

"EVERY *Good* THING GIVEN
AND EVERY PERFECT *Gift*
IS FROM ABOVE,
COMING DOWN FROM THE
FATHER OF LIGHTS,
WITH WHOM THERE IS
NO VARIATION OR
A SHIFTING SHADOW."

James 1:17



Hello!

We are the Johnsons, and we are so thankful you are taking this opportunity to get to know us a little better. We are laid-back, fun-loving, and love to travel so we can't wait to experience the world with a child. We are both so excited to begin this journey, and we firmly believe that God's timing is perfect and much greater than our own. We are praying you have peace and comfort through this process as you are getting to know the waiting families.



ABOUT *Josh*

I was born and raised in a small town only twenty minutes from where we live now. I have a very close family with my parents and three siblings. A big part of my life has been our family feed store that my grandparents bought when they moved to town. Working there taught me a strong work ethic as well as valuable knowledge in construction and repairs.

I attended college at Southwest Baptist University and attained a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. I met a lot of really cool people in college, and I am still friends with a few of them.

I work for the Missouri Department of Conservation in Forestry where I get to spend my time outdoors seeing some beautiful places in our area. One thing I love about this career is that no two days are the same. Through this, I have gotten to refine many of my skills and learn new ones along the way.



I really enjoy traveling, which is one of the things that makes Madison and I's marriage so much fun. We have gotten to see some of the most beautiful and interesting places in the United States, Dominican Republic, and Canada. I enjoy getting to dabble in a lot of different types of activities. Photography has become one of my top interests, along with woodworking and roasting my own coffee.

We have been praying for the family that we will get to embark on this journey with since we started it ourselves, and we will continue to do so throughout this process. We can't wait to meet the family and child that will make such an impact on our lives.



ABOUT *Madison*



I am twenty-five years old, and I love to travel, be outside, and be around animals. I am an only child and I had a great childhood growing up close to family on both sides. I was able to be very involved in sports and clubs all through school with their full support. I loved playing softball more than anything, but I also did track, band, basketball, and was involved in almost every club my school offered. I even continued on to be involved in Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble, and University Band in college.

I continued my education at Southwest Baptist University and majored in Interdisciplinary Studies, where I tailored my degree to focus on the various therapeutic aspects of long term care, including pet therapy, music therapy, and physical therapy. I was blessed to get my dream job at Clark's Mountain Nursing Center right out of college as their Activities Director. Every day I get to invest in our residents by providing intentional, therapeutic, and social activities or events that engage them at their current level of function.



The best part of my job is getting to love my residents well, serve their families, and make a positive impact in our community. I love to plan and host elaborate, themed parties at work as well as at home, especially our annual Halloween Party. I am very organized and thrive on planning; I find it a relaxing avenue to balance our lives at work and home as well as preparing for our future family.

I am most excited about watching a child learn and try things for the first time as we travel and experience the world. I am so excited for what God has in store for us through A Gift of Hope, and we prayerfully wait for the person He has set apart to be in our lives.

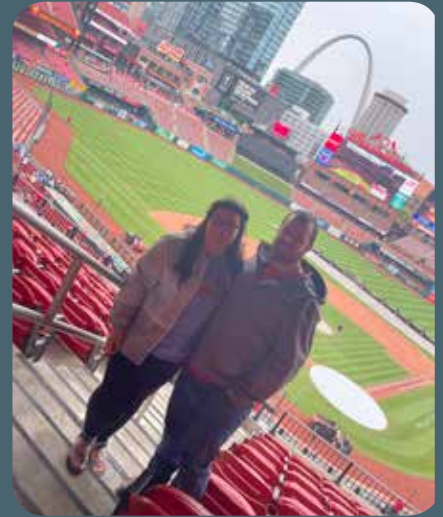




ABOUT Us

Madison and I (Josh), met in the summer of 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee where we were both serving for the first time on Summer Staff for a missions organization called World Changers. All of the Summer Staff were gathering for the first time to meet their teammates that they would be with all summer as well as complete the necessary training before being sent out. Madison and I were serving on different teams, but we connected when she saw I had on an SBU t-shirt, as that is where she was attending school. I planned to go there in August for my first semester, but my older brother, Andy, was already a student there. We spoke briefly and quickly parted ways to return to our very busy schedule before our summers began. Once out at projects on opposite sides of the country, we talked regularly about our various projects and about our upcoming semester at SBU. When it came time for school to start, we ran into each other during the first day on campus. We immediately became best friends and were dating within the first two months of school starting. We spent a lot of our free time in the local city park hammocking, watching movies around campus, or just enjoying our time together learning about each other. After dating for around two years, I proposed to Madison, and we got married after finishing college a year later in 2019.





