

BONNIE + MATTHEW



HELLO!

THANK YOU FOR
TAKING TIME TO GET
TO KNOW OUR FAMILY!

You are facing an incredible decision, and we cannot put ourselves in your shoes. We hope you feel connected to us through this profile and we'd feel honored to become part of your journey. We're so excited to bring a child into our family and share the world with them. We know that a loving family is made in many ways. We are both lucky to have grown up knowing many friends and family who were adopted. So, when we were unsuccessful to conceive on our own, it was an easy decision to pursue adoption. **Our first child, Henry, joined our family through adoption in 2023**, and he is one of the most joyful kids you'll ever meet.



As adoptive parents, we are entrusted to guide and support a child as they discover who they are. An important part of that is talking about and exploring their cultural and ethnic heritage, as well as our own. Our son Henry's is of Mexican descent and we are committed to making that heritage and community a part of his personal story. We promise to you to also have that same commitment to your child.

This is the first moment of many more that we might share for years to come. From phone calls, letters, and photo books to planning in-person visits, we are committed to sharing and building a support system that works for you, us, and the child that will connect us to each other.

We cannot wait to give a child the same support and unconditional love of our family. Thank you again for considering us in your decision.

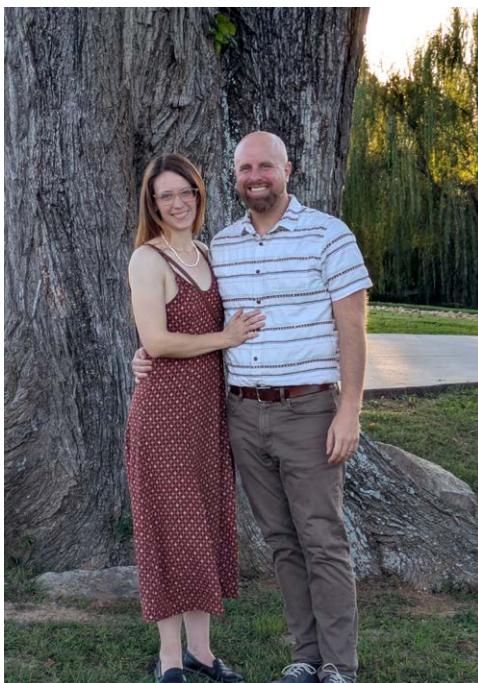


WE MET THROUGH FRIENDS

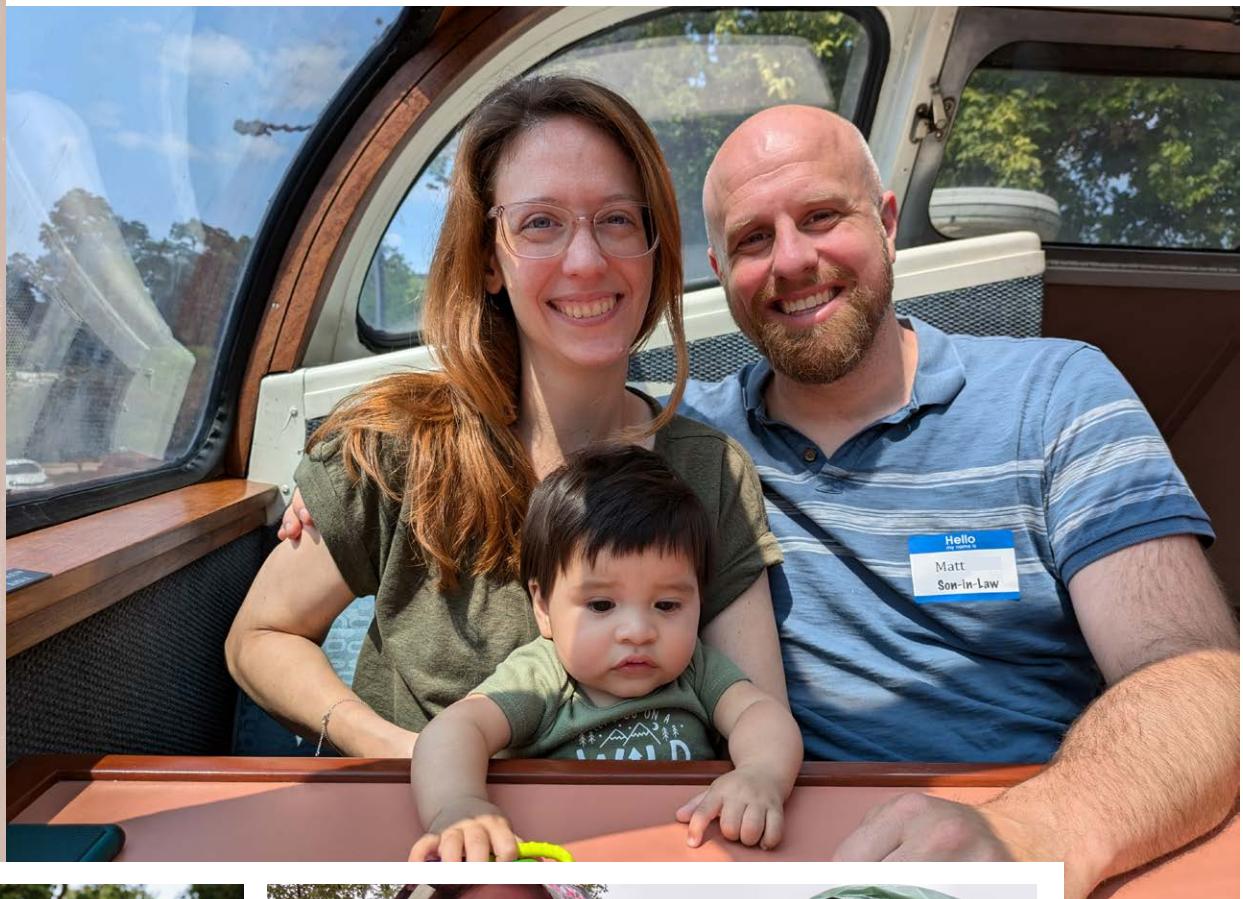
Bonnie's friend was hosting a small party and Matt was invited by someone else attending. We both left quite the impression on each other, and our friends noticed too. Our friends helped make sure we kept hanging out, and we were dating by the next summer. We quickly found many things that we enjoyed together: sci-fi and fantasy movies and tv shows, weekly trivia nights, trying new restaurants, backyard bonfires, and being outside. From kayaking on rivers to playing board games around the kitchen table, the longer we spent together the more obvious it became that we'd found our match in each other.

