

SARAH + GARRETT

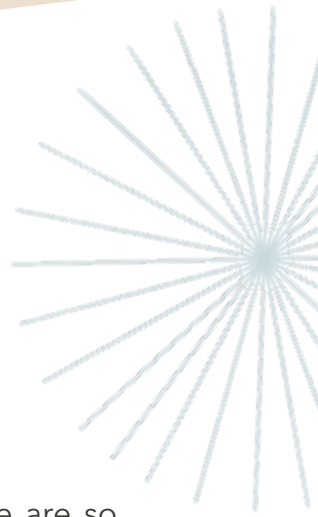


THANKS
for opening our book



HELLO

it's so nice to "meet" you



We are Sarah, Garrett and Brooks (or Brooksy as we like to call him :)). We are so excited and grateful for your willingness to learn more about our little family!

We can't even begin to understand the overwhelming place you might be right now while trying to explore what's best for you and your baby, but we are so proud of you!

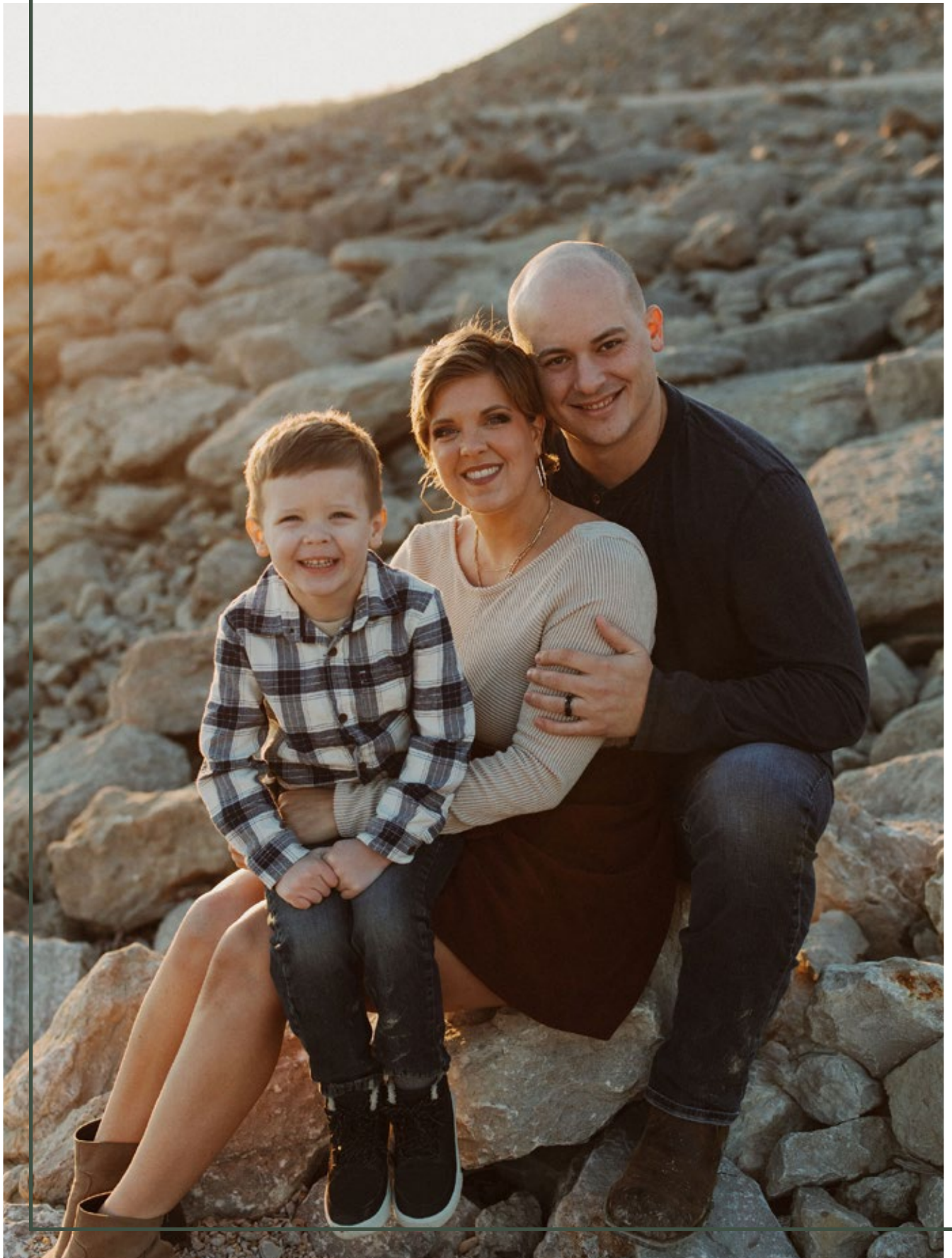
We are encouraged and inspired by your courage to keep discovering the best path for yourself. We pray that you are filled with love, peace, and support about your decisions along the way.

We've always dreamed of having children. We got pregnant with our son Brooks, about 6 months after we got married! In attempts to grow our family with another child, we conceived, but Sarah experienced a complete Molar Pregnancy. It led to a multitude of other health issues Sarah had to battle, including cancer. Through treatment and a hysterectomy, Sarah is clear of all medical complications. We have prayerfully considered adoption & are overjoyed that the Lord has laid it so clearly on our hearts to pursue.

Thank you for considering us as a potential fit to walk alongside you. **We may not know you yet, but we have been praying for you consistently since we felt led to adoption and that will not cease upon a match.** You are loved beyond measure, and we truly hope to meet you sometime soon!

You're in our hearts,

Sarah, Garrett and Brooks



this is our
LOVE STORY

