Nancy & Kent

Hey there!

We admire your courage and strength to consider the difficult decision to choose adoption for your child, and we appreciate you considering us as potential family for the child you are carrying. Please know that you and your child are already loved and regarded as a true blessing.

We married nearly 6 years ago. We have always planned for a home that included the sound of children's voices and laughter. Conceiving naturally has not been a possibility for us. We felt a natural desire to grow our family through adoption. This will be our first child, and we couldn't be more excited! We have been fortunate to have bountiful experiences with children through interactions in our family, with friends, members of our church, and the school where I teach. However, we yearn for the opportunity to raise a child of our own. We look forward to celebrating milestones and watching a child grow. As you consider families to place your child with, we pray you feel drawn to our family and at peace with us.

This past November, we were walking through a store that was preparing for the Christmas holiday. We decided to peruse the ornaments on the many spectacular trees that were decorated. My gaze landed on one of the ornaments, and it immediately brought tears to my eyes. The ornament was of a manger, and above the manger read, "a thrill of hope." We brought home that ornament so that we could have it in our home as the reminder of our hope. YOU are our thrill of hope, the child you are carrying is our thrill of hope, and the life you are choosing for your baby is our thrill of hope. We are thankful for you.

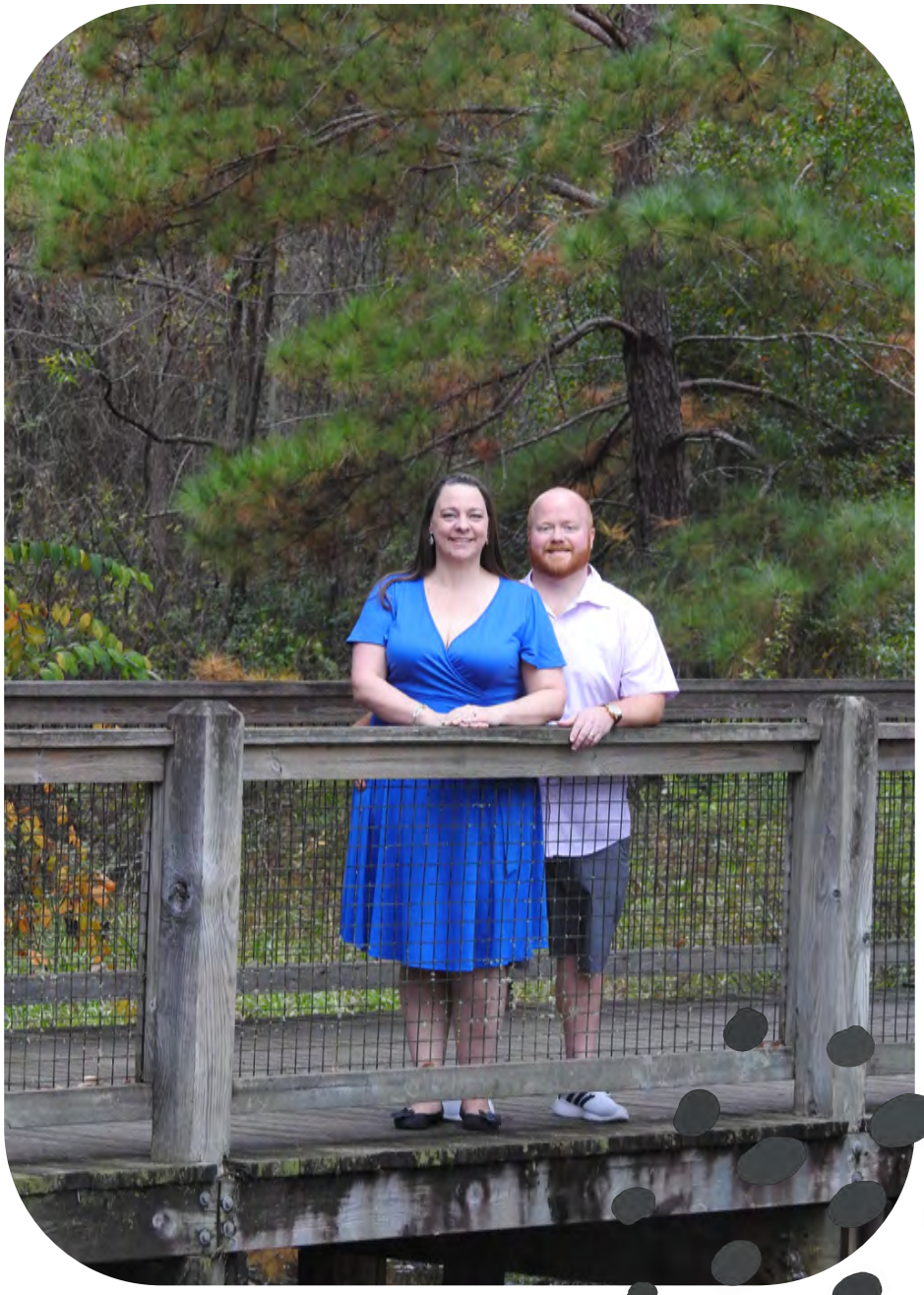
WITH LOVE,

Nancy & Kent

Our Hearts for Adoption

We met a little later in life and began trying for a baby when I was about forty years old. Unfortunately, with age comes a decline in fertility, even if you still feel like you're twenty-five! After trying for many months, we sought out the guidance of my doctor who began initial fertility testing. The doctor thought we'd have less than a 1% chance of conceiving, even with IVF. Heartbroken, we decided to meet with a second fertility specialist. They confirmed the initial diagnosis.

While going through fertility consultations, we learned about donor eggs and donor embryos. Conceiving a biological child was not very likely to occur, so these were the next options if we wanted to carry a child to term. However, as we discussed all the possibilities of bringing a child into our family, it was adoption that excited us the most. We've known since we first met that adoption was something we were both open to as we are both passionate about expanding our family. We are elated to start the journey of adoption!



