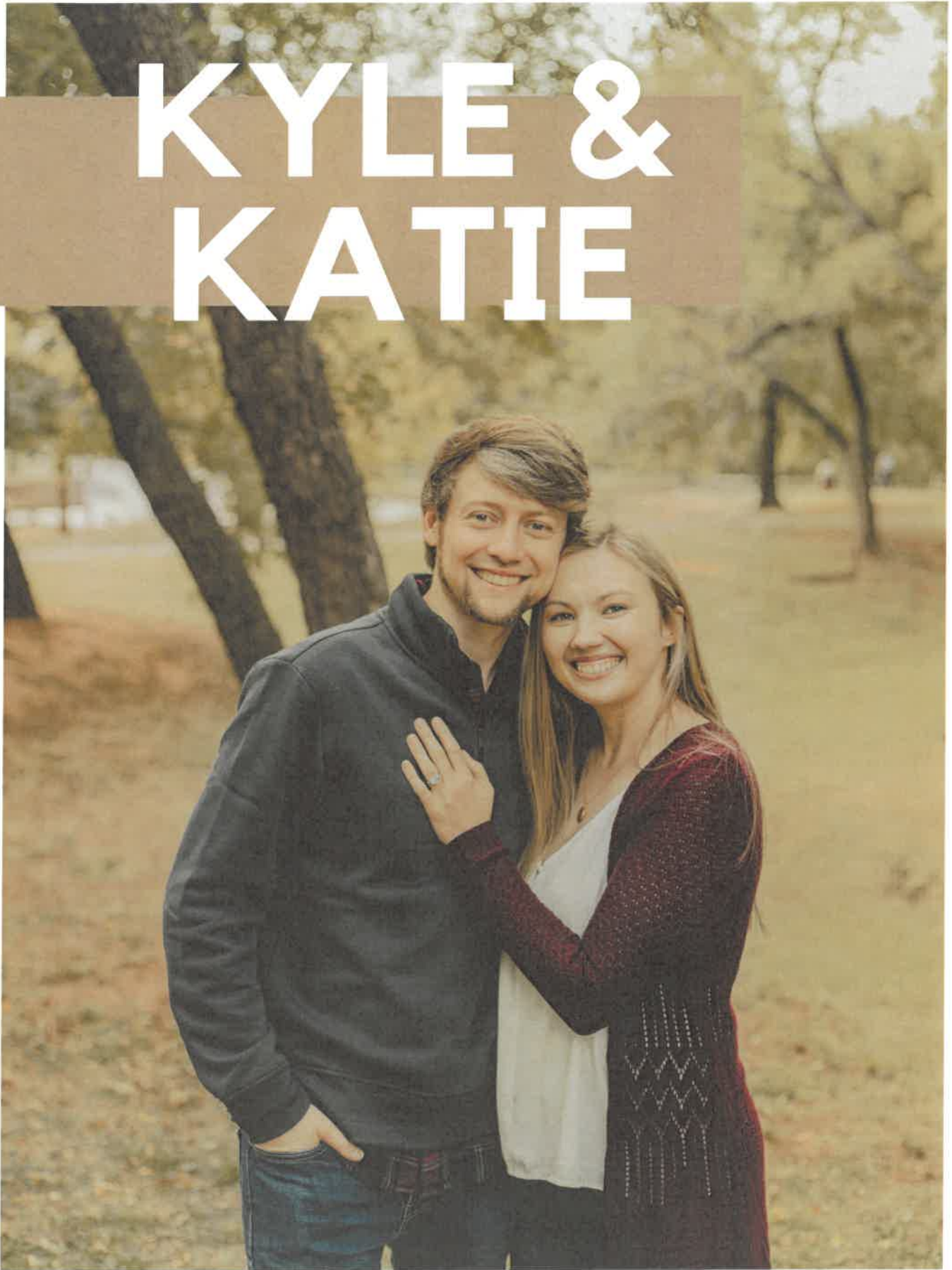


KYLE & KATIE



A PEEK INTO OUR STORY

HELLO!