Our first big trip together was to Costa Rica in early 2011. Matt's aunt and uncle were living in San Jose, so we spent a week taking day trips to rain forests and beaches. A few years later, after Matt finished graduate school, we traveled to Germany, where we got engaged. During that trip we visited good friends, enjoyed lots of outdoor dining, and did a multi-day hiking trip in the Alps. We got married in 2015 in the church that Bonnie grew up in and had our reception at a local history museum.

In 2023, we welcomed Henry into our family. While Henry has changed the way we have fun together - he's become Matt's preferred hiking buddy - we wouldn't have it any other way. Our story has been a great journey so far, and we are looking forward to starting its next chapter as our family continues to grow.



HOW WE FILL OUR DAYS



Our lives are rooted in our home and connecting with friends and family. Henry is a morning person, like his dad, and he's usually the first one up every day. He starts the day with his leche (milk) while mama and dada enjoy their coffee. We'll usually listen to music and play a little before heading to work & escuelita (daycare). After work, we pick-up Henry and go to a playground or play in the backyard. In the evening, we sit down together for dinner, often FaceTiming with grandparents or tias (aunts) to say hello before we read books at

bedtime. After Henry's asleep, we usually take the time to unwind together by streaming an episode of our favorite television shows.

On the weekends, we make sure to have adventures - around Henry's nap of course. Henry joins Bonnie at farmer's markets and the grocery store, where he loves to munch on an apple while she shops. Matt and Henry go hiking and for bike rides together, with a stop at a playground before they come home.

Most weekends, there is at least one afternoon where we connect with our friends and have a play date with their kids. If the weather is warm enough, we love meeting up at a local park for a picnic or simply getting together in our backyards to kick balls around or play in a splash pad.