How did we get here?

We came to a point in our marriage and knew it was time to add children to our family, and God made it abundantly clear that the path for us at this time is adoption. He has provided a way and an overwhelming sense of peace through every step of this process. In May of 2021, we were able to purchase a house and begin the process of flipping it. Together with the help of family and friends, we corrected many structural issues (including replacing the subfloor), replaced everything in the kitchen, painted, and put in new flooring. Pretty quickly into this process we realized God had provided this opportunity for us to fund our adoption. We completed our renovations in April of 2022 and the house sold on June 13th 2022. We were so excited to officially begin this process with A Gift of Hope that we turned in our application on the morning of June 14th. We can't wait to see where this journey takes us!



OUR Home

Our home is located in a very beautiful area of southeast Missouri. Along with our normal jobs, we are also caretakers of a hunting and fishing club that is located right on Big Creek, which feeds into the St. Francis river. Together, we live in an 1,100 square foot cabin with a wide open floor plan and a beautiful front porch that is perfect for sitting and listening to the running water and the sounds of nature. We love to be outside, swimming in the creek, and enjoying God's creation.



We have five very loving and friendly cats (Kita, Rainy, Javier, Tina, and Charlie) who spend most of their days laying in the windows and napping. The cats always find a way to keep life interesting and fun for everybody. Rainy and Charlie take turns going with Madison to work each month for pet therapy with her residents, but Charlie is the residents' favorite.



We currently have the basics of our nursery set up and love putting the time into making it perfect for the future baby that will be such a big part of our lives.

Kita



Rainy



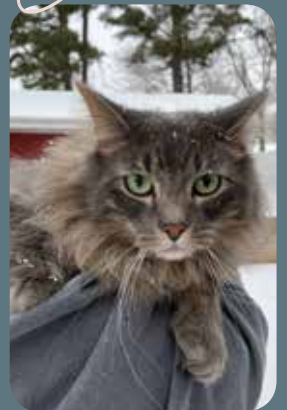
Javier



Tina



Charlie





OUR Friends

Josh and I, (Madison), have been blessed by a strong, loyal, and loving community of friends. There are three couples our age, each with an infant or toddler, that we are good friends with through our church. We are able to serve alongside them through church events but we also gather regularly outside of church! We are all so excited for our children to grow up together in church and as friends. We each also have a group of friends that we are close with through our jobs and from our hometowns. The friends in our lives have been so supportive of our adoption journey and can't wait to meet the child that comes into our lives.



OUR Family

I, (Josh), have a large immediate family consisting of my parents (Mark & Christy), my three siblings and their spouses (Andy & Brooke, Sarah & Jared, Hannah & Ethan), Gram (Mary), Grandma (Sharon), and my aunts (Beth & Carolyn). I was very close and shared both a birthday and a name with my paternal grandpa (Dennis) who passed away in 2020. Family is very important to me and is never taken for granted. All gatherings with my family are a big celebration and always consist of lots of laughs and food.

Madison has a small immediate family consisting of her parents (Scott & Tracy), her grandparents (Dick & Betty) and her aunt (Tozsha). Scott's parents passed away when Madison was in high school and college, but he has four sisters and six nieces/nephews. Her grandparents both come from large families with nine and ten siblings each, so Madison has a very large extended family that all live near her hometown and have been highly involved in her life.


We have both been very blessed with loving, supportive, families that have provided the foundation we have needed to build our lives on. Through our marriage, both of our individual families have slowly blended into one, where their love for us and each other is clear. Family has always been a huge part of our lives and a large factor in who we are today. Both of our families have shown us a love and support that has lasted a lifetime, and we can't wait for them to provide that same love and support to a new child in our family.