WE'RE KYLE & KATIE

It feels like there are no 'right words' to begin this introduction. We can imagine this possible path forward for you and your child is life-altering in every way. So before jumping into our story, we want to take a moment to recognize its weight. Nothing about this choice is simple and to say this is a hard decision is an understatement.

Each mother has hopes and dreams for their child and we are in awe of the strength and love you have for your baby. As you learn more about us, we hope you will also feel the love that has grown in our hearts for you. We appreciate more than we can say that you would take the time to read a bit about our family.

With love,

Kyle and Katie





OUR HEARTS FOR ADOPTION

WHILE OUR FAMILY KNOWS IMMENSE LOSS, WE ALSO KNOW THAT THE HEART CAN EXPAND TO LOVE EACH NEW CHILD AS THEY COME INTO YOUR LIFE. EVERY SINGLE BABY HAS BEEN WORTH EVERY MOMENT. OUR LOVE FOR OUR CHILDREN EXPANDS INTO ETERNITY - FOR THOSE HERE ON EARTH, THOSE IN HEAVEN, AND THOSE YET IN OUR ARMS.



We began discussing growing our family through adoption before getting married as it was on both of our hearts. Katie would tell her family growing up that she felt like it would be a part of her journey. For Kyle, he grew up with adoption as his dad, two uncles, and his aunt are all adopted. So we knew right from the start this was the right path for us. It has been helpful to have that family perspective as adoptees and that has given us invaluable insight as we begin our journey toward adoption.

While we planned to adopt, we did not expect the loss to be there as well. We have had three beautiful children - Sol, Zeke, and Mira - unfortunately, both Sol and Mira passed away soon after birth from a very rare disorder and have gone ahead of us to Heaven. Our son, Zeke, came to us through IVF which allowed us to test for that disorder. We are grateful every day for our boy who brings sunshine and spunk wherever he goes!



OUR LOVE STORY

WE MET IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!

Something we treasure about our story is that we went to the same middle school! Then, in our sophomore year of high school, we both were on the crew for the High School theater production of Les Miserables. We ended up being next to each other doing lights and sound and began to get to know each other. Kyle ended up coming to Katie's seventeenth birthday party and the rest is history! We quickly realized our shared love of music, movies, and Marvel. We dated throughout the rest of high school and college.

KYLE ASKED ME TO BE
HIS GIRLFRIEND ON ST.
PATRICK'S DAY SO
EVERY YEAR WE SAY
WE FEEL LUCKIER.

-KATIE

WE'VE BEEN THROUGH A LOT TOGETHER...

Over our ten years of marriage, we have been tested by fire and yet we both agree that our love is stronger than ever. We have seen every aspect of our vows play out - for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness, and in health. Through it all, we are the best of friends and we would choose each other every time. It took years of learning, but our communication is open and honest with each other. We've built a trust that knows neither of us is leaving and that we want the best for each other and for our family which allows us to be respectful and open - and also forgiving or apologetic - when needed!

...AND WE STILL LOVE SPENDING TIME WITH EACH OTHER

Whether it's going to a movie, trying a new restaurant, traveling, or serving at church together - we like to connect through activities. We hope to travel with our kids and give them the same love we have for world travel!! Separately and together we've visited multiple countries and have many more on our list. We also love a good game night with friends and family. Together, we serve at church in our youth group and love getting to care for the next generation.





From Katie: How to fit in such a short space the kind of man Kyle is? When I pray over our son and any future children that may come into our family, I pray they have his integrity, that they would be generous and joyful like him, and I pray that they would learn to lead with humility and sacrifice just like him. He is always looking for ways to make sure everyone is included and the first to step up when a friend needs something. He hosts game nights for guys from church so they can get to know each other better and he loves to build his own computers and 3D printers, which still blows my mind! I always say he is my favorite gift from God.

