



AMY + MATT

2105010

H E L L O

M A M M A

I wish we could give you a big hug right now. I can only imagine how tough this decision is. Thank you for being strong. Thank you for being brave. And thank you for considering our family.

We hope you see in the following pages our heart and the passion we have for life. We hope you see God's faithfulness. Ultimately, we hope you feel God's perfect peace in your decision.

On the following pages, you'll see little snippets of our family and our personalities. You'll see our love for exploring, travel, and living life well. We hope you'll see how your child would be loved and cherished in our family. Thank you for taking the time to get to know us.

WITH GRATITUDE,

AMY + MATT

OUR STORY

Our story begins on August 16th, 2020 with our first phone call, where Amy agreed to ONE date.

We spent 14 hours talking on the phone that week alone! Our first date at Colonial Williamsburg started the journey to our wedding day on July 24th, 2021 - Christmas Eve in July. We both share a love for good coffee, anything space related, and board games. We've started to become die-hard Charlotte FC fans and enjoy cheering on our favorite players.

Life hasn't always been easy for us. We've lost a lot over the last few years. We know the pain of letting go of a child. Throughout everything, we trust in God's faithfulness and we choose each other and our family above all.





meet AMY

I was raised in the tourist town of Williamsburg, VA. I grew up without a dad, which impacted me a great deal. I used to believe I had to prove myself as a child, in order to be wanted. It took me until high school on a mission trip before I realized I can be myself and still honor my history. My hope is that my children will also know their worth and that they can be themselves, no matter what.

I was a dancer from '04, and even a dance teacher for many years until we moved in 2022. I have a degree in Christian Ministry and was a children's director for about a year and half. I'm now a stay-at-home-mom to our three-year old son. Being at home gives me the opportunity to slow down and enjoy the little moments. My background gives me the skills to include movement and Bible basics consistently in our lives. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to provide stability and consistency for our son.

Matt says

Amy is kind and heavily devoted to our family. She's a steady presence in our lives and keeps us focused on what really matters. She has a fun goofy side, which can make me laugh. I especially love Amy, because I truly believe she was brought into my life by God.

FAVORITES

I LOVE the Christmas season

Coffee is my emotional support

Fuzzy blankets are important to me





meet MATT

Engineer

I was raised in Dayton, OH. Growing up, my mom taught me the value of relationships. I spent many days exploring, playing, and doing dumb stuff with the kids in my neighborhood. My Mom was the best at hosting and loving others. She inspired me to do the same, and we like to have folks over when we can.

Today, I have a love for board and video games, grilling, and spending time with my family. I also enjoy hiking and reading - science fiction is my preference. Being $\frac{1}{4}$ Japanese, I love pretty much anything related to Japan and have visited many times.

FUN FACTS

I will eat anything except for strawberries and sea urchin

I love driving a stick shift

I used to be certified in scuba diving

I watched Tangled 4 times in the theaters

Amy says

When I first met Matt, I knew I needed to keep him as at least a friend - he's just that fun to be around. Matt is adventurous and always up to trying something new, but he is also grounded and protective of our family. He's very good at separating work and home life, and being fully present when he's with us. Matt is very attentive to our needs and wants and does his best to fulfill everything we desire or need. Matt's always reading and wanting to improve himself, all while putting everyone before himself.



meet BENJI

Benjiro “Benji” joined our family in July of 2022. His name means “lover of peace” in Japanese. We chose this name to honor Matt’s Japanese heritage.

Benji’s showing to be a good friend and considerate of others. He has a kind heart and wants to help everyone with anything he can. He loves his hats, and you’ll frequently see him sporting his favorite - a fedora. Cars, airplanes, and anything that transports are his favorites right now! Benji has recently started enjoying little coasters and rides at a nearby amusement park. He’s starting both preschool and a pre-k dancing class Fall ‘25.

Sylvia, our daughter, would have been born in September of 2024. She was stillborn at 40 weeks. We miss her, but we’re confident in getting to see her again some day. God is faithful and we trust in His perfect plan for our family.



Carousel ride!



Playing cars on the train



Roasting smores



Reading in the RV



Playing trains



Benji on hike honoring Sylvia



Our Little Part of the World

We live in the mountains just outside Lynchburg, VA, which is perfect since we love hiking! Lynchburg is unique in that it contains three different colleges, which provide quite a bit of diversity and a variety of events throughout the year. Our favorite is the Bright Nights around the Christmas season.

We enjoy visiting one of the two regular Saturday farmer's markets nearby. Lynchburg is full of history and historic areas from the Civil War. We're about 15 minutes from Downtown Lynchburg and live within an hour of multiple State Parks. Crab Tree Falls - our favorite hike - among many many other great hikes are within an hour or two of our home.

