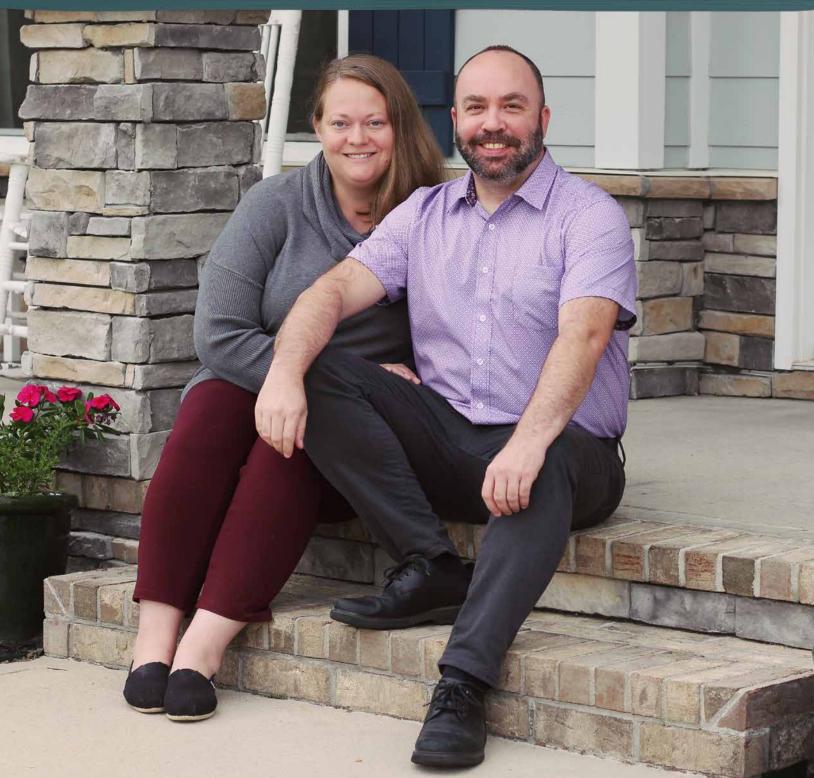
# **BRENNAN & TRAVIS**

#2093718



e're so glad you've chosen to spend some time with us here. It means a lot to us that you are willing to learn more about us as a part of your family planning process. We are looking forward to adopting a child and sharing a life with them as they learn and grow. We came to adoption through family experiences and infertility, and we look forward to sharing a home that is peaceful, warm, consistent, and full of fun and laughter. We want to have a family, and we know that blessing will be found through adoption. We believe that your love for your child is at the core of everything you are considering, and we pray that you find peace in that process.

ALL GOOD THINGS,

Travis and Brennan







# **ABOUT US**

We are both educators, and we met at the high school where we worked. Brennan had lunch duty once a week, and Travis would make a point to walk by every time

to make small talk. Brennan had no clue that he was trying to flirt, so he ended up joining a bunch of committees she served on so he could have more opportunities to talk to her. Brennan eventually caught on, and the rest is history. We have been married for more than ten years now, and we have faced our share of stressful times, from losing Travis's mom after a long illness to going back to school, etc. Our marriage is strong because we choose each other every day and we come together in our struggles and celebrations. Adoption feels very natural to us because we have adoptions on both sides of our family, including Travis's mom and her siblings. After struggling with fertility, we now see that adoption was the right path for us all along. Everything has aligned so we could have a child through adoption. We both work full time in education, and we have a lot of flexibility with our time to be fully present in our child's life. We love spending evenings having dinner and hanging out with our beagle Pepper, taking trips, and spending time with family and friends. We are excited to welcome our child and share this life with them.

# OUR TRAVELS



PELES CASTLE IN ROMANIA

We have traveled far more than either of us ever expected. When we were dating, we traveled to visit family in D.C., New Jersey, and Florida, and we found that we travel really well together. Since we've been married, we've been to more than 10 countries. We love to travel and learn more about other cultures and people. The first trip we took out of the country together was a cruise with Travis's mom to the Bahamas, and our most recent trip was a river cruise from Austria to Romania on the Danube.

ALT I LITT

WE CELEBRATED OUR 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY IN BELGRADE, SERBIA



TAKING IN A STUNNING SUNSET

special note on

We believe that it is in the best interest of all children to know who they are and where they come from, so we plan to be open and honest with our child(ren) from the very beginning. We will tell them they are adopted, and we believe it is our responsibility to provide them with as much access to information about their birth, family, culture, and history as we possibly can. In that sense, we expect to have an open adoption plan that allows for contact with the birth parents, and we hope to come to that plan in collaboration with them.

### THOUGHTS ON PARENTING

We look forward to starting our family and incorporating our child(ren) into our traditions such as our holiday decorations and events, dressing up for holidays with family, and going to community events like the state fair. We also look forward to starting new family traditions with our child(ren). As educators, we have extensive breaks throughout the year when schools are out which will give us plenty of opportunities to create new traditions, take trips, and go on new adventures. Travis is also very excited to have someone else to help him convince Brennan to go to Disney more often. We will work hard to develop compassion, empathy, generosity, kindness, and faith in our child(ren), and we will be collaborative, consistent parents who seek to reinforce positive behavior through strong relationships and constructive conversations. Travis looks forward to sharing his love of music, movies, and games with our child(ren), and Brennan is excited to teach them how to cook, bake, and grow plants. We both look forward to sharing our love of reading with our child(ren).