We can't help but smile when we start thinking about bringing another child into our daily activities. Henry already has a lot of fun with us, but he loves time with his friends and we know he'll love having a sibling to play with.



Hi! I'm
BONNIE



My friends tease me that, even though they never expect it, they know if they're at my house around dinner time they're getting fed, no matter how many extra people it might be. It makes my heart full when we can get together with friends and family, and enjoy food and laughter together. I also love a good story. It's why I love reading so much, and why I work in history museums where my work lets me preserve and share the stories of people in the past and how they helped shape our world today.



WHAT MATTHEW LOVES BEST ABOUT BONNIE

Bonnie is one of the strongest people I know. She knows herself well, and she does not shy away from displaying her personality. At one moment, she will be talking about the last scores from her favorite baseball team (Cleveland Guardians), and the next moment, we could be talking about the women's voting rights movement in the early twentieth century. She is fiercely loyal, not just to our immediate family, but also to our extended family and friends. She does all this while also being incredibly caring & patient. I love seeing how proud people are when they can call Bonnie their friend. She is truly a special person and a great mom.



FUN FACTS & FAVORITES

**MOST USED RECIPE:
MOLASSES CRINKLE
COOKIES**

**FAVORITE BOOK: ELLA
ENCHANTED**

**COLLECTS CHRISTMAS
ORNAMENTS**

**CAN RECITE THE POEM
JABBERWOCKY FROM
ALICE IN WONDERLAND**

**FAVORITE GARDEN
VEGETABLE: CARROTS**

**FAVORITE FLOWER:
HYDRANGEA**

HEY! I'M MATTHEW



I am a proud, outdoor-loving, geeky engineer, & caring dad. During the day, I work at a large medical device company. But after work, I am having fun with Henry, playing with him in our backyard or imposing on him one of my hobbies. My current hobbies include going on long hikes (training for my backpacking trips), riding my bike on the paved trails in our neighborhood, and going to the zoo (that's a more recent hobby thanks to Henry). And when I can't spend time outside, I will be binging the latest pop culture sci-fi/fantasy TV show or learning rules for my next weekly board game night. In the evenings, you'll find me doing the family bookkeeping and planning the details for our next family vacation.



WHAT BONNIE LOVES BEST ABOUT MATTHEW

Deciding to spend my life with Matt was the easiest decision I ever made. Watching him become the loving, patient, fun, and caring father to our son reminds me everyday why it was so easy. Between us Matt is the worrier, but I know it means he's thinking about how to make sure our family is happy and cared for.