the story of us

how it all began...

Kent and I met in 2015 through an online dating website. On our first date, Kent invited me to a unique restaurant. We quickly got lost in conversation. We forgot about everyone else around us, and suddenly we realized that they were cleaning the dining room because it was closing time, and all the other customers had left. Kent walked me out to my car where we stood for another two hours in conversation. We just instantly clicked. After that, we were inseparable. Over the next nine-months, Kent and I enjoyed attending activities and sporting events in our community and finding new places in our town that we had never experienced. We took our dog, Lucy, on hikes of interesting trails and we even joined a bowling league with friends in that first year!

We have been married for 6 wonderful years, and it just keeps getting sweeter!

the proposal...

One night, I told Nancy we were going out for a date night. While she got ready, I called her parents to ask for their blessing (fortunately, she likes to take looooooong showers!). They gave their blessing, and Nancy and I went on our date to a local BBQ place. After we ordered our dinners, Nancy excused herself to the ladies room. I texted my best friend, Colin, to let him know I was going to ask Nancy to marry me...well, I thought I texted him. After I clicked send I heard Nancy's phone get a text, and my stomach dropped to the floor! Did I just text Nancy, instead?! I did! Fortunately, because we have no secrets between us, I knew the password to her phone. Before she came back to the table, I logged into her phone and deleted my text. After dinner, I suggested that we take a stroll in a local park we frequented after date nights, and she agreed. I asked where she sees us in a year, and then she asked me the same question. I said "To be honest...we're married. I love you, and I called your parents today. I told them how I feel and asked them for their blessing. I want to spend my life with you..." ***drops to one knee*** "Will you marry me?" Bam! Engaged!

the wedding...

We got married in August 2016. The ceremony was held at the Episcopal Church where we were confirmed together. It was a beautiful, traditional service. My brother and Kent's mom did scripture readings during our ceremony, while we were surrounded by family and friends. I kept a jeweled ladybug on my bouquet that my grandmother had given me (something old), and I pinned my dad's Army 3rd infantry division patch under my dress (something borrowed and blue). Our reception was a night of dancing and fun. At the end of the evening, we left through a tunnel of bubbles to our decorated car.

MEET:

Nancy

OUTGOING

NURTURING

ENERGETIC

HARDWORKING

in her husband's words. . .

