

ETHAN *and* EMILY







# OUR NOTE TO YOU,

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us! We are so excited to show you a snapshot of who we are, the love we have for each other, the people most important to us, and the kind of life we hope to share with our future child. We hope to one day have the opportunity to get to know more about you as well. It would truly be an honor to be a part of your story and to have you be a part of ours. We live in Northeast Wisconsin, in the same city we both grew up in and have spent most of our lives in. We are very family-oriented and feel so lucky to have most of our amazing, supportive family living nearby! We have been married for 3 years and have 3 fur babies that we adore. We have seen and done a lot of things in the last few years, but our favorite moments are often the simple times at home together with our pets, grilling out in the backyard or working on a puzzle with a baseball game on in the background.

Ethan & Emily



# OUR HEARTS



We love the life that we have built together and feel like the only missing puzzle piece is a little one to share it with! We look forward to becoming parents and spending our days playing at the park, playing catch in the backyard, baking cookies, and story time and snuggles before bedtime!

# OUR STORY



We met during the height of the Covid pandemic through match.com. On our first date we went mini-golfing and had ice cream on an unusually warm Saturday in November. We quickly bonded over shared interests and values. In July 2021, Ethan proposed, with a nod to our favorite show "The Office" (giving Emily a nearly identical teapot to the one Jim gives Pam in the show, filled with moments from past dates and memories), and we spent the next 4 months planning our wedding! We were married in November in Green Bay, a magical day we were luck enough to share with our closest friends and family. The last 3+ years have flown by! We have been able to travel to some incredible places, we adopted a puppy, and we bought a house together. It has been an amazing thing to experience the joys and challenges of life with each other. We are hopeful that the next step in our journey will be welcoming a son or daughter into our family and raising them with love.





## Why We Feel Called to Adoption

Very early on when we were dating, we talked about how we both really desired to be parents one day. After a couple of years of trying to have a child biologically without success, we realized that maybe this was not the path that we were meant to take to become parents. As we started to learn more about adoption, it soon became clear that this was the right choice for growing our family. We

know several people that have been adopted (including Emily's aunt) or have adopted a child themselves and have seen firsthand what a gift it is. Family is everything to us, and we look forward to providing a loving home and welcoming a child and their birth family into our lives. We feel in our hearts that we were meant to become parents, and that adoption is God's plan for growing our family.



# HEY THERE,



Emily with  
her nephew

*my heart can't wait to meet you.*

Two of my biggest passions in life are family and traveling. I am the oldest of 3 sisters (all with "E" names!) and have always been very close to my family. I always dreamed of becoming a mom and have felt that it was my true calling - when I was little, whenever someone asked what I wanted to be when I grow up, I'd always say "a mommy." I love to travel, and it's on my bucket list to see as much of the world as I can! I work remotely as an Office Manager and Legal Assistant for a small Real Estate Law Firm, and I enjoy working with clients towards successful real estate closings. I am a planner by nature and love to plan trips, make lists, and keep things organized. I value my faith in God and know I wouldn't be where I am today without Him!

I'm  
Emily



## FUN FACTS

#1 I have been to 13 countries & 31 states so far and can't wait to see more!

#2 I can't live without Dr. Pepper!

#3 My late grandmother would often say "there's always a little room for a cookie." I have followed in her footsteps and my home is rarely ever without cookies! Cherry Chip are my favorite!

#4 I am a big Swiftie! I've been a fan of Taylor Swift since high school and have been lucky enough to see her in concert twice so far!

*my favorites:*

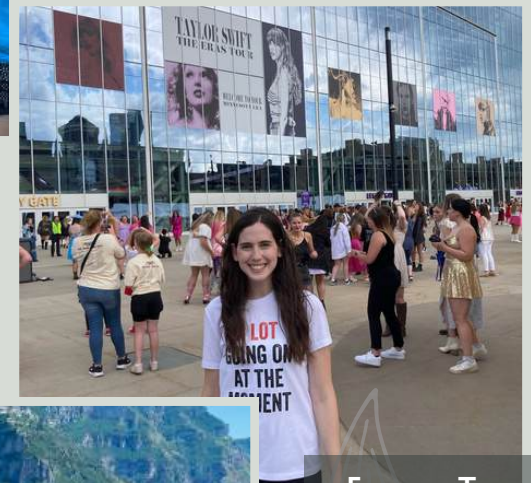
**Traveling**

**Cooking**

**Baking**

**True Crime Documentaries**

## Homegrown Veggies



## Eras Tour



## Emily in Italy



# HELLO,



I am grateful for the chance to share a little bit about myself with you. I've always been a big baseball fan - my idea of a perfect summer day is hanging out in the backyard with the grill going and the Brewers game on the radio. Baseball brought us together as a family when I was growing up - we would plan our vacations around seeing new stadiums, and we attended many games as a family. I love the idea of one day having a son or daughter to teach about baseball and play catch with in our backyard. Aside from baseball, I find pleasure in enjoying good coffee, reading, and taking care of our house and yard. During the work week, my days are spent doing computer programming in my role as a software engineer at a local insurance company, where I have worked for 9+ years.