SOME FAVORITES

HIKING: HUT-TO-HUT TREKKING IN THE ALPS

ZOO ANIMAL: HIPPOPOTAMUS

CARD GAME: SPADES

SCIFI/FANTASY: ORIGINAL STAR WARS

NATIONAL PARK: GLACIER

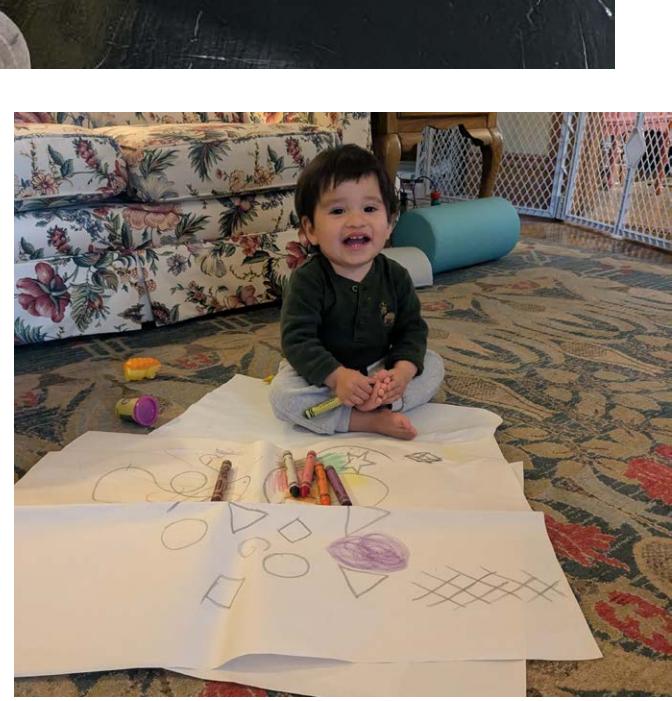
MUPPET: GONZO



meet HENRY

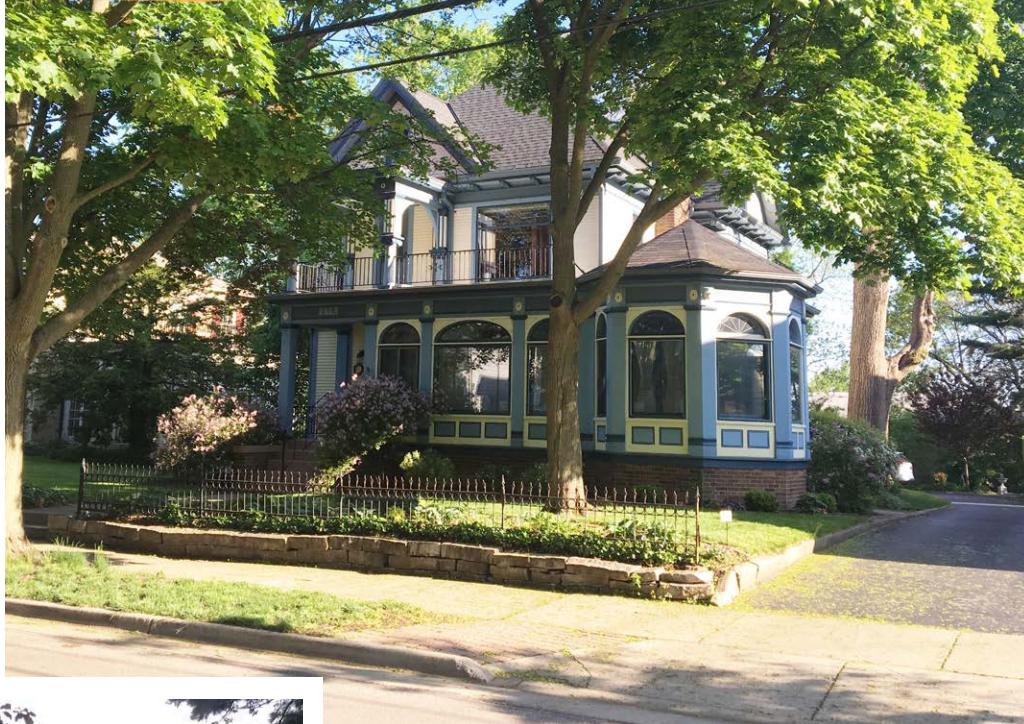
Henry is our rambunctious two year old. He has a contagious laugh, and is the silliest boy you'll ever meet. Henry's favorite things right now are choo-choos (trains), vacas (cows), and any type of ball. When we go to the playground, he gets completely distracted if there are older kids playing soccer or baseball. He loves spending time with mom & dad going on day-adventures. He's learning both Spanish and English, along with Mama and Dada, and our house is full of new words and phrases every day.

Henry loves seeing friends, giving hugs to say hello, and waving "bye-bye". He is also caring, gently walking up to his friends to console them when they are upset, and giving besos (kisses) on boo-boos. We know Henry will make a great big brother.



OUR HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD

We live in a great suburban town, about 25 minutes outside a major city. Our town has lots of local parks with playgrounds, a great library, public pools, and is very walking friendly. We are less than a mile from the downtown area, so we frequently walk to the farmer's market, seasonal festivals for live music, & the annual Fourth of July parade. There are zoos, museums, aquariums, state parks, and more, all within an easy drive from our home, for a day of exploring the bigger city.



Our house is a restored historic home built in the 1890's, with a fenced-in backyard. We've got a big family room downstairs full of toys, books, and activities. The living room connects to a closed porch that wraps around the front of our house. It's one of our favorite spots to sit down with a good book or take a nap in the summer. We have three bedrooms upstairs, so Henry & his future sibling can each have their own bedroom.



