

## HELLO FROM US,



We are Joel and Bekah, and we are so excited to be first time parents through adoption.

Thank you for looking at our book! We hope you see love, joy, and hope in these pages.

We admire you so much for choosing life for your baby, and for considering an adoption plan.

We hope nothing but the best for you and your child.

# *about us*

## AND WHY ADOPTION

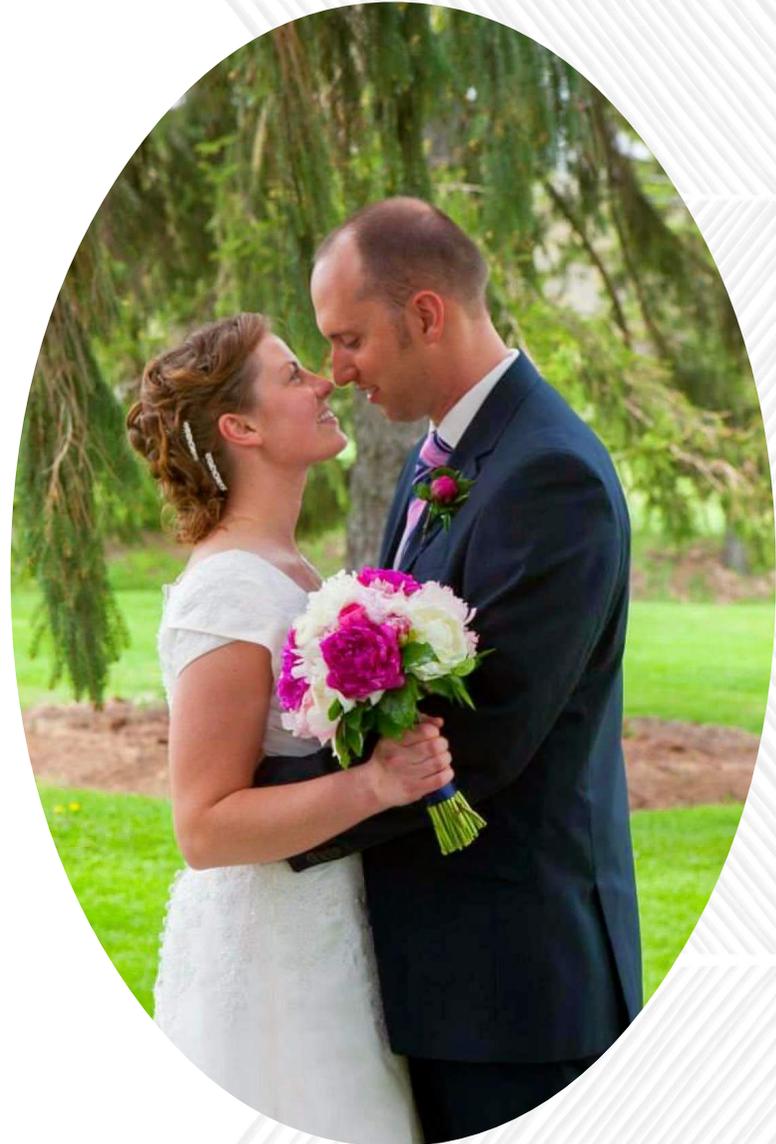
We both feel that some things are just meant to be.

And that's how we feel about us! We met after Bekah's brother married Joel's cousin. From the moment we started talking in 2012, we knew we would have something special. We couldn't believe we had finally found someone whom we felt 100 % comfortable with, had almost everything in common with, AND were head-over-heels in love with.

We dated for 8 months and got engaged in August 2013. Then in 2014, we were married on a beautiful day in May.

Before we were even married, we knew that we wanted to be parents. We tried naturally and even pursued fertility treatments. We ultimately feel that all along our hearts were being prepared for what was meant to be, our greatest adventure yet, adoption!

We know that getting to know you will be another chapter in our story that is just meant to be.