It has been one of my greatest honors to watch him grow from a lanky, love-struck teenager with frosted tips into a man who is admired by everyone around him for the way he loves others.

He is the uncle all the nieces and nephews yell for because he plays like one of the kids. Every morning after Zeke has his breakfast and before Kyle goes to work, he sits in the playroom with Zeke to read him books and play. I sit back and watch in awe as I drink my coffee. It still feels like a dream and I know that love will only grow as our family does. I thank God for the father he is and the expansive love he has in his heart for more.

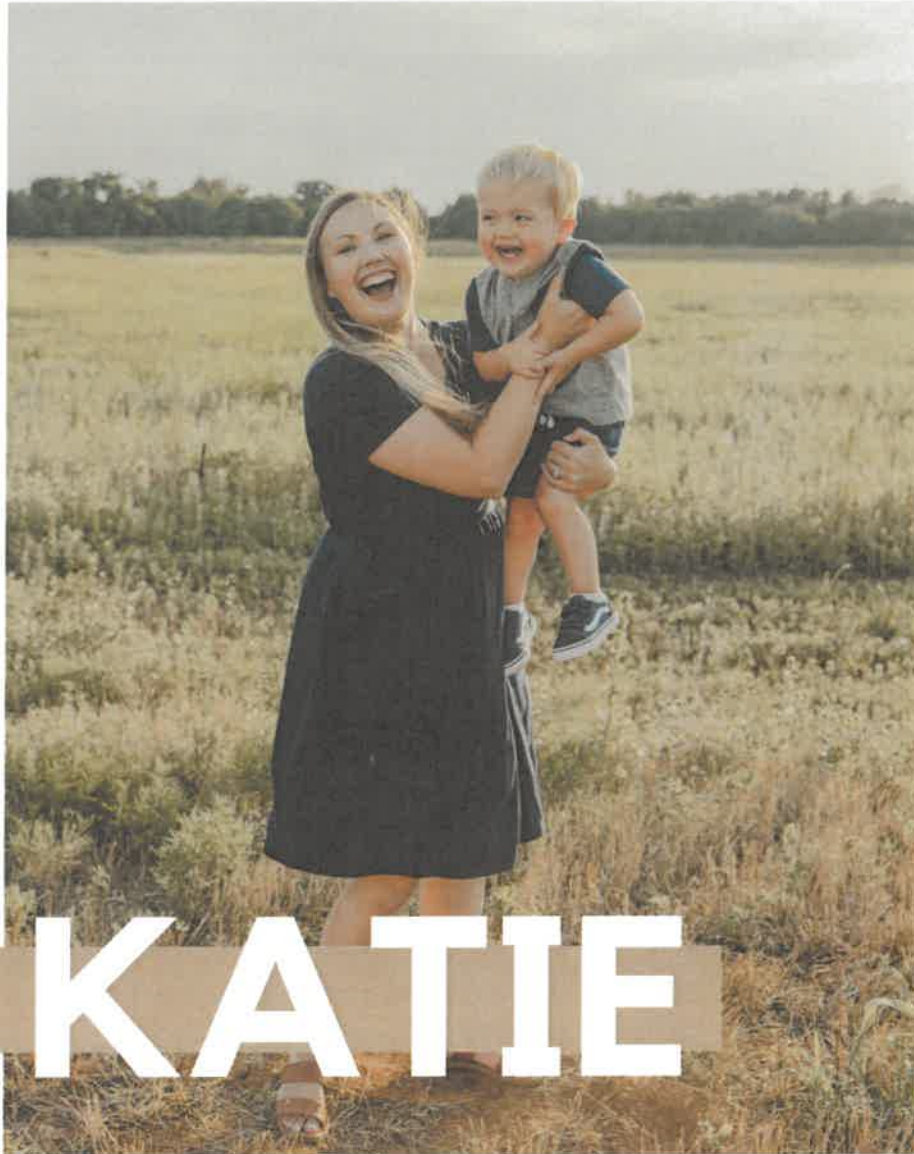
I'm a computer programmer and while I used to go into the office, for the last few years I've had a great remote job where I can work from home, only traveling a few times a year for work. I love that this allows me to see Katie and Zeke whenever I want! My work is super flexible and provides generous paid time off. When we had Zeke, I was able to stay home for six weeks and I hope to make similar arrangements when we welcome another baby.