## FUN FACTS

#1 I have been to 24 baseball stadiums - the most recent additions were the Astros & Rangers stadiums, which Emily & I visited in 2021

#2 I love going to the Wisconsin State Fair and trying the different foods - the deep-fried lemonade bites and pickle pizza were standouts last year!

#3 I have 10 aunts and uncles and too many cousins to count on my mom's side of the family. My mom grew up on a farm!

#4 When my grandma was still with us, we would celebrate "Thankmas," a holiday that occurred each year between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It was a chance for us to visit at my grandma's house and enjoy the good foods she would make.

*my favorites:*

**Collecting Sports Memorabilia**

**Woodworking**

**Working around the yard,**

**Grilling**

Exploring Greece



Cat Sanctuary in Hawaii



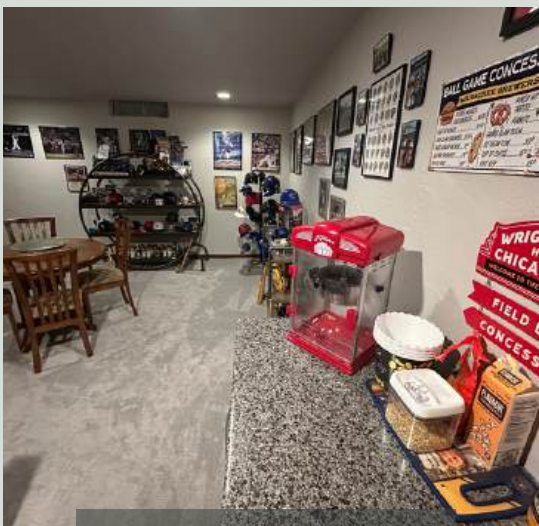
Ethan Woodworking





## IT'S SO GOOD TO BE HOME

We live in a 2-story, 3 bedroom Cape Cod style house with a beautiful sunroom and spacious, fenced in backyard - our two favorite places to hang out in the summer! Our finished basement is the perfect place to display all of Ethan's sports memorabilia. We love that our home has plenty of space yet still has a cozy feel to it. We consider ourselves to be homebodies in our day to day life and are quite content just putting together a puzzle while enjoying some homemade popcorn.



Our Basement





Our Garden and Back Yard

## Our Little Slice of Heaven

We live in a safe, family-friendly neighborhood and can't wait to take walks with our child to the nearby park and community pool. Most of our family is just a 10-15 minute drive away, so we get to see them often, which is something we truly cherish. We're also excited to bring our child to church with us and have them take part in the wonderful children's programs there.

Another tradition we look forward to sharing is our annual trip to a local plant nursery, where we pick out flowers, veggies, herbs, and other plants for our garden—always going a little overboard, but loving the beauty it brings to our little oasis.





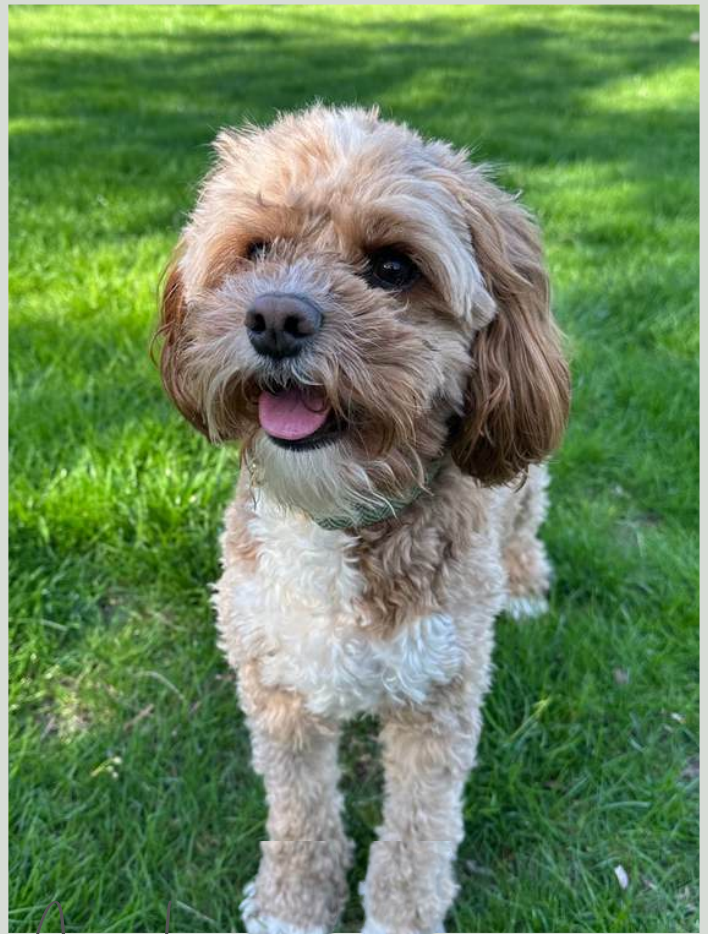


# MEET OUR PETS

We are cat and dog lovers, as evidenced by our lively household that includes 2 cats and 1 dog.