# ALL ABOUT BRENNAN

by travis

BRENNAN IS LOVING, THOUGHTFUL, WARM, CARING, PATIENT, AND MUCH MORE.

Brennan is all these things to me but, most of all, she is my best friend. Her ability to communicate through compassion and empathy has inspired me to be a better friend, a better partner, and a better man. Although I don't know everything Brennan has meant to others, I do know that I have seen it reflected in their faces when they are together: I have seen our nieces burst into giggle fits when they are spending time together, and I have seen them comforted during evening story times; I have seen her father beam with pride for her extraordinary kindness, her sister embrace her in absolute trust, her former students demonstrate the confidence she helped them develop, and my mother express her happiness and peace in knowing that we were building a loving family before she passed. Though Brennan's grandmother has passed, she would beam with joy in the family traditions that Brennan has kept alive, including her grandmother's recipes and ability to care for everyone in the family. In Brennan's current work as an education professor, she has used the flexibility of her position to help friends and family, take care of our pets, and volunteer with the Red Cross. With this flexibility of time and her kindness and love, Brennan will be a remarkable mom.



TWINNING WITH OUR NIECE





AT A LOCAL GARDEN CENTER



VIDEO GAMES WITH OUR NIECES



### **FUN FACTS ABOUT BRENNAN**

EAVORITE VACATION SPOT

FAVORITE DESSERT Strawberry cake

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT My planner

FAVORITE AUTHOR Emily Henry FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD Water park at the zoo

FAVORITE CHILDREN'S BOOK A Bad Case of the Stripes

HISTORICAL FIRGURE BRENNAN WOULD LIKE TO MEET William Shakespeare BIGGEST SOURCE OF INSPIRATION My faith/God

FAVORITE ICE CREAM Amaretto cherry cordial

FAVORITE SEASONAL ACTIVITY Reading on the porch in the spring

# ALL ABOUT TRAVIS

by brennan

TRAVIS IS GENEROUS IN SPIRIT AND GIVES HIS TIME AND ENERGY TO OTHERS.

I first saw this when Travis dropped everything and moved into his mother's house to care for her in her final months, and he demonstrates this on a regular basis when he offers to help our family and friends with anything he can-from yard projects to building furniture. Travis is very intelligent and curious, and he has the most incredible memory for facts about movies, music, and games. Between this and his sense of humor, nobody could be bored around Travis. He loves to tell stories and listen to others' stories, and I have watched Travis bring so much fun and humor to our family gatherings. He is also very energetic and has a silly side kids love. Travis once spent Christmas day singing "Gingerbread Squirrel" (a parody of the song our nieces were singing—Gingerbread Girl) while they chased him around the house, laughing until they cried. As a library consultant in a local school district, Travis is engaged with children regularly. He reads aloud to them using funny voices and adding interactive elements that never fail to engage and amuse kids. Travis has always felt it is important to put family first, and I know he will do that with our growing family. He is excited to share his passions like music, but he is also eager to learn about our child's passions over time. Travis will be a wonderful father because his love is big and loyal and strong, and his spirit is generous and kind and joyful. He will surround our child(ren) in love and lift them in laughter and guide them with kindness. He will be a father who knows them, loves them, and supports them in all they do, just as he has done for me over our many years together.



PLAYING WITH PEPPER AND OUR NIECE









TRAVIS LOVES DISNEY!

WHAT'S BETTER THAN COOKIES WITH UNCLE TRAVIS?

### **FUN FACTS ABOUT TRAVIS**

6

FAVORITE VACATION SPOT Anywhere with Brennan

> FAVORITE DESSERT Cookies

CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT Mac and Cheese

FAVORITE AUTHOR Neil Gaiman FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE A CHILD Disney World

FAVORITE CHILDREN'S BOOK Enemy Pie by Derek Munson

COLLECTION Video games, music, and movies BIGGEST SOURCE OF INSPIRATION My family

FAVORITE ICE CREAM Mint chocolate chip

FAVORITE SEASONAL ACTIVITY Christmas traditions with family



## OUR HOME

We live in a diverse suburban community in central South

Carolina. While we have close access to large recreational parks and lots of shopping and entertainment, we live in an area that feels a bit more removed from the hustle and bustle, and we enjoy walks around our neighborhood which has walking trails and lakes. Our home is the same distance to the beach and mountains, and we enjoy four seasons with a mild winter and warm summer. Our school district offers a wide variety of magnet programs and awardwinning schools, but we also have access to a wide variety of educational opportunities for our child through our jobs which will allow us to tailor those decisions to our child's needs when the time comes. We love to go to the state fair every year, and we enjoy the many farmers markets and festivals in our area. At home, we love spending our evenings in the kitchen and living room where we eat dinner and share details from the day; we enjoy spending time with our beagle in the fenced back yard and on the screened porch and watching movies in the media room in our spare time.