I'm a super curious person and have more hobbies than I know what to do with! I enjoy board games, video games, 3D printing, pickleball, woodworking, and electronics. If I meet someone who does something new and interesting, I love to give it a try! During my free time, I love to teach Zeke new things and involve him in my hobbies; I also get interested in things that he loves as well (right now he's into basketball and baseball).

I'm a big kid at heart and love to watch Saturday morning cartoons with Zeke. I tend to stay up late to take time for myself so I can be present while Zeke and Katie are awake and still do my hobbies.

MY GREATEST WISH
FOR MY CHILDREN IS
THAT THEY ARE HAPPY
AND FIND A SENSE OF
PURPOSE IN THEIR
LIVES.





From Kyle: My wife is my best friend; I don't have anyone I trust more than her. I knew she was different from the others when we started dating in high school. **She's smart, caring, very self-aware and introspective.** We can both have plain conversations about what's bothering us and get through hard things together (even though we can both be stubborn at times!). While I'm from a family with accountants, Katie is the one who runs the budget in our household and stewards our family finances well. She demonstrates the servant's heart and she's always willing to listen to me talk about the "next big thing."

Katie is very comfortable and natural with kids. She has a way of talking with them that draws their attention; she gives children respect and treats them as individuals and they love her for it. She loves taking Zeke on walks through our neighborhood but also loves to take him to the local zoo and museums to let him explore. Since we've been married, she's always been involved with the youth at church; pouring love and knowledge into the next generation excites her. **While future kids in our house will come through adoption, I know she will love them with the same vigor as she loves Zeke.**



I feel really blessed that I get to stay at home with Zeke and any future kiddos. We spend our days going to parks, our neighborhood pool, the zoo, and the science museum! I love getting to see the world through his eyes. Before I stayed home with Zeke, I was a **Montessori Teacher** and my certification was for infant through toddler age! My research paper for my Montessori training was on the importance of kids being outside in nature so I love taking adventures outside and letting kids explore the world. When we aren't outside, we like to spend time in our reading nook or have a great time in our playroom!

I love to cook! We host friends over for dinner often and I enjoy making people smile and leaving their bellies full. I also learned to crochet NICU octopuses after our son had been given one while in the

AS I PRAY OVER MY CHILDREN, I PRAY THAT THEY WILL GROW IN WISDOM, FAVOR, AND STATURE WITH GOD.

NICU. After he passed away I started crocheting them and created Sol's Octopus Garden where I give them away for free to babies in the NICU or to bereaved parents who have lost a child. While **I love to read**, I wouldn't describe myself as the typical reader, because my favorite thing to read is theology books! You can find me curled up on the couch reading about the history of Christianity and doctrine. Reading theology books is one way I feel like I learn more about God and his love for us!



MEET OUR SON, ZEKE

Our son Zeke is almost two years old! His grandparents describe him as the happiest boy they know. He is an extrovert in a family of introverts and we embrace it fully. He loves to say "hi" to people, animals, and bugs. His current favorite thing is "Spidey" (Spider-Man) and he will stop anything he is doing if Spidey appears. If given the choice, he would spend all day outside at a park, pool, or in our backyard. He loves his family so much that he has a book of their pictures so when we aren't with them, he can talk about them. Most people think he is older than he is because of his strong fearlessness and curiosity. Based on his personality, we think he would be a protective older brother who would want to play all day long with a partner in crime!