Our 3-year old Cavapoo, Archie, is a bundle of energy. We adopted him shortly after getting married, and he's grown into a loyal, snuggly pup.

We also have two 7-year old cats named Maz and Mozzie. Maz is very friendly and affectionate, while Mozzie is more reserved but nice to everyone she meets. Everyone gets along (usually)! It's a perfect mix; we love spending time with our cats and dogs, and it's such a nice feeling relaxing with them after a long day. We know they will all love having a human sibling to snuggle and play with!

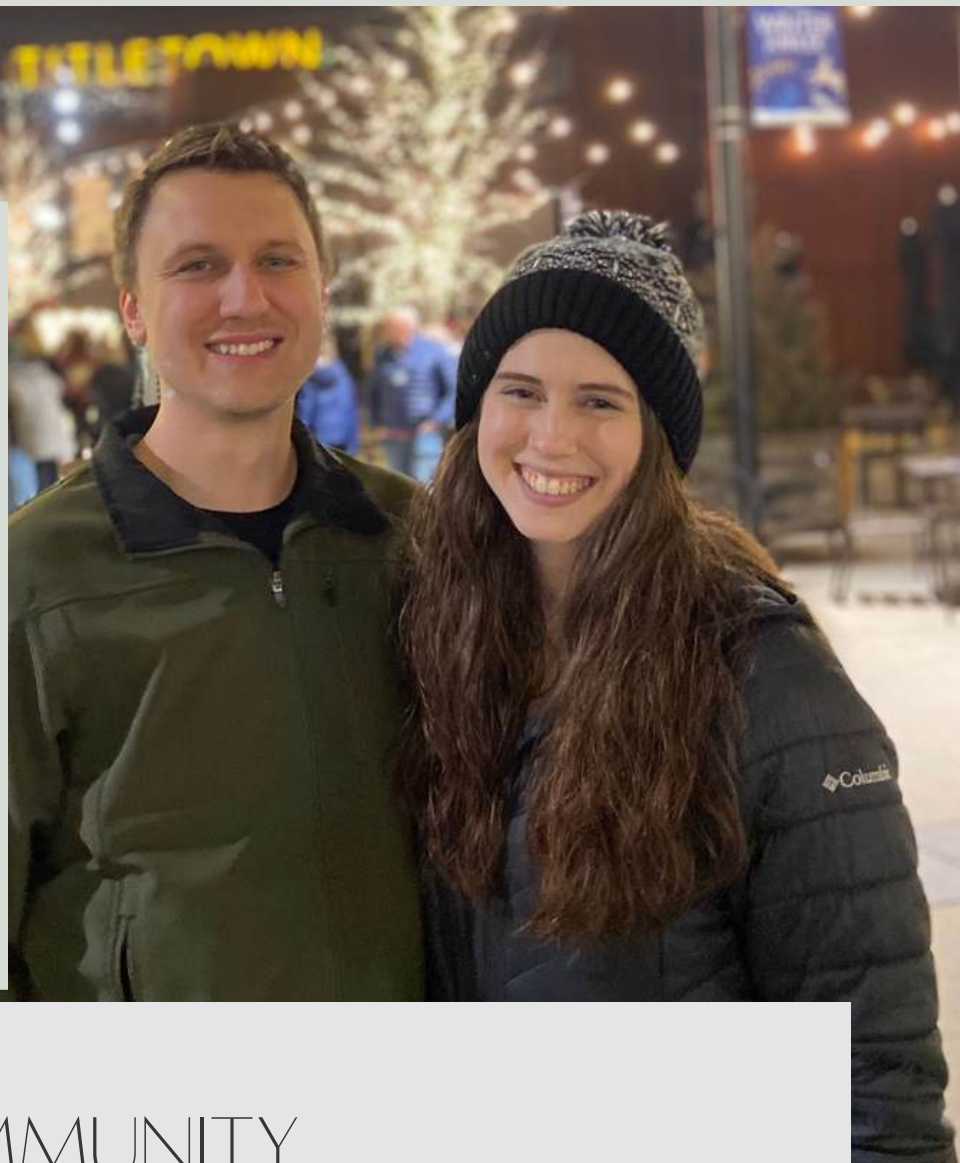


Archie



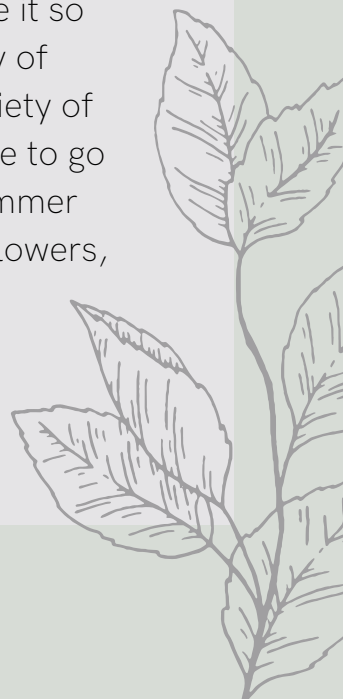
Mozzie & Maz





## OUR COMMUNITY

We live in a family-oriented city in Northeast Wisconsin that we both grew up in and can't see ourselves ever leaving because we love it so much! It's the perfect size - not too big, yet there are still plenty of things to do! It has a vibrant and walkable downtown with a variety of little shops, local eateries, and an emphasis on the arts. We love to go the farmer's market downtown on Saturday mornings in the summer and always make a point to pick up some fresh cheese curds, flowers, and cookies!





## Acadia National Park



## A Lighthouse in Maine



## TRAVEL

Our favorite place that we have been so far would have to be Hawaii. We love the kind, laid-back culture, the breathtaking landscapes and beaches, the beautiful weather, and the unique activities that we can do there!



## Exploring Hawaii



## Turkish Wedding

A memorable experience that sticks out is being a part of the Turkish wedding celebration and Henna night for Emily's sister and brother-in-law. It was so much more lively and fun than any wedding we had ever experienced in the U.S.! We ate so many delicious foods and learned Turkish dances!



# OUR EXTENDED FAMILY



Annual Christmas Party with both families!

## *the gift of family*

We're blessed with amazing family and friends. Both sets of parents have been married for decades and are great role models.

Ethan's parents and brother live in town and love baseball—his dad even makes bats! Emily's parents, grandparents, and one sister are nearby, while her youngest sister's family lives in Turkey; we video chat weekly. Our families are close and excited for our adoption journey, with our moms eager to help with childcare.

We also love spending time with friends—taking road trips, playing trivia, or catching a baseball game. Emily adores being an “auntie” to her best friends' two boys.







Ethan's Family



Emily's Family