One of our favorite places to be during good weather is our backyard. We personally dug out and built our patio to provide space for meals, bonfires, and all the outdoor play. Another favorite activity is to walk one of Lynchburg's many trails or hang out at a State Park.



Hobbies, Activities, & Fun

We both grew up playing card and board games with our families. Some of our current favorites are Wingspan, Root, and Ticket to Ride. Hiking and being outdoors is also a common occurrence for our family. Lynchburg has the best trail system for walking and biking! There's a train station and an airport nearby, which is perfect for our train and airplane-loving child. We love cooking together as a family and enjoy trying new meals - Matt makes the tastiest smoked and grilled meat.

Traveling is a huge part of our family. Not only do we travel together for Matt's job, but we also love to travel for pleasure. We spend time exploring and getting to experience all the different parts of every city we visit. This year, we visited North & South Carolina, Kentucky, Germany, and England. Travel for Matt's work can last anywhere from a week or two up to several months at a time. We believe in the importance of staying together as a family, so we have a travel trailer we use when on the road. We love the opportunity to have a consistent travel home while still getting to explore new places and experiences.



Aunt Emma, Benji, & cousin Stephen



Carlyn-lifelong friend/auntie

family

TRADITIONS

Family is big for us! We do our best to prioritize our family and our faith above all. We have a habit of what we call “morning time,” which is where we read a variety of books aloud during breakfast. We also have a daily family devotional we do at dinner time.

Every Thursday or Friday is pizza night. We love trying our hand at new recipes and toppings (Amy’s favorite is her chicken crust).

Saturday means soccer! We nearly always stay up late to watch our favorite team - Charlotte FC. And we typically half-watch European soccer in the morning and afternoon, if we are not out hiking or doing other family activities.

Sunday breakfast is always special. Sometimes it’s cinnamon rolls, pancakes, or waffles! We do this to set Sunday apart from the week and to enjoy some intentional family time.



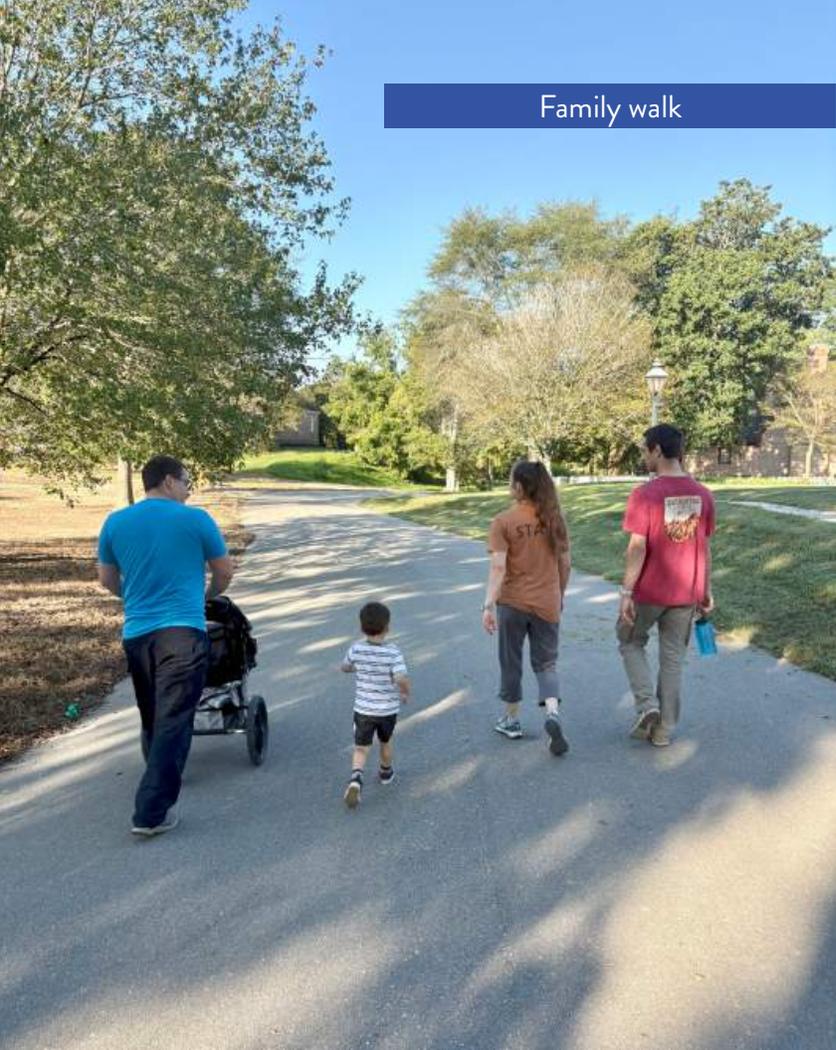
'Mormor' hugging Benji



Roller Coaster!