In our family, we talk a lot about our two babies in heaven, Solomon (Sol) and Mira. They both passed away from an incredibly rare metabolic disorder shortly after birth. Sol was our firstborn son who lived 37 days and true to his name, meaning "peace"; he was such a calm, peaceful guy! He responded strongly to music, and had a squishy smile, and natural mohawk! Mira was our third baby and first daughter, she lived for 3 days. Mira means "female ruler" (among other beautiful meanings) and it felt so fitting for her because she was feisty and a fighter. Every time the doctors told us what the norm was she would do the opposite! We believe we'll see them again when we go to Heaven and openly speak of them in our homes.

WE BELIEVE IN POSITIVE
DISCIPLINE AND FOSTERING
INDEPENDENCE. SEEING
EACH CHILD GROW INTO
THEIR OWN, UNIQUE
PERSON IS ONE OF OUR
FAVORITE THINGS ABOUT
BEING PARENTS. EACH DAY
ZEKE REVEALS SOMETHING
NEW ABOUT HIMSELF AND
IT LEAVES US SO PROUD.



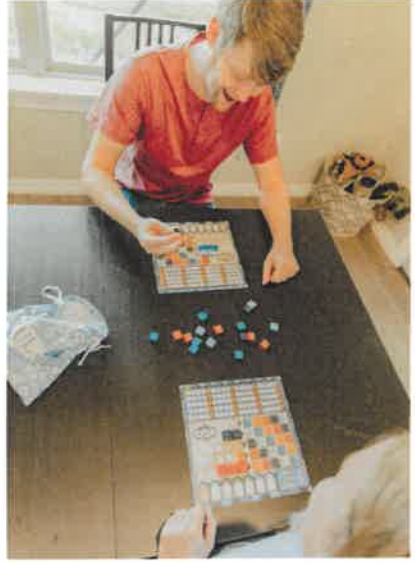
OUR LIFE TOGETHER

We have a lot of shared interests so we love that we get to do a lot of life together as a couple. **One of our favorite things to do is check out new shows or movies so you will find us at the theater or on our couch for many date nights!** We are also big Marvel fans and enjoy going to the opening day for the films. We've even been known to dress as some of the characters for fun when we go! our favorite yet was Katie dressing up as Thor from Avengers: Endgame when she was six months pregnant with Zeke. It was a hit with fellow fans! **We are also into a lot of the same music and love getting to see them live in concert when possible.** Our most recent was seeing Twenty-One Pilots. We both woke up hoarse the next day from all the singing!

BETTER TOGETHER

As a family, we are on the move frequently! **We love to spend time with friends and family** at our house or out and about throughout the week. Every few weeks, Katie hosts some of her mom friends and their kids over for a playdate. We also like to drive up to see some of our friends and family who live a couple of hours away. **During the summer we go to visit Kyle's parent's lake house where we float, go tubing, and Kyle even wakeboards!** A typical weekend generally includes Saturday morning cartoons, relaxing at home, attending church on Sunday morning, and meeting up with friends and family.

We have two doggos! They are Shiba Inus named Izzy and Finn. They are both so great with kids!



CELEBRATING ADVENTURE

01 NBA Playoffs
with our
parents

02 Disney

03 4th of July

04 Trunk-or-Treat as
UP characters

05 Toronto

06 Halloween
Jurassic Park
Style

07 Venice

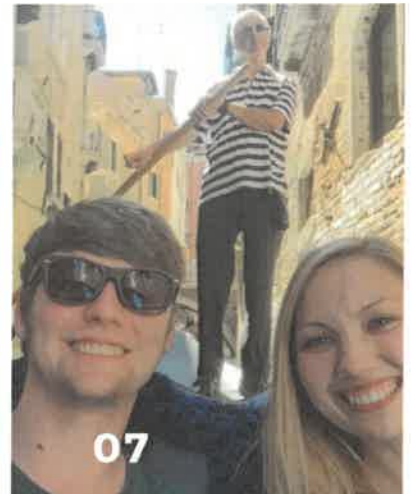
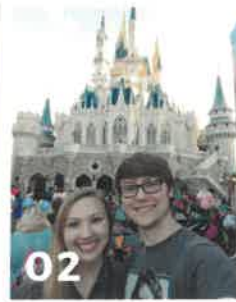
08 Mexico

09 Thanksgiving

10 NYE Basketball
Game

11 Zeke meets
Spiderman

12 Youth Group
Christmas
Party



...AND OTHER THINGS THAT

We love to celebrate holidays in our home!