OUR  
ENGAGEMENT



OUR  
WEDDING





*a little about*

## JOEL

Joel grew up in a small town in Pennsylvania. He was raised by his mom, Donna (His dad, Dane, died when Joel was two). Joel has an older sister, Amy, and a twin brother, Jeremy. The three of them had a wonderful childhood - spending lots of time at their grandparents' farm that was just up the road and taking cross-country road trips with extended family.

After getting his associate degree, Joel devoted 12 years to missionary work, teaching others about Jesus.

Joel then went back to college for his bachelor's degree in electro-mechanical engineering and has worked 10 years as an engineer.

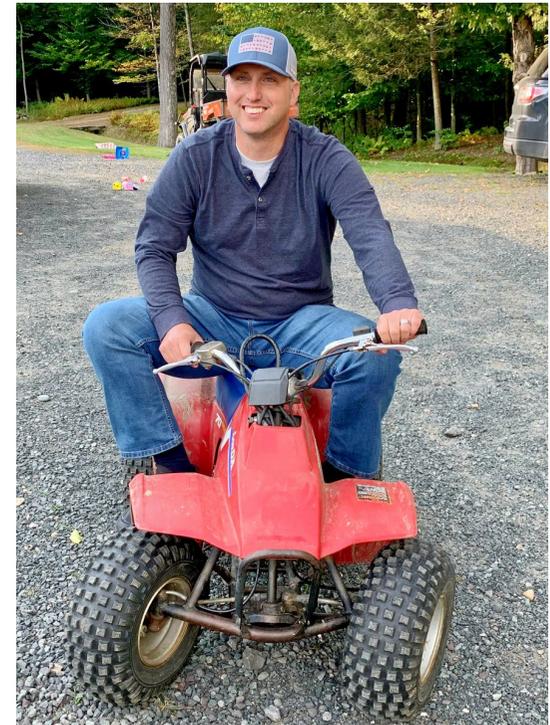


OCCUPATION:  
Electrical Engineer

A FEW OF JOEL'S FAVORITE

THINGS:

Bekah, our cats, coffee, anything spicy,  
playing the piano, and dad jokes



- Coffee at Magnolia Table in Waco, Texas
- Amazing Ribs in Memphis, Tennessee
- The biggest guy with the smallest ride
- Legos with Scott, a family friend, for his 15th birthday





## OCCUPATION:

ICU Registered Nurse

## A FEW OF BEKAH'S FAVORITE THINGS:

Joel, our cats, sunshine, houseplants, vintage shopping, and local festivals



- Bekah with her cousin's baby, Alaa
- Amazing views at Horseshoe Bend in Page, Arizona
- Snuggled up to Joel for a moped ride
- A beautiful evening stroll thru Nantucket, Massachusetts

*a little about*

## BEKAH

Bekah grew up in a small town in Ohio. She was raised by her parents, Paul and Karen. They have now been married 41 years! Bekah has one older brother, Andrew. They also had a great childhood, spending time with both sets of grandparents and aunts, uncles, and cousins. Bekah has fond memories of making an igloo in the backyard with her dad after a snowstorm and baking many dozen cookies with her mom. She loves to recall vacations to Niagra Falls and Disney World.

Bekah went to college and got her bachelor's degree in nursing. She has worked as an ICU nurse for 13 years.



Jalapeños!



Fishing with Bekah's Dad and Brother



Corn maze with Joel's twin brother and nephews



## MORE ABOUT JOEL - WRITTEN BY BEKAH

Joel is my soul mate and best friend. He makes me a better person and keeps me laughing. He is goofy and fun-loving, loves to learn about anything and everything, and is very laid-back. Everyone loves Joel, but I love him most of all. He is kind and puts everyone at ease. Above all he loves the Lord first and me second. Joel loves kids too. When his niece and nephews were babies, he was amazing at rocking them to sleep. Now that they are teenagers, he easily connects with them and keeps them entertained. He will be an approachable, fun, protective, and an all-around amazing Dad. I can't wait to watch it all unfold!