Matt, Benji, and Pop Pop



Family walk

our
VALUES

We both have three siblings! Amy’s family lives only a few hours away, which provides many opportunities to see them frequently. Matt’s family is farther away, but we connect virtually and make trips to visit at least once a year. Since we travel often, we have more opportunities to see our friends and family outside of our town.

We also have multiple friends turned family who are regularly around us and treat Benji as their nephew. One of these friends lives 15 minutes from us. We see them at least once a week when we’re in town for play dates, dinners, and hangouts.



parenting + Adoption

We have seen God's faithfulness in our lives, and we hope our children see it in their lives too. Our desire for our children is to feel loved, wanted, and safe with us. Being designed by God, we want our children to be confident in who they are as a person and in their history. For Benji, we love showing him photos of Japan and practicing simple Japanese words. For your child, we'd want to have a similar approach. We'd want them to know all about you and their heritage.

The foundation of our parenting is that all feelings are okay, but not all behaviors are. We focus on redirecting and explaining the why behind our decisions.



Father's Name:
Matt

Occupation:
Engineer

Education:
**Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering,
Bachelor in Material Science,
and a Master in Chemical Engineering**

Religion:
Christian (Anglican)

Date of birth:
05/23/1989

Hair Color:
Brown

Eye Color:
Hazel

Height:
5' 9"



Mother's Name:
Amy

Occupation:
SAHM

Education:
**Bachelor in Christian Ministry,
Minor in Biblical Studies,
and a Minor in History**

Religion:
Christian

Date of birth:
05/14/1999

Hair Color:
Brown/Auburn

Eye Color:
Blue

Height:
5' 6"

Family Information

Date of marriage: 07/24/2021

Children: Benjiro "Benji" is three years old. He's an adventurer at heart and is ready to try any activity. He has a sweet, bubbly personality and loves to help and be part of the action. His passion for cars, trains, and airplanes are a favorite of ours to watch and participate in.

Interest and hobbies: Matt is the adventurer of the family and has an extensive list of experiences he's participated in. While he still enjoys hiking, traveling, and trying new things, he also enjoys spending time at home. Board or video games and reading are his go-to when he has down time. Being a former dancer, Amy still enjoys busting out some moves and listening to a large variety of music. As a family, we love cooking, playing games, and spending time outside together. A bonfire and dinner outside are also a favorite, especially during the Fall months.

Home: We live in a three-bedroom, two and half bathroom house in a newer-ish neighborhood. We've been living there for nearly 3 years. We have an extra large living room, which is perfect for hosting and hanging out. Our family color is sapphire blue, and you'd find similar colors frequently around the house. The backyard has a fire pit, which we love to use during summer evenings. It's also the perfect place to use chalk, do water play, and ride scooters. During good weather, you can readily find us outside. We have a brand-new playground about 5 minutes away and plenty of walking trails within 20 minutes and hikes within an hour.

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption:

Growing up, we both had friends with adopted siblings. Through these friends, we have seen first-hand the faithfulness of God and the beauty of family built through adoption. We hoped for the opportunity to adopt sometime during our life. We also believe, as adopted children of God, we are called to consider adoption for our family. After our daughter Sylvia passed, we felt the gentle push to open our hearts and our homes to more children. We trust God to continue to be faithful in our family.

With losing our daughter, we know how difficult it is to let go of a child. Our hope is that you will feel peace in your decision knowing we understand some of the similar emotions and feelings.

Openness to birthparent(s):

We understand the importance of openness in an adoption. We want the child to know where they've come from and their ancestry. With that in mind, we're open to annual visits and updates as the child grows, as well as further discussions on more as it benefits the child.

Childcare plans:

Amy will be the primary caregiver for the child. She has plenty of support from friends and her family whenever she may need it.



THANK YOU

Thank you for considering us.
Thank you for seeing us.
We know the decision you make is difficult and hard.

We hope you feel peace as you see how your child will be a part of our life. We, as a family, promise to love, care for, and see your child as our own.

No matter what you decide, we hope you see God's faithfulness and feel His perfect peace in your decision. We appreciate you considering us and our family.

Taste and see that the Lord is good. | Psalm 34:8a

Amy + Matt

Nightlight Christian Adoptions | impregnant@nightlight.org | (502) 423-5780