## OUR FAVORITE FAMILY TRADITIONS

Emily's family has been going to the same Apple Orchard in Illinois since she was born. It is such a fun place, and they have the best cider donuts! We can't wait to take our child there and create memories! Emily, her mom, and sisters have a Christmas cookie baking day each year and always make at least a dozen different varieties of cookies! Ethan's family loves to try new foods and it's turned into a bit of a tradition. Every time a new Poptart or snack item comes out, someone from the family buys it and then we all get to taste test the next time we are together! One of Ethan's favorite family traditions growing up that he hopes to continue with our child is that each year they would go down to Chicago for sports memorabilia shows or the Cubs Convention to collect baseball autographs. A favorite tradition we have created since getting married is that we host a Christmas party each December for both of our families. We have a big spread of food, play games, and enjoy each other's company! We also make a point to share the holidays with both families, splitting the day in half so we can partake in both family's traditions - it makes for a busy day, but we love it!





# WHAT WE HOPE TO TEACH OUT CHILDREN

- #1: How much Jesus loves them and how to have a relationship with Him
- #2: To be kind, open-minded, and respectful of others
- #3. To never be afraid to be who they are and to dream BIG
- #4. The value of hard work and that it's okay to make mistakes
- #5. To always do the right thing, even when it's hard







# WE PROMISE

Our promise to you is that we will never let a day go by without your child knowing how incredibly loved and supported they are, through both our words and actions. He or she will be able to count on us no matter the circumstance. We promise that your child will be surrounded by so many warm and loving people that will always remind them how special they are. We promise to encourage your child to grow in their relationship with God and to be the unique individual that God made them to be. Your child will always be reminded of how much Jesus loves them and taught to show that same kind of love to others. We promise to raise your child to be a kind, empathetic, and compassionate person that embraces differences and stands up for what is right. We will help them achieve their dreams, celebrate their successes, and be there for them when life gets tough. We promise to fill your child's life with joy and laughter, and give them opportunities to grow, learn, and live life to the fullest. We fully embrace open adoption and promise to make it a priority to nurture the relationship that you have with your child, as well as our relationship with you, to the extent that you feel comfortable and is best for all. We promise that your child will always know their story, know their roots, and know that it was your love, strength, and courage that made us a family!





thank you