Our neighborhood is very friendly and walkable. The elementary school, local museum, and library are just a couple of blocks from our house. A couple blocks in the other direction is our favorite neighborhood park that has a big playground and a recently renovated community pool that has a great splash pad area for little ones. There is also a paved bike trail at the end of our street that links up with the trails that go all across our state.

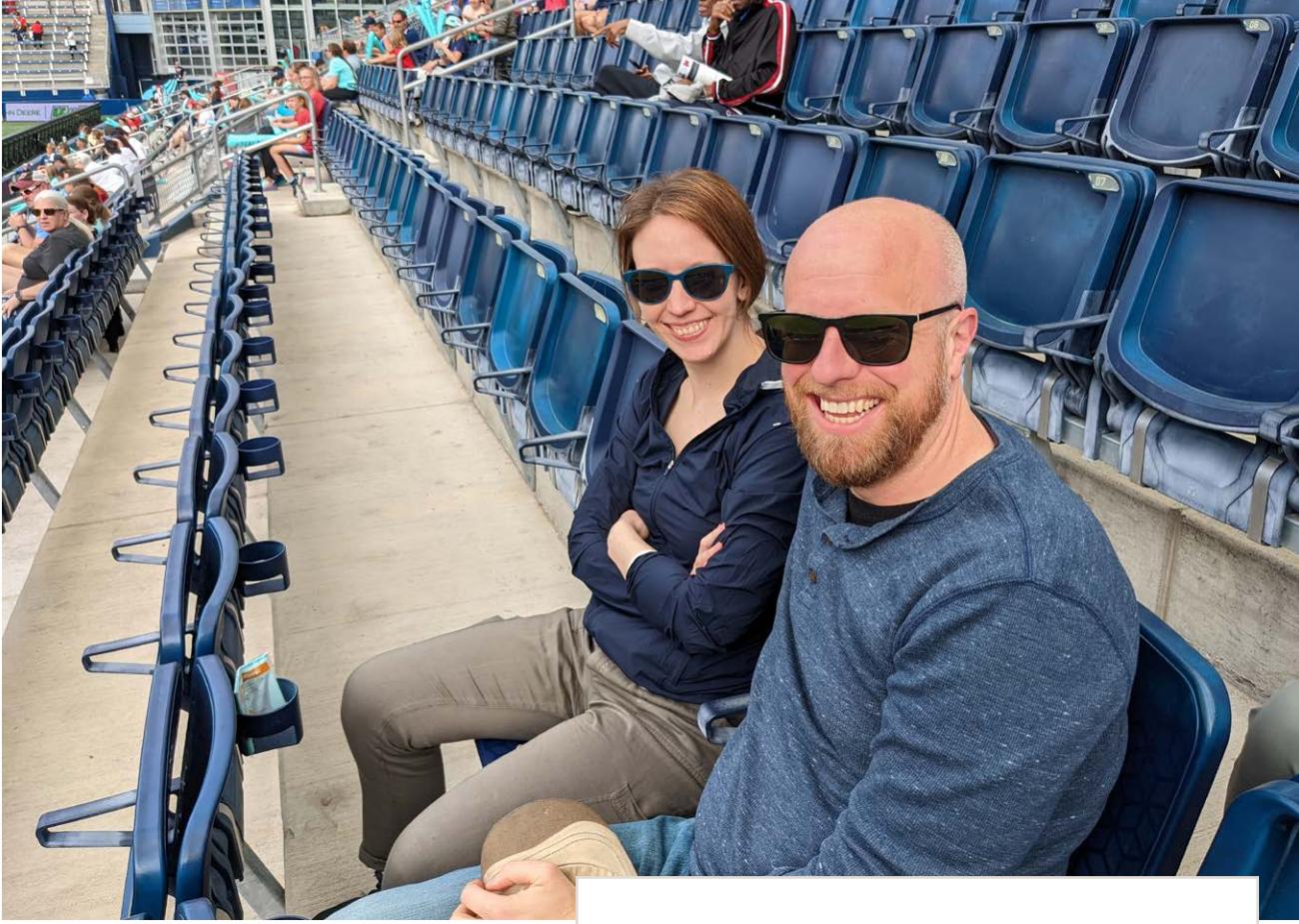
Our community is a great place to raise a family and we are excited to share it!