Nancy is compassionate, driven, and committed. Her smile is inviting and lights up the room. She is extraordinarily passionate about everything she loves, and she shares that enthusiasm with everyone she comes in contact with. She has a gifted mind in science, and she loves teaching her students that anything is achievable if you work hard at it. Children are drawn to her nurturing energy and kindness. She has a talent for molding young minds. She is sentimental about things dear to her heart. I know she is the one person in the universe that I was meant to be with, and I love her for finding me and making me whole. She is my best friend and my partner in life. I am so lucky to have her as my companion because she makes me a better man, a better human being.

As a teacher, Nancy's life revolves around interactions with children. Her students adore her, and the connection and relationship she makes with these children, many times, results in them coming back year after year to visit with her. She talks to children like they are equals. This helps the child feel they are important and their thoughts matter. She likes to find out a child's interests and will relate to those interests, which immediately creates a bond with even a child she just met for the first time. This is my wife's super power. She is looking forward to these wonderful moments with our own child one day, and I am excited to be by her side throughout this journey.

my work...

I have been an elementary school teacher for sixteen years. From the first time anyone asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, I knew I wanted to be a teacher. I love children, and it is my passion to see the lightbulb come on when they grasp a difficult concept. It is important to me that my students feel nurtured and loved. I enjoy being someone that others feel they can come to and trust. I have been very successful with students in my classroom and have become a well respected teacher on our campus amongst students, faculty, administration, and parents alike. I am blessed to work in a career field that is "family friendly." When a baby arrives, I will be able to take six months of leave to spend time with the baby so we can settle into our life together as a family. It is my hope that after those six months, I will be able to take a leave from work until the child is school aged.

"I pray that our child feels safe to express themselves, knowing that our love is unwavering and that they will be encouraged and supported in every moment of their life."

for fun...

I am a member of a professional organization of fellow teachers. Through this organization, I participate in community service to help support education within our region, state, and even internationally. Finding a good book is something else I enjoy. If the weather is nice, there is nothing better than laying in a lounge chair outside and getting consumed by a good book! I also love crafting when I am able to. I usually make a HUGE mess! In the past two years, I finally taught myself how to use a sewing machine, and while I am no pro, it's been fun making little things here and there. I have a yearly tradition of making Christmas ornaments for family and friends. Cooking is something else I really enjoy when I have the ability to really take my time. In the fall, I look forward to whipping up homemade soups. I am always looking for a fun new recipe to try.

MEET:

Kent

DEVOTED

GOAL-ORIENTED

PASSIONATE

FUN-LOVING

in his wife's words...

My husband is a patient, kind, and loving man. He is dedicated, loyal, and the most trustworthy person I know. He makes me smile and laugh, even at little silly things. We think similarly most of the time, but when we don't, we always hear each other's perspectives in an effort to truly understand one another. Kent is a list maker; he is organized and always has his mind set on a goal. If he says he is going to do something, he follows through. He has an excellent work ethic. I was blessed to meet a man who can communicate and connect with me on such a deep level. Sometimes we only need to glance at each other to know what the other one is thinking. We rarely argue, but if we do, we never go to bed angry. We have fun together, no matter what we are doing!

Kent grew up with a lot of children in his family, so being around kids is something that comes naturally to him. We have several friends who have children that we spend time with. Kent always loves to do whatever he can to make the kids happy! He will set up a sprinkler in the yard for them to run in, get out yard games for them to play with, chase them around, and make sure that there are yummy things for them to eat! Kent looks forward to doing all these things with our own child someday. He treats the children of family and friends the way he would treat his own child. They are loved and doted on. These are the things that will make Kent an outstanding dad.

my work...

I am a Systems Administrator for the federal government. I work mostly in IT Security and am working towards a larger role within the organization. There is definitely flexibility within my job as it pertains to leave, and teleworking is always an option as I can do most of my job anywhere as long as I have a computer. Family is very important to my employer and colleagues, including social gatherings where spouses and children are welcome. I saved annual leave in preparation for when a child is born, and the federal government has a policy that allows for 12-weeks parental leave, once the baby arrives. I feel I am admired and loved by my co-workers for the work I do for them and our organization as a whole, and I know they appreciate me.

