



Thank you so much for taking a few minutes to learn more about our family!

## Dana and Rebekah

We made this little video for our daughter, Nevaeh. If you would like to see a video glimpse of our family, please scan this QR code!





Dana and Rebekah

# Our Story

We met when we were living 5 hours apart while using an online dating website in July 2015. We met for our first date in a coffee shop, and we knew right away that we shared many things in common, especially our faith and sense of humor! A little over a year later we were married in the fall of 2016!



# Why We're Adopting

We love kids and have always known we wanted to be parents! From the beginning of our marriage we agreed that we both had a desire to adopt. However, we didn't realize at that point that we would also desire to pursue adoption because we are unable to have biological children. We have been trying to start and grow our family for several years now, and we have been greatly blessed with adoption of our daughter, Nevaeh. She is the light of our lives, and we love being her parents more than just about anything! Nevaeh asks us about having a little brother or sister on a regular basis, and we dream of growing our family through another adoption.





We dressed up as a family for Halloween and all went trick or treating as unicorns!

# A Little About Dana

Hi, my name is Dana. I am 35 years old and have been a high school Chemistry and Physics teacher for the last 11 years. I have a passion for helping youth, and I am also a high track coach.

Aside from teaching and coaching, I love learning new handy man skills as I work on projects in our old 2 story house.

My hobbies including playing practical jokes on Rebekah and watching the Kansas City Chiefs with my identical twin brother.





Dana and his identical twin brother, Uncle David, both teach science and coach at the same high school. Here they are pictured showing up to school in the same outfit, completely unplanned!







# A Little About Rebekah

Hello! My name is Rebekah. I am 34 years old. I love dogs, watching the Office, and laughing at my own jokes. My main hobbies include trying not to kill house plants and taking naps.

I also have a passion for learning about other cultures. My dream is to visit all 7 continents, and I have made it to 4 of them so far!

I am currently working on my masters degree in Elementary Education through Kansas State University. I teach second grade and love working with kids!



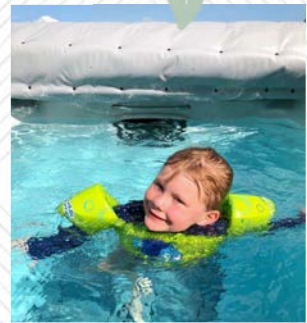




Rebekah during her 3 months volunteering at an orphanage in Taiwan in 2012. While there, she helped take care of 24 babies at the orphanage until they were able to go home with their adoptive families.



Rebekah and her dad at a school in Kenya, Africa in 2013. Rebekah's dad (Papa Bruce) was in the Peace Corps in Kenya and has made several trips back to visit and volunteer.



# Quick Facts About Nevaeh

- 6 YEARS OLD

-SPUNKY, SILLY, AND LOVES TO SNUGGLE

-FAVORITE THINGS: ANYTHING PINK, RIDING HER BIKE, DANCING, CAKE

-CONSTANTLY ASKS MOM AND DAD FOR A BABY BROTHER OR SISTER!



There's almost nothing Nevaeh would rather do than ride her bike outside! Nevaeh loves to be active, and she is also plays rec league soccer, basketball, and softball.



Nevaeh loves climbing hay bails with her cousins at Papa Bruce's farm!



# What Dana Has to Say About Rebekah

CREATIVE, ORGANIZED, LOVING

Rebekah always keeps me laughing! She likes to make up ridiculous songs about everyday tasks, and most of them have a dance that goes with them. She cooks the best meals and is incredibly organized. Rebekah is always looking for ways to care for others. She has a big heart, and I am so thankful to have her in my life!







# What Rebekah Has To Say About Dana

LOYAL, HARDWORKING, FUN

Dana is always giving to others, and he is a tirelessly hard worker. He loves to tell "dad jokes," and no one makes me laugh like he does! He is an amazing teacher and coach, and I have honestly never met a teacher who cares so much about his students. I truly could not ask for a better partner and father for my children!

We love taking trips and going  
on adventures!



Exploring the Redwood Forest in  
California in Summer 2017.