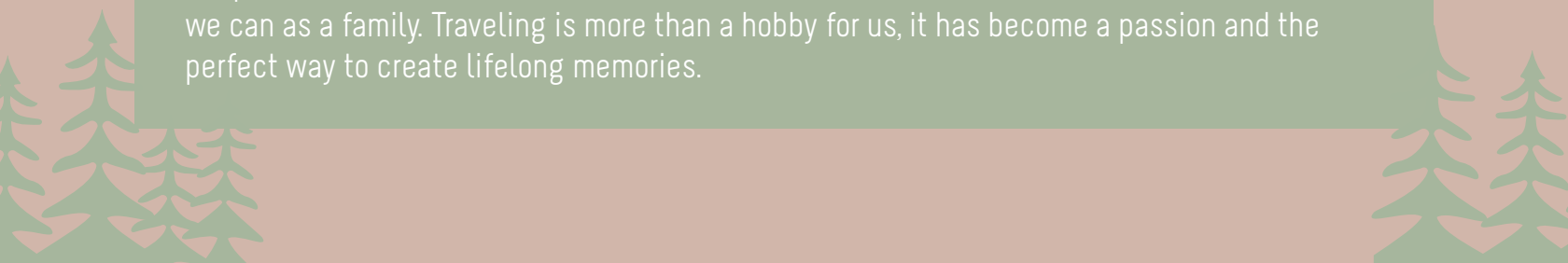


TRAVELS & *Hobbies*



Josh and I (Madison), love to travel! In our three years of marriage, we have gone to 36 different states and two countries together. Our favorite trips we have taken in that time were to Malahat in Canada and to our honeymoon to Steamboat Springs, Colorado. We prioritize taking time together each year to go out and experience new things. Both of our families took us on annual summer vacations when we were kids and we have been blessed with the opportunities to continue that tradition. While we have already been to a lot of different places together, we have a long list of places we are waiting to see so that we can experience them as a family. Josh is most looking forward to traveling to Colorado as a family so that we can see the mountains and experience the places that have become special to us. I, (Madison), cannot wait to experience exploring Alaska as a family and taking a child to some of my favorite spots. I was fortunate enough to travel there twice in my childhood with my parents and my favorite part was getting to go white water rafting there and go hiking on a glacier.

We promise to continue the tradition of annual vacations and to see as much of the world as we can as a family. Traveling is more than a hobby for us, it has become a passion and the perfect way to create lifelong memories.





JOSH'S *Travel Songs*

River of Life,
MAC POWELL

Highlands (Song of Ascent),
HILLSONG UNITED

In the House,
CROWDER

MADISON'S *Travel Songs*

I Choose to Worship,
REND COLLECTIVE

Oh How I Need You,
ALL SONS & DAUGHTERS

What He's Done,
PASSION

Dear Birthparents,

Thank you so much for taking the time to learn more about us as you are working towards your decision. We wanted to use this letter to share our promises to you that can't be summarized in a quick bio or captured in pictures.

WE PROMISE TO LOVE THIS CHILD UNCONDITIONALLY AND RAISE THEM IN A BIBLE - TEACHING CHURCH.

We understand the importance of experiencing God and accepting salvation as an individual rather than settling into something because that is what everyone else has done. God has a unique purpose for us, and has set apart each of us in His name. We promise to raise this child in the boldness and promise of His love.

WE PROMISE TO PRIORITIZE COMMUNICATION AND RESPECT IN OUR HOME.

We plan to be very open about the adoption process, as we believe it is a truly special part of our family story and a blessing to experience. We strive to make our home a safe place to create growth from mistakes, and the basis of that for us is open communication. Our goal is to provide accountability and understanding through the sharing and open discussion of our own mistakes. Mutual respect for us comes from the understanding that no one is perfect and the willingness to share those shortcomings within the safety of our home.

WE PROMISE TO FULLY SHARE OUR LIVES WITH THEM AND HELP THEM EXPERIENCE THE WORLD.

We are both so excited to bring a child/children into our home, and we are so thankful to be on this journey with you. If you have any questions or want to know more, please feel free to reach out to A Gift of Hope, and we would love to assist in any way we can!

Madison & Josh



a gift of hope 
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