"The greatest wish I have for our child(ren) is for them to grow to be healthy, strong-minded, and most of all, happy individuals. I pray they will be respectful to everyone they meet and serve as great role models for their peers and future children."

for fun...

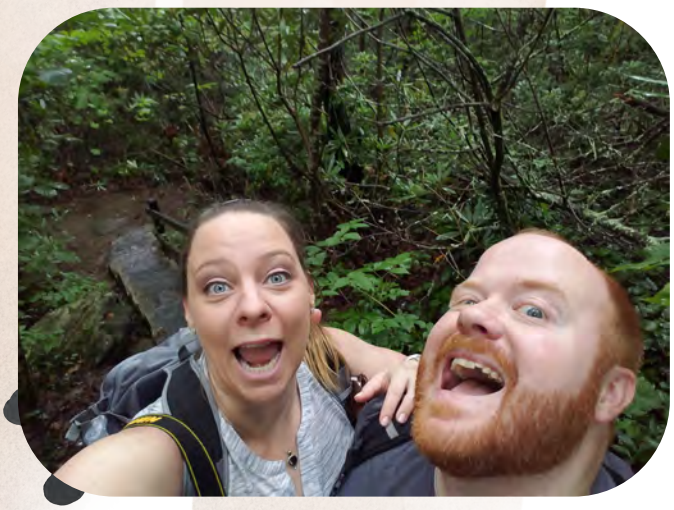
I enjoy sports, mostly football, but I like to watch any sport. Other interests include fishing (mostly saltwater from the surf or a nice pier), playing games (video and board games), hiking, going to local sporting events, binge-watching a new favorite show, doing yard work (and being able to admire my accomplishment afterwards), installing new technologies and improvements around our home, and coffee....lots of coffee. I do not like unloading the dishwasher, but I enjoy washing dishes. I like cutting vegetables when we cook together, but I don't like mincing them. I will do it anyway. My free time is spent mostly with Nancy, since we would rather do things together than apart.

Our Adventure Together

It doesn't really matter what we are doing, as long as we are doing it together. Throughout our relationship, we have always enjoyed spending time outdoors. We have spent many weekends down at the coast, fishing and just enjoying the beach. We are always excited to find a new trail to hike or a different park to take a picnic. Finding natural wonders is something we are both passionate about, and we are willing to hike to see something new and interesting! We love to travel and often plan our trips around what we can see in nature or how we can visit with family.

With friends, we have taken up game nights and have a nice collection of board games. When we are not able to get together with friends, we sit at the kitchen table, playing games together. We look forward to having a child to share game nights with as a family.

Since we bought our house, we have taken up bird watching and have several feeders set up on our property to attract an assortment of birds. We also enjoy gardening and have done a lot of work to set up pollinator gardens around our home.



Kent and I also enjoy having a cooking date night from time to time. We spend time in the kitchen together preparing a meal to enjoy.

"I look forward to capturing their first moments of everything - helping them learn motor skills, making their breakfast before work, watching a silly TV show with them, reading a book together, fixing their boo-boos, being silly with them, teaching them to kick a soccer ball or shoot a basketball, supporting them with their homework (but not doing it for them), answering questions when they are curious, attending dance recitals or sports practice, showing them how to read music or play an instrument, and even changing their diapers...even the really bad ones."

- KENT

"All my adult life, I have always felt that I was put on this planet to be a mom. It is my desire to spend quality time with our child, enriching their life with a variety of experiences. I look forward to taking care of them when they are sick, holding them when they feel sad, reading a book with them at bedtime, celebrating all their accomplishments, and watching them grow. I know that my passion for education will bleed into my parenting style, and I look forward to teaching our child about the world around them."

- NANCY

Our Home

We live in a one-story home. It has a beautiful stone fireplace in our family room which connects to an open kitchen. The kitchen leads to our dining room and living room. We spend most of our time in the family room, enjoying roaring fires in the fireplace when the weather is cool enough, and our dining room hosts game night with friends. Our home also has three bedrooms and two bathrooms. Our property is flat, which provides a spacious front and back yard for play. The concrete deck in our backyard is a place where we love to grill, sit around our firepit, watch the local wildlife (birds, squirrels, turtles, and rabbits!), plant new flowers in pots, and entertain family and friends. This past year we planted a hybrid citrus tree and it was so exciting when we had lemons, limes, and oranges to enjoy!