Bekah loves to make charcuterie boards for hosting



Bekah at a festival with her sister-in-law, mom, and cousin



Holding a tiny iceberg in Iceland

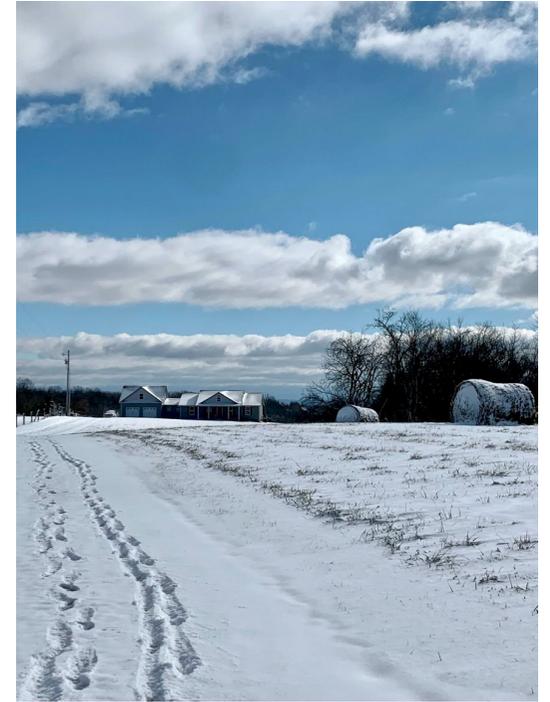


## MORE ABOUT BEKAH - WRITTEN BY JOEL

I am truly blessed to have Bekah as my wife. She is filled with a love of life and God that she shares with me and others and will share with her children. She is very kind and approachable, laid-back and full of life and fun. From the beginning of our relationship, I knew she had a mother's heart and that she would make a wonderful mother. Bekah has a caring spirit, love for children, and an empathy for others that is clearly seen in her daily life. She has always had a soft spot in her heart for children and older people, being drawn to their stories with hopes of helping them in any way she can. Bekah has received numerous awards for her bedside care as a nurse, and she is touched by the patients she cares for every day. I believe this care will be even stronger for her children.

# home

## SWEET HOME



Home is where we watch baby birds hatch and daffodils bloom in the spring, enjoy our garden and fish in our pond in the summer. We sit around a backyard fire and bring in monarch caterpillars to watch them become butterflies in the fall and enjoy a snowy hike and warm cinnamon rolls and snow cream in the winter. We love these seasonal traditions that we've started as a couple.

We live out in the country, back a long lane on 12 acres. We have plenty of space to enjoy the great outdoors together. We have a quiet, cozy home, with three bedrooms and three bathrooms. We enjoy our open floor plan that allows us to host our friends and family with ease. We love our home and are excited to raise children here!



MEET OUR CATS:  
REESE AND EMBER





We have two very spoiled and loved indoor/outdoor cats. Reese and Ember have been a part of our family for 5 years. They became ours when they were just a couple of months old. Their personalities are different, but we love them just the way they are. Reese wants to be wherever we are, all day long. She is curious about what we are doing and loves to lay with us. Ember prefers to explore outside for most of the day. Once it's time to come in though, she can't get enough belly rubs or treats. They are a big part of our lives and bring us a lot of joy.