BAKING COOKIES

#### WORKING AT HOME



### **OUR PETS**

#### PEPPER'S GOTCHA DAY



#### WE LOVE ANIMALS AND HAVE HAD THEM OUR WHOLE LIVES.

When we met, Travis had 3 cats and Brennan had 1 dog. We lost them one-by-one and the last, our previous beagle Paisley, passed away in 2021. We took some time before we brought home our beagle Pepper in March of 2023. She was 8 weeks old and pure puppy. Pepper has kept us on our toes and has brought a lot of energy to our home. We have toys everywhere and spend a ton of time playing with her, both inside and in our large backyard where she enjoys playing fetch with her Frisbee. Pepper loves to walk around the neighborhood every morning after breakfast, and she takes long naps in the afternoon.



# OUR FAMILY



BRENNAN'S SISTER AND NIECE



AUNTIECAMP ZOO DAY



We spend a good amount of time with our families. Travis's mom, who was adopted along with her 3 siblings, passed of colon cancer in 2012. We spent a lot of time with her before she passed, and we intend to share her memory with our child(ren). We see Travis's family regularly and take at least one family vacation together each year with his brother, an engineering project manager, his dad who is retired, and his stepmother who is an attorney. Travis's parents lived in London for 7 years, and we got to take a lot of fun trips with them to places we never thought we would get to go.

Brennan's parents are retired and live a short distance from us, so we are able to spend time with them frequently at a new home they recently built for family gatherings. We enjoy helping them with jobs around the house, swimming in their pool, and just hanging out in general. Brennan's sister, a chemical engineer, and brother-in-law, a food scientist, both work in food manufacturing and have 2 young daughters. We have a close relationship with them, and we see them many times a year on the holidays, on family trips, and when we host Auntiecamp each summer for our nieces. We spend a lot of our time with family because they are so much fun to be around. We also have several close friends that we spend time with in our area, including some who have adopted children. Our family will have a lot of support.





FAMILY HIKE

BRENNAN'S PARENTS AND NIECE



#### FAMILY TRIP TO DISNEY



traditions

Most of our family traditions revolve around holidays. We love to wear silly holiday outfits, throw holiday parties, and go to holiday events. We often involve our families in these traditions by getting them outfits to match with ours or inviting them to go to a holiday event with us. Another event we enjoy each year is auntiecamp. Our niece comes to spend a week with us each summer for auntiecamp, and we do all kinds of things with her for the week. This year, we went to the zoo and did a behindthe-scenes visit with the tortoises, played Animal Crossing, watched movies on the back porch, and played on a waterslide in our backyard.



in closing

#### THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ ABOUT US.

We are ready to start our family, and we have many promises we'd like to offer our child(ren). We promise to love and care for them—we already do in our own way—and we promise to raise them in the full knowledge of who they are and where they come from. We will do every single thing in our power to ensure their happiness and health. In addition to that, Brennan promises to keep them on a healthy schedule and to get them to all their places on time, and Travis promises to make sure they have fun and laugh every day. We are excited to become parents, and we hope you are a part of that dream. We would love to make an open adoption plan with you if doing so aligns with your desires. We hope to get the chance to learn more about you soon, and we pray for your peace, health, and wellbeing in all things.



FATHER'S NAME Travis

OCCUPATION Library Consultant

EDUCATION MLIS

RELIGION Christian

DATE OF BIRTH January 1979

HAIR COLOR Brown

EYE COLOR Brown

> HEIGHT 5'10''



MOTHER'S NAME Brennan

OCCUPATION Professor of Education

> EDUCATION PhD

RELIGION Christian

DATE OF BIRTH September 1981

HAIR COLOR Blonde

EYE COLOR Blue

> HEIGHT 5'10''

### FAMILY INFORMATION

Date of Marriage: 07/06/2013

**Interests & Hobbies:** We enjoy playing with our beagle Pepper, watching cooking competitions, and traveling together. Travis also loves to play video games and go to live music shows. Brennan enjoys cooking and reading.

**Home:** We live in a 5-bedroom home about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from our zoned elementary school. Our neighborhood is located a couple of miles from several parks, shopping, restaurants, etc., and we have easy access to a major zoo, children's museum, and other attractions.

**Pets:** We have a beagle named Pepper who was born in January 2023. She is playful and silly, and we are having a lot of fun playing with her in the backyard and taking her on lots of walks.

Why are you interested in building your family through adoption? We both have a family history with adoption and have always expected to adopt. When we encountered infertility, we saw our hope to adopt a child grow to become our life's calling and heart's desire.

**Openness to birthparent(s)?** We believe every child should know everything they can about who they are and where they come from. We expect to build an open adoption plan with the birthparents.

**Childcare Plans:** When we become parents, Travis and I will both be home for a minimum of 6 weeks. Following that time, Brennan will likely care for the child while working from home until our child enters a learning center in Travis's school district.