Our Community

When we bought our home, we looked long and hard to ensure that we were in a community that was most suitable for our family. First and foremost, we have wonderful neighbors surrounding us on each side of our property, and there are many children who live in our vicinity. We live close to several playgrounds and parks and even have a community pool right up the street! Our community offers a lot of diversity and celebrates similarities and differences through many cultural family-friendly events. Our town bursts at the seams with opportunities for children to become involved in a variety of activities so that they can pursue their passions.

"WE ARE SO READY TO WELCOME A PRECIOUS CHILD INTO OUR HOME! OUR HOUSE IS FILLED WITH LAUGHTER, LOVE, AND FUN. WE ARE SO EXCITED TO SHARE IT ALL."

EXTENDED

"OUR FAMILIES ARE READY TO WELCOME OUR CHILD WITH OPEN ARMS! STAYING CLOSE WITH FAMILY IS ESSENTIAL TO US, AND WE KNOW THAT OUR CHILD WILL BE LOVED ENDLESSLY."

Our extended family includes Nancy's parents, Bruce and Janis, and older brother, Tom. Tom is single.

Kent's family includes his dad, Brick, and mom, Jana, who have been divorced since Kent was a child. Kent's siblings include his twin sister, Aryn, his brother, Brenn, who is married to Sierra, and his sister, Kirsten.

Our child will be the first grandchild/niece/nephew for our family!

FAMILY

We have close knit relationships with all our extended family members. We believe that family is important and that family relationships should be cherished. We keep up through phone calls and text messages with those that we can't see regularly due to distance. Our local relatives, we see as often as we can, and we travel to see other family members as often as we are able to.

Our entire family is ecstatic about our adoption plans and eagerly await the arrival of a child to our family. We have already begun receiving gifts for our future child. Any child that enters our family will be loved beyond compare!

our future...

When we purchased our home, we did so with the mindset of growth. We imagined our family growing in this house and having enough space for that to happen. The area is in close proximity to activities we enjoy and provides many opportunities and experiences. We are located in an area where all our family is easily accessible to visit. We are both in established positions in our careers and enjoy what we do and where we work. Our current intentions are to remain in our home for many years. We can always travel to other places to experience new and exciting things! Over the coming years we are open to expanding our family further. We would love for our child to have a sibling and would consider a second adoption or fostering. The possibilities are endless as we are filled with love to give.

education...

We plan to send our child to a public school. In the event that I am working at the time our child is school-aged, it would be wonderful to have our child at the same school I teach at. However, when we purchased our home, we intentionally bought in an area with excellent schools. Our child will always have the opportunity for an excellent education.

We would certainly encourage our child to pursue as much education as possible. However, we know that not every life path requires or encourages a college degree. We will support our child on any path they select as long as they are working towards a goal for their future.

our faith...

When Kent and I met, we both came from different religious backgrounds. As a lifelong Episcopalian, I felt strongly that the Episcopal Church was where I belonged. However, Kent, who was raised in the Baptist Church, was open to exploring other denominations. Together, we attended church services at a variety of churches and in the end, the Episcopal Church was where we knew we belonged. In a commitment to the church, we were both confirmed together. We love our church community and look forward to raising a child within this loving and supportive family. Our church provides weekly Sunday School for children and also has a highly respected day-school for pre-school aged children. It is our hope that our child will grow up feeling a strong connection to God, and we feel that this begins at a young age.

May you always be aware of the incredible
joy you are bringing into the world.

Before you go...

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We pray that this book gives you peace, clarity, and direction. You are continuously in our prayers. Regardless of your decision, we know that you are motivated by selfless and unconditional love for your baby. We have nothing but pure admiration for you.

We promise that our home will be a place of love and laughter for your child. It will be a place where they will feel safe to express themselves and follow their dreams. In our home, your child will be loved unconditionally. We are grateful that you love your child so much to consider an adoption plan for them. You will always have a place in our hearts and in our family. You are valued, loved, and honored.

WITH LOVE,

Nancy & Kent