# JOEL'S *family*



Picture description - Above: Joel's nephew, Dane. Joel, his brother-in-law, Scott, and nephew, Breydon, and the newly constructed ramp for Gram. Joel's niece, Reagan. Amy, Bekah, Kim - ladies wreath making class. Joel's nephew, Marcus, with Joel's Gram. Amy, Bekah, and Mom at a fall festival. Marcus flying his drone for Uncle Joel. Joel with his other grandma and his Uncle Paul. Opposite page: Siblings!, Thanksgiving dinner prep by the original 4. Some of the family at Joel's nephew, Brett's wedding. Joel and his nephew, Breydon, in Tx. Jeremy and Joel with their oldest nephew, Brandon. Trying to embarrass the bride and groom :)

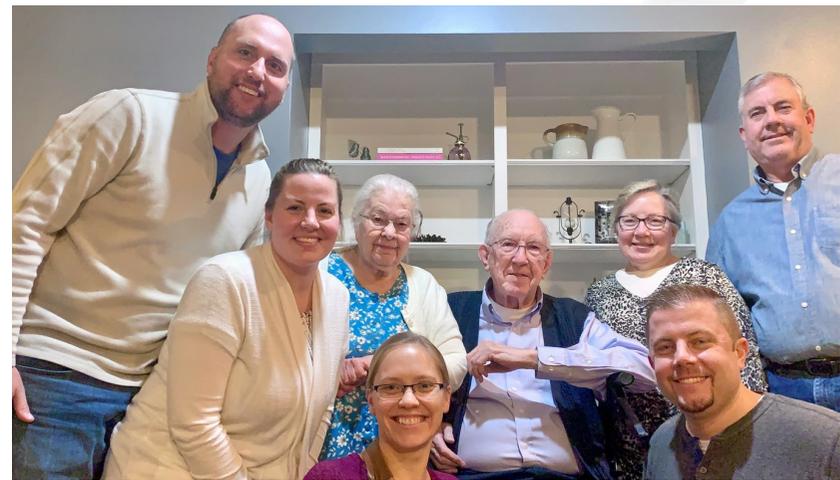


Joel's mom, sister, and twin brother, and their families live in Pennsylvania. Joel and Bekah love to road trip there to visit, all gathering at Donna's house for weekends and holidays. It is quite a crew when we can all be together. It's a house full of conversation, laughter and love. Joel and Bekah love to plan trips with his family - Kalahari Resort and Waco, Texas to name a few.

Joel and Bekah's baby will be the 7th grandchild for Joel's mom. Our baby will never lack for attention from aunts, uncles, and cousins on this side of the family!

Joel has a large extended family on both sides. We love to visit them in Virginia and Tennessee whenever possible!





Picture descriptions - Above: The fam in Sedona, Az. Joel and Bekah with Bekah's grandparents. The fam with Bekah's other grandparents. Andrew, Joel, and Dad celebrating summer birthdays. Bekah and her cousin, Rachel, making Christmas goodies.

Opposite page: Mom, Bekah, and Sheila picking lavender. Game night! The original 4. Recent maternal side family reunion. Christmas dinner.



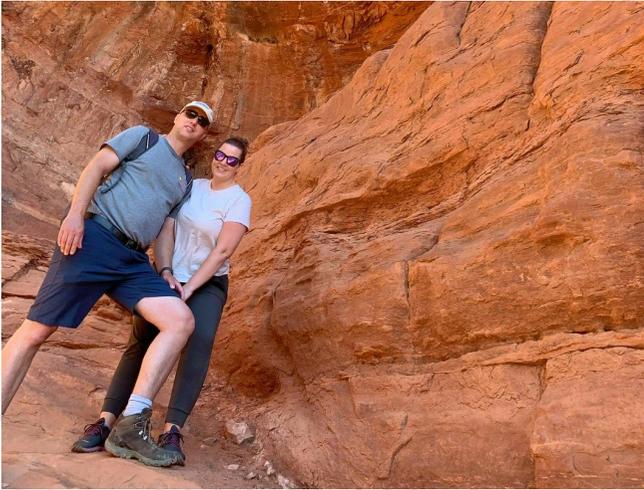
Bekah's family is very close knit. Her parents live in Ohio. Her brother and his wife live in Georgia.

We love to get together any chance we get. There is always a lot of food, a lot of laughs, and a lot of games. We go on a family vacation together every couple of years.