A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS



Both of us love to cook, but each of us does it in our own way. Matt is more adventurous, finding recipes online with a new spice or ingredient, which sometimes requires a trip to our local Mexican, Indian, or Chinese grocery. Bonnie likes pulling out family favorites from her recipe box or a well-worn cookbook. She's also a serious baker, and makes fresh bread or cookies most weekends.

When the weather is good, we both enjoy gardening. Bonnie plans and plants a vegetable garden each year, with some help from her dad who will share seeds and extra plants from his greenhouse. Matt is the maintenance guy, weeding and watering daily after work. Henry loves walking through the garden & pointing at the vegetables growing, and sometimes helps pull weeds and pick up sticks from the walkways.



Bonnie is an avid reader, very proud of our bookshelves. Her childhood bookshelf is in our nursery, already filled with a variety of children's books. She is also a life-long baseball fan. Her team is the Cleveland Guardians, and she squeezes in listening or watching games whenever she can. Henry has already been to four baseball games, and his first was in Cleveland.

Matt has fond memories of family card night growing up, and he has carried that tradition into adulthood by having a regular game night with close friends. Matt also enjoys an excuse to exercise outside, either with a long hike or bike ride, which he has been bringing Henry along as well. Henry, like many kids his age, loves animals. We will take trips to the zoo or local farms to get up close to the animals. On rainy or cold days, we'll cuddle on the couch together and watch a nature or animal show.

We are excited to see how our hobbies evolve as our family continues to grow.



I AM THE OLDEST OF FOUR GIRLS, WHO LIKE ME, MOVED AWAY FROM OUR HOMETOWN.

That means we find excuses each year to travel and spend time with everyone: birthdays, weddings, graduations, and or just a long sister weekend. When my family gets together there's always a big family dinner somewhere on the agenda. Everyone gathers around a table full of too much food, sharing, or re-sharing, favorite

family stories and telling new tales of our lives.

My parents are retired and love traveling the world. They always make time to visit with us, but mostly Henry. He's their first grandchild and they love seeing all the new things he's learning.



MY PARENTS STILL LIVE WHERE I GREW UP IN SOUTHWESTERN OHIO, BUT VISIT US OFTEN.

I have two younger brothers, Ben & Daniel. Since we all live in different parts of the country, we prioritize getting everyone together a few times each year. We typically stay-in and enjoy a laid-back family card night while catching up, just like we did all the time growing up. We at least

get back to southwestern Ohio each year for Thanksgiving, because my mom is still somehow cooking for the entire extended family (aunts, uncles, cousins, their kids, etc.) My whole family is very excited that we are welcoming another child into our family.

