



margaret & zack



hello

SO NICE TO “MEET” YOU

We are so grateful that you have opened our book. We can't even begin to imagine the magnitude of what you're going through. We know the decisions on your heart are heavy and hope you know you are not alone. You have our love, prayers and support, as you weigh every option for yourself and your child. You love your child immensely and want what's best for your child. We're honored that you're taking the time to get to know us.

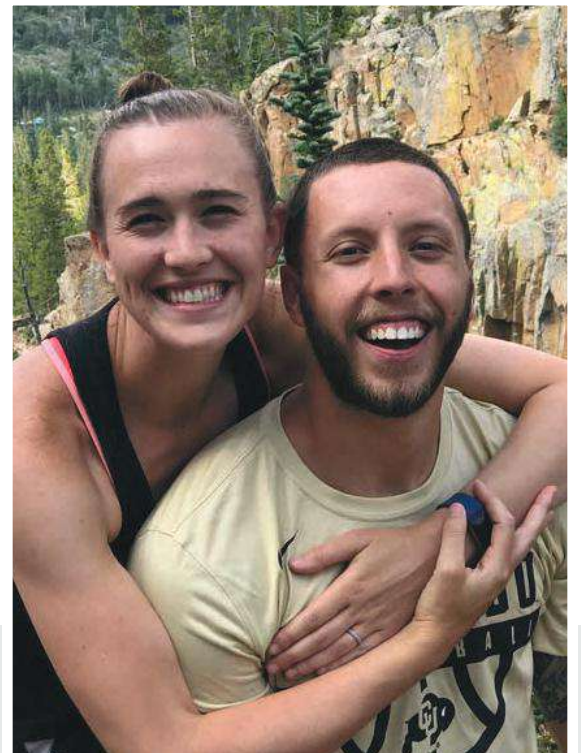
We are college sweethearts and have always looked forward to becoming parents raising a family together. **Our journey to grow our family has brought us little answers and we feel we are meant to grow our family through adoption.** We are so excited to welcome a child into our family! We greatly value spending quality time with our family and friends, and look forward to bringing a child into our family who will be loved and treasured by many.

We don't know what led you to our book, but we do believe God has His hand in everything. You considering adoption as a possibility for your child is not something we take lightly. **The love you have for your child is immeasurable and inspiring.** We want you to know how much respect we have for you. Our hope for you is that you can feel at peace. We hope you can find support on this journey and see light for the future for yourself and your child.

YOU ARE SO LOVED,

Margaret + Zack







OUR **story**

Our journey began with friendship and steadfast patience that grew to complete love and devotion for each other. In 2012 we were both students and resident advisors in the same building, on the exact same floor at our University. Preparing for the upcoming semester, we were paired up to do some icebreakers and team bonding, but our conversation flowed easily to the things we love: for Margaret, that was the beach, and for Zack, the mountains and basketball. We exchanged numbers and kept in touch, but Zack knew that he had just met his future wife. Before Zack started working at a camp for the summer, we went to a baseball game together and it's still up for debate whether or not that was our official first date. Regardless, what unfolded was that Margaret started to fall for Zack's contagious energy and kindness while he patiently pursued her, and we became best friends. By the time we started dating in the fall, we were all-in. After two years of dating, we went up to the Shenandoah Mountains to our favorite apple-orchard, where Zack had arranged a surprise picnic for us. He asked if we could spend our lives together, and of course, Margaret said yes! We celebrated with family and friends afterwards, and were married a year later in August 2015.

Through all the changes life has brought us, we have grown together. We have walked through valleys of heartbreak and peaks of joy, always remaining by each other's side. We love ordinary days, just us and our dogs, value uninterrupted time together with an annual vacation, a good workout in our home gym, and cheering on our favorite sports teams. **We are so excited to become parents and grow our family through adoption!**

TIMELINE





OUR FAITH

Our relationship with Jesus drives everything that we do. We are passionate about growing in our faith and attend church regularly. Through the ordinary days and challenging moments, prayer and praise are always present. He has brought us through some of the most difficult times, and also given us our greatest blessings. Our hope is that our son or daughter will be grounded in the love of Christ.