Joel and Bekah's baby will be the first grandchild for Bekah's parents. To say they can hardly wait is an understatement.

We are close to all of Bekah's extended family as well. Her extended family is mostly in Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana. There are always lots of cousins around to keep everyone of all ages entertained.

BEKAH'S  
*family*



# Adventures

We love to travel - and have done so every year since we've been married. We love to see and experience new places, people, and foods! We appreciate the beauty of the United States and also other countries. Recently we've had the opportunity to go to Sedona, Arizona, Nantucket, Massachusetts, Waco, Texas, and Iceland (all pictured above)! We look forward to taking our child on these adventures with us!



Arizona sand dunes  
-2014



Yellow Stone  
National Park - 2015



Chicago - 2015



Ireland - 2016



West Coast road trip  
- 2017



Yosemite National  
Park - 2017



New York City - 2018



Florida - 2018



Washington DC and  
White House Tour -  
2019



Cabo, Mexico - 2020

# Our Interests

We both really enjoy our jobs. We are challenged every day and are constantly learning something new.



We love to spend time with our friends - whether it's a weekend at the lake, attending a fancy 10th birthday party, or meeting up for a crab dinner.

We enjoy going to baseball games together and frequenting the local theater to watch plays or musicals.





We both enjoy any outdoor activity - whether it is hiking, biking, kayaking, or exploring a local garden.



We love our homestead. We enjoy gardening, preserving, yard work, and houseprojects.



# *Our promise to you...*

We hope these promises set your mind and heart at ease and help you make your decision with peace.

- We promise to support you throughout this journey in any way that we can.
- We promise to always honor you and tell your story with respect.
- We promise to stay in contact with you, if that is what you wish.
- We promise to love your child, our child, for as long as we live.
- We promise to honor their birth heritage and talk about adoption openly.
- We promise to teach them about the Lord; to lead by example and continue to love Him ourselves.
- We promise to continue family traditions and start new ones together.
- We promise to surround them with family and friends that will love them from the start.
- We promise that they will have a safe and happy home, and the support of loving parents that will allow them to become the best person that they can be.

Warm Regards,

*Joel* and *Bekah*





## US AT A GLANCE

**Father's Name:** Joel  
**Occupation:** Electrical Engineer  
**Education:** Bachelor's Degree  
**Religion:** Christian  
**Date of birth:** 07/05/1978  
**Hair color:** Brown  
**Eye color:** Blue  
**Height:** 6'3"

**Mother's Name:** Rebekah (Bekah)  
**Occupation:** ICU Registered Nurse  
**Education:** Bachelor's Degree  
**Religion:** Christian  
**Date of birth:** 12/02/1987  
**Hair color:** Brown  
**Eye color:** Blue  
**Height:** 5'5"

**Date of marriage:** 05/09/2014

**Children:** None

**Interests and Hobbies:** Together we love to spend time with our family and friends, travel, and do just about any outdoor activity- gardening, hiking, biking, camping, fishing etc. Joel loves to listen to podcasts, follow his favorite sports teams, and DIY house projects. Bekah enjoys vintage shopping, cooking and baking, and planning get-togethers at their house.