As we were talking about special ways we celebrate we realized a lot of our traditions stem around food! For **Christmas Eve**, we always have loaded nachos after our church service and then we go to the gas station to get Slurpees or coffee and go look at local Christmas lights. Last year we had so many people we took multiple cars and left our phones on speaker so we could still all talk to each other. For Christmas morning we enjoy a Kringle pastry and sausage rolls while we open stockings and presents! The Christmas season is always fun because we get to see different parts of our family all throughout December and January so it feels like Christmas for a long time.

For **Thanksgiving**, we have a special dessert Kyle's family makes called "Dr. Pepper jello." Katie was hesitant when she first joined the family, but it quickly became a favorite! Kyle's family throws a big **Halloween** party every year and we love to have fun dressing up. Last year we decided to do a Jurassic Park theme where Zeke was a dinosaur, Kyle was Dr. Grant, and Katie was Ellie. Our usual **4th of July** plans involve going to a lake in our state where Kyle's parents have a small place! We go out boating and watch fireworks at night. **Easter** is also a big holiday in our family. It reminds us of what Jesus did for us and the world and how we can always have hope despite our circumstances. We believe **birthdays** should be celebrated just how the birthday boy/girl wants! Whether that's a cozy day in or a big birthday dinner, we want whoever's birthday it is to feel loved and celebrated how they see that in their mind!



ARE IMPORTANT TO US

FAMILY IS EVERYTHING



KYLE'S FAMILY



KATIE'S FAMILY

Katie's parents go by Mimi and Papa to their little ones! We love having them just ten minutes away from our house so we get to see each other often. Katie's sister Mandy, her husband Will, and their kids Ellie (7), Mila (4), and Judah (3) live about four hours away and we get to see them multiple times throughout the year! Her brother Bobby, his wife Annie, and their kids Lexi (10) and Landon (4) live five hours away and we get to see them for holidays and celebrations. Katie didn't grow up with many cousins so it is cool to see them all together and how much they love each other. Our niece Mila is especially in love with new baby cousins so we know she will be the first one to greet a new family member!

Kyle's parents go by Lolli and Pops and they are also about ten minutes away from us! They watch Zeke every Wednesday while we serve with the youth group at our church. We have been blessed to have the perspective of Kyle's dad who was adopted at birth as were his three siblings. They each knew of their adoption stories from the beginning and were always told of the love of both their birth mother and their adoptive parents. We see Kyle's Uncle Tom quite often and it is really special to see the bond those brothers share. Kyle's brother, Carson is married to his wife Anna and they live about fifteen minutes from us.

BOTH OF OUR FAMILIES
COULD NOT BE ANY
MORE EXCITED TO
WELCOME OUR ADOPTED
CHILD. WE HAVE NO
DOUBT A NEW BABY WILL
BE WELCOMED WITH
OPEN ARMS!

We truly are lucky all of our immediate and extended families get along. Before we moved back to be closer to family, our parents would get together for dinner or a basketball game and take a picture to send us! Katie's grandparents actually had the same type of relationship and it had an impact on her growing up to see both sets of grandparents love and cheer her on together. We're grateful beyond words that our kids will get to have that as well. **Our extended families even celebrate holidays together!** While it can be mass chaos, we love getting all the cousins together to grow their relationships and play.



HOME SWEET HOME



We moved into the house that we built about a year ago and our hope is this will be the house we are in for a very long time. We have five bedrooms, three bathrooms, a music/craft room, a playroom, and a large backyard. We have a sign in our home from the Book of Acts in the Bible that says 'They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts'. We got that sign pretty early in our marriage because we have a shared desire to love our family and friends around the dinner table. We like to sit together at the end of our day to eat good food and enjoy even better company.