WHY WE ARE ADOPTING

Becoming parents has been a desire of ours since we were married six years ago. We knew we wanted to start a family, but our journey hasn't been an easy one. For the past three years, we unexpectedly walked through infertility, where so many questions have gone unexplained. As we grieved through that season, it brought us to a place of peace that we were meant to grow our family another way. We came to the decision of adoption with joy, ready and excited to love our child fiercely and honor their unique story in our family. We want them to be proud of who they are, their birth family, and to be anchored in the love that surrounds them.

OUR LIFE **together**

One of the best pieces of marriage advice we received was from Zack's dad, who told us one of the best things you can do for your children is to love your spouse. **We have taken that seriously, and committed to never stop dating each other.** We were best friends first, and we remember that by investing in and supporting each other. We are intentional with our time together, even down to the coffee we drink! Each year, we set aside time to take a trip so we can explore and have uninterrupted time together. When planning, we like to combine our love for sports and the outdoors! When we went to Colorado, we hiked and made sure we caught a Rockies game. **We hope to explore many national parks, and visit as many baseball stadiums around the country as we can!**

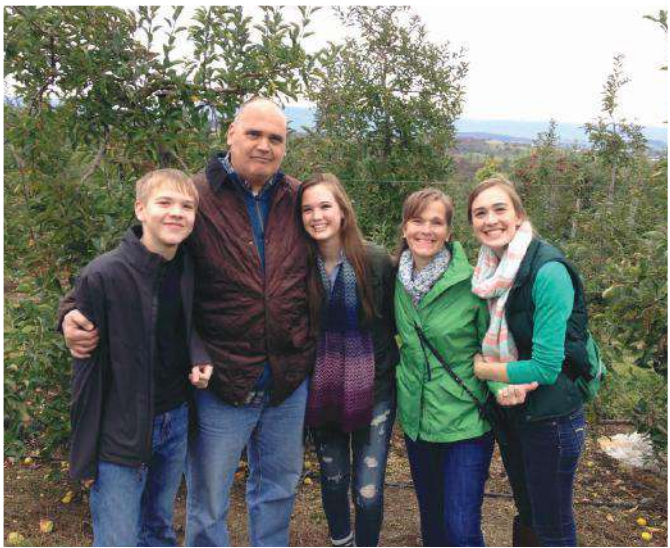




meet our pets

MEET ARROW: Our 4 year old Golden Retriever! He is like a big teddy bear, and the neighborhood kids have nicknamed him "G.G" (Gentle Giant). If there is a ball or toy, he is always ready to play. Loyal and loving, he always has a smile on his face and makes a friend wherever he goes.

MEET EMBER: Our sassy lady! She is also a Golden Retriever and a year old. She loves to play fetch, chase birds, and smell new things on walks. Ember makes the funniest noises, loves to cuddle, and can often be found laying on her back, paws in the air and dreaming away.






before YOU GO...

Thank you for taking time to read through our book, meeting our family, and considering us as potential parents for your child.

If you should choose us, this is what we commit to you and your child:

- Your child will grow up knowing how much God loves and treasures them. **Your child will be so cherished by us, our family and friends.**
- We'll begin sharing your child's adoption story with them from the moment we enter their life. No matter how involved you are, **you will always be spoken of with love and respect.**
- We will encourage your child to pursue and **experience things that bring them joy** and foster an environment that let's their personal talents shine.
- Your child will have a **strong education** - with Margaret being a teacher and Zack's mom being a teacher, we believe in the benefits of a great education.
- **Experiences as a family** - we believe that memories and experiences are special. We love our annual beach trips with family to the Outer Banks, visits to see friends and family near and far, as well as spontaneous family campouts, vacations, or even a backyard movie night. These experiences last a lifetime.
- **Honesty is core to who we are as a family.** We will nurture an environment for your child where they are safe and encouraged to always speak their mind and share their heart.
- Our promise to you is to be **open and honest in conversations and communication.** If we become parents of your child, we are committing to a lifelong relationship with you as well, however that may look.

"Courage, dear heart." -C.S. Lewis, The Voyage of the Dawn Treader



Courage is defined as "the ability to do something that frightens one" or "strength in the face of pain or grief". We'll never fully understand the courage required of you during this process. But should you choose us, we promise to always remind your child of their mother's courage. Because you have courage, your child will have it - it's in their DNA. And we will never let your child forget that. When life inevitably throws its curveballs and gets a little scary, we'll remind your child, "courage, dear heart."

WITH LOVE,

Margaret and Zack