Vacation to Omaha, Nebraska in  
Summer 2019.



# Adventures

We love traveling and spending time together. In the summer of 2021 we took two week road trip where we camped out of our minivan and visited four different national parks. We had a blast hiking, exploring, swimming in lakes, seeing amazing wildlife, and experiencing new things!



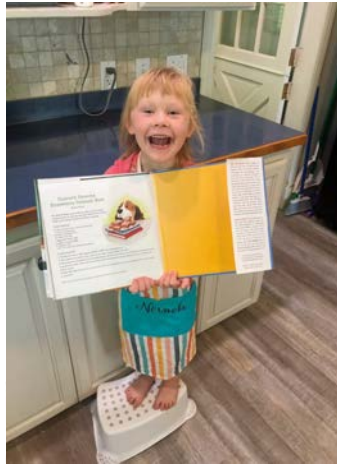






# Family Fun

We try to stay active as a family! We enjoy hiking the nearby trails, going to the park, doing art projects, playing in the snow, taking family walks, and going to Friday night football games! Some of our favorite family traditions are reading bedtime stories, movie nights with popcorn, going to church together, and picnics in the backyard!



# Our Home and Neighborhood



We live in a small town in southeast Kansas where Dana was born and raised. Our home is in a quiet, family neighborhood that is close to the town square and schools. We know many people in the community, and Dana's parents have owned a local family restaurant here for over 30 years!



Our 2 story home was built over 100 years ago and is full of character! We moved into this house around 4 years ago and have been working to remove wallpaper, paint, and renovate ever since. We absolutely love our home because we have lots of space to make memories with our family, and we have great neighbors!



# Our Families

We are very close to our families! Dana's parents (Mimi and Papa Jim) and all of his three siblings live very close by. Rebekah's mom (Grandma Paula) and Rebekah's sister (Aunt Sarah) are frequent visitors to our home! Rebekah's dad (Papa Bruce) is a Kansas farmer, and we enjoy making visits to his farm where Rebekah grew up to soak in more family time and farm life. We love being able to spend time with our families regularly, and they are a big part of our lives. They are all so excited to welcome a new family member and are supportive of our decision to adopt!



Nevaeh with Papa Bruce on the family farm



Uncle Luke (Rebekah's brother), our nephew, and Papa Bruce





The grandkids at Mimi and Papa Jim's house at Easter following the annual Easter egg hunt!



Trick or treating with cousins at the zoo



Mimi, Papa Jim, and Nevaeh after Nevaeh's softball game.



Decorating Christmas cookies with Grandma Paula

# Our Families



Aunt Sarah and Nevaeh picking strawberries at a friend's farm.



Grandma Paula and all of her grandchildren at the park.



Nevaeh and her cousins holding baby ducks at Uncle Luke and Aunt Mandie's house.



Uncle David (Dana's twin) and Aunt Brittany



Dana and his three siblings at a family wedding.



Helping fix fence at Papa Bruce's farm. Kansas can be a little windy!





# Lucy

## THE FAMILY DOG



We really love animals, and we have a 20 lb. rescue dog named Lucy! She is the best family dog and is very gentle and well mannered with kids. She loves to play with her soccer ball in the backyard and is often present underneath the dinner table hoping for some scraps!

# Connections IN FOSTER CARE



Nevaeh adores being a big sister! She constantly asks for another baby brother or sister who can stay with our family forever.





We have been licensed foster parents for the last four years, which is how Nevaeh became a part of our family! We have taken care of and loved many children over this time period. Our previous foster son is still a big part of our lives, and we have a strong relationship with his mom as well. We were able to throw a first birthday party for him in partnership with his mom. We are grateful for this relationship, and it is something we would love to have with our future adopted child's birth parents if that is something they are interested in. Our desire at this point is to pursue adoption instead of continuing in foster care because we would love to grow our forever family.





Thank you for taking the time to consider our family. We have so much respect for you and know this is a very difficult decision. We hope and pray that you have peace. We are committed to honoring you as in important part of our family in whatever way you feel comfortable.

With Support,

*Dana and Rebekah*



*Mixbook*  
PHOTO CO.