Even though our neighborhood is fairly new, we've loved getting to know our neighbors and how much they do together. We threw our neighborhood's Christmas party and other families have hosted a Halloween party, a St. Patrick's Day party, and a neighborhood Pub Crawl! We have a pool, basketball court, and playground within our neighborhood that we like to take advantage of.

We live in the Southwest and within our city, there is a lot for families to do! Our downtown hosts family-friendly events quite frequently. There are also farmer's markets, splash pads, local and state parks, a zoo, a science museum, and an NBA team that we love to attend games for! We have memberships to both the zoo and science museum and take advantage of going as much as possible with both our friends and family!



OUR FAITH

Our Christian faith is a central part of our home and it is important to us that our children see how we live our faith out. We don't want them to just see us attend church on Sunday, although that is important to us as well. We want them to see the blessings of getting to serve others in the church and the gift that church community brings to your life! One of the couples in our church group is also in the process of adoption and we hope to raise our kiddos together so they will have family and close friends they can talk with and know closely who have also been adopted. We pray that if someone were to come into our home, they would see us giving and showing the fruits of the Spirit which are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Along with that though, our children need to know that everyone makes mistakes, including us, and that they can come to us with anything and everything.

"WE LOVE BECAUSE HE
FIRST LOVED US"

-1 JOHN 4:19



OUR FUTURE

Our hope is that we will grow deep roots in our home, city, and community! While we pray for that to be the case, we also hope to show our little ones the world through **travel**. Some places we'd love to take the family one day are the Bahamas, the "Christmas villages" in Germany, Hawaii, and Iceland. We both have a travel bug and a love of history that we want to share. We also purposefully bought a house with more bedrooms in hopes that our family would continue to grow! **We long to fill our home with whatever children God has for us to love.**

We both attended public school and have really good memories there so **our hope is for our children to attend public school** as well. One of the reasons we chose to move to our current neighborhood is the excellent school district. However, if there was any concern depending on our child's well-being or personality, we would have no issue considering somewhere or something better suited for them. **We have started a college savings fund for our children, but ultimately want them to choose something to do in their life that feels fulfilling to them whether that be college, a trade school, or a creative passion.** Both sets of our parents fully supported our decisions to pursue what we loved and that is what we want for our children as well.



EDUCATION

OUR FAMILY



01 INTEGRITY

We want to be known as people who act the same in public as we do in private. We work to be people who are honest, reliable, and fair.

02 WORK HARD REST HARD

We want to be people who contribute to society in whatever way God has called us to in our jobs, homes, and communities! We also want to recognize that you can't help others if you are depleted so we rest in ways that bring us joy and refuel us.





03 LOVE & FORGIVENESS

We strive to forgive and love to the best of our ability because God did those things for us first! We all fall short so we receive the grace that God gives and do our best to extend it back to others.

04 EVERYTHING IS A SONG

We met working on a musical so we love music in our home as a soundtrack to life. It can bring joy (or laughter) in any circumstance. Note: you don't have to sing well to sing passionately!



VALUES

THANK YOU

FROM THE BOTTOM OF OUR HEARTS

We know this was a lot of information and yet probably still not enough for such a large decision. As we said in the beginning, **we hope this gives you insight into our love for our family, for you, and also for any future children that come into our lives.**

While under different circumstances, our family knows what it is like to leave the hospital without a baby, and with that comes a high respect for the choices you are considering. **Know if you choose us, we will always speak of you with honor and love in our home.** We know it takes a strength that surpasses understanding to make choices for your child and in doing so sacrificing a big part of yourself. **To us, you will always be your child's first mother and nothing will change that.** Your deep love will always be spoken of. For us, we hope this relationship will mean our family grows beyond just bringing a baby home. We also want to respect your wishes and feelings in this area and would love to grow a relationship with you as well!

Thank you for taking the time to take a peek into our family during this season of life!

Kyle & Katie