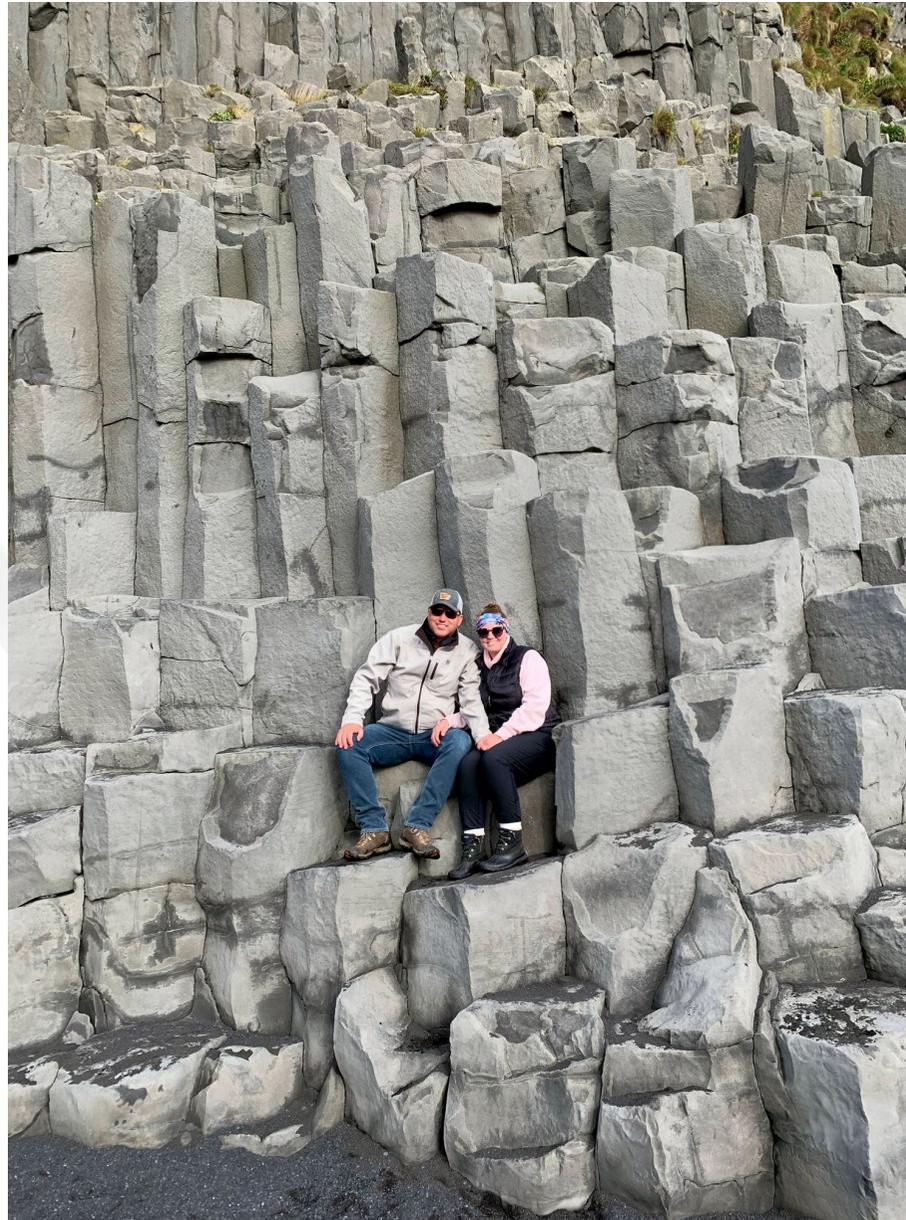
**Home:** We live out in the country on 12 acres of land. We have a cozy three-bedroom, three-bathroom home. We live a short drive from a beautiful state park, and all of the conveniences of town.

**Pets:** Reese and Ember are two very spoiled and loved indoor/outdoor calico cats. They became ours in 2017. They are a part of our family and have brought us a lot of joy!

**Why we are interested in building our family through adoption:** Before we were even married, we knew we wanted to be parents. We tried naturally and even pursued some fertility treatments. We ultimately feel that all along our hearts were being prepared for what was meant to be, our greatest adventure yet- adoption.

**Openness to birthparent(s):** We are happy to give regular updates with pictures via email, and if the birth family is willing, discuss a closer relationship.

**Childcare plans:** Bekah is committed to work 1 day a week; this will allow her to stay home with our child the majority of the time. Joel has job flexibility also and will be very involved in caring for our child.



JOEL AND REBEKAH

ID #- 2088498

*Mixbook*  
PHOTO CO.