OUR TRADITIONS



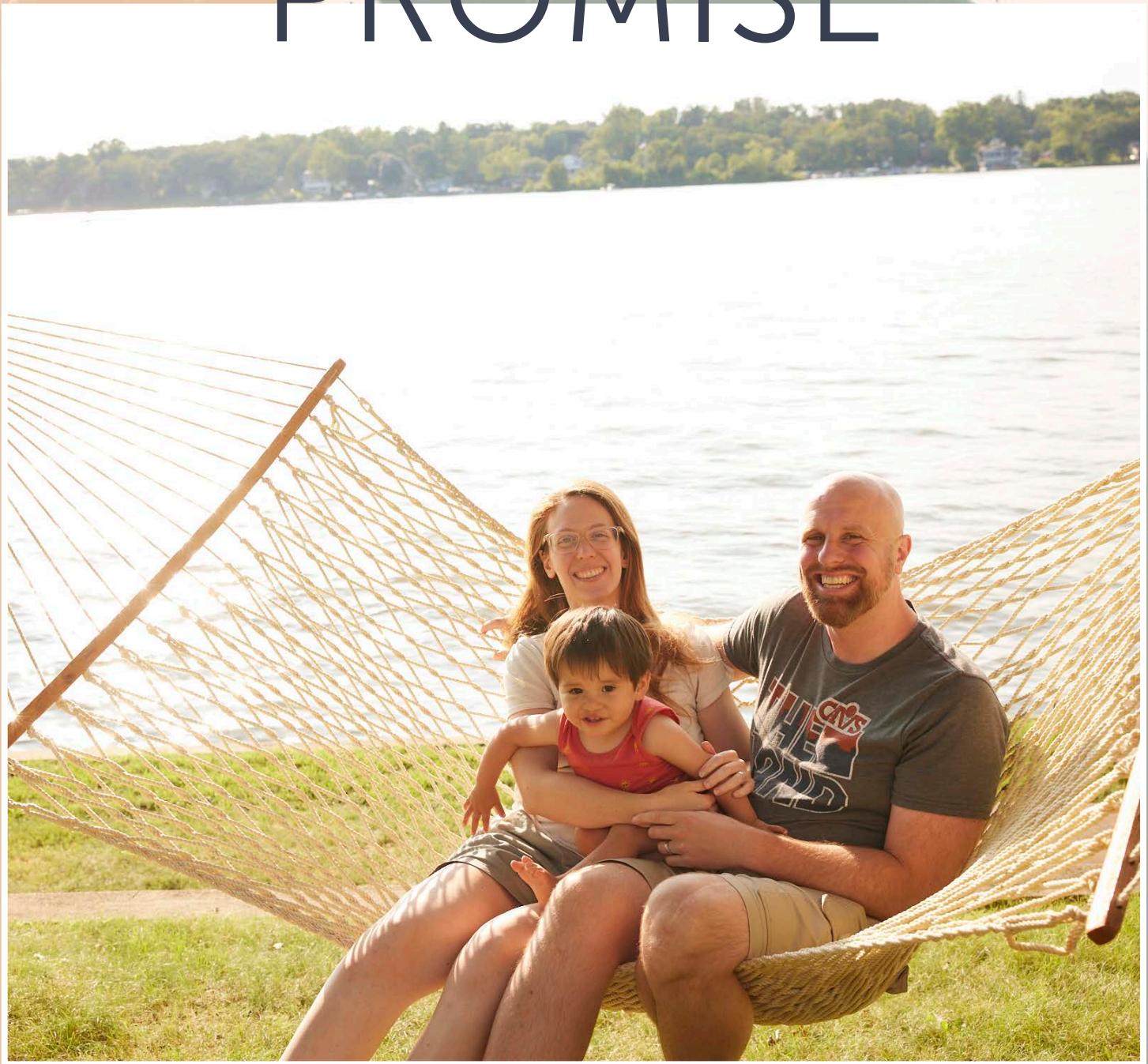
WE LOVE ANY REASON TO CELEBRATE!

Our annual traditions focus on traveling to visit our family and friends. We are both transplants to Wisconsin, but our immediate family and oldest friends are only a few hours away, so we're on the road for long weekend visits throughout the year. In addition, Matt plans an annual backpacking trip each year with an open invitation to his dad, brothers, & his oldest friends, which has taken them from Glacier National Park to the Grand Canyon. Bonnie and her sisters plan 'sister weekends' each year to visit each other, which has now evolved into "auntie weekends" since we welcomed Henry into the family.

Every Halloween our friends host us for trick-or-treat, and we stream movies in their front yard while passing out candy. It's always been one of Bonnie's favorite holidays, and she loves making our costumes.

Holidays are a big travel time for us. Thanksgiving is usually with Matt's family, where thirty or more folks from Matt's extended family squeeze into his childhood home for dinner and lots of laughter. Christmas is spent with Bonnie's family. Christmas Eve is a full day, moving from one gathering to the next, visiting many friends and extended family. Christmas Day is reserved for immediate family, opening presents together, watching favorite Christmas movies, and sitting down for a relaxing family dinner.

OUR PROMISE



We promise to love this child unconditionally and devote ourselves to them. We will provide love and support as they learn their story, celebrating and ensuring their culture & heritage is part of our family's identity. We are committed to always making our home feel safe and supportive, even when times

are tough. We will keep communication open with you, and do it on your terms. We will raise this child to be a fantastic person, and we will remind them often of the courageous decision you made. Thank you again for considering our family.

*With love & gratitude,
Bonnie & Matthew*