATE OF MARRIAGE:** March 10, 2013

- **CHILDREN:** None

- **PETS:** None

- **INTERESTS AND HOBBIES:** Mark enjoys home improvement projects, reading, photography, golf, travel, and pretty much anything having to do with trains and planes. Allison enjoys cooking, nutrition, staying fit and active, hiking, travel, and reading. We both enjoy activities that we can do together, kayaking, bike riding, seeing new places and learning about new cultures, visiting museums, watching movies, being outdoors, swimming, trying new foods and listening to music.

- **HOME:** We live in a 3 bed, 2.5 bath home near Austin, TX. It's in a very diverse, quiet, tree-lined neighborhood and we love it! Our neighborhood has a pool and park, and we also have great hiking and biking trails nearby. It's very close to grocery stores, parks, splash pads, restaurants, emergency services, the library, and schools.

- **WHY ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BUILDING YOUR FAMILY THROUGH ADOPTION?** We discussed growing our family through adoption while we were still dating! We have always wanted to adopt, it is our first choice and always has been.

- **OPENNESS TO BIRTHPARENT(S):** We would love to have an open adoption with you and whatever level of contact you are comfortable with. We know at some points in your life you may want more contact and at other points, less contact. We are here to support you and are excited to grow our relationship together. You can set the pace, but we'd definitely love to exchange photos, letters, emails, texts, phone calls, and set up visits and get-togethers.

- **CHILDCARE PLANS:** Allison plans on being a stay-at-home mom. While she very much enjoys her current job, she is excitedly looking forward to becoming a mom and being at home full-time.

family

INFORMATION



WE WANT TO

Thank You

FOR

**taking the time
to look at our
profile!**



WHATEVER YOUR DECISION MAY BE, WE KNOW THAT YOU ARE MAKING IT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF YOU AND YOUR CHILD.

If given the chance, we would love nothing more than to be parents to your precious child and establish a relationship with you and walk with you on this path.

We haven't met yet, but we already are in so much awe of you and this brave decision. We want you to know that we are praying for you and asking God for His guidance, protection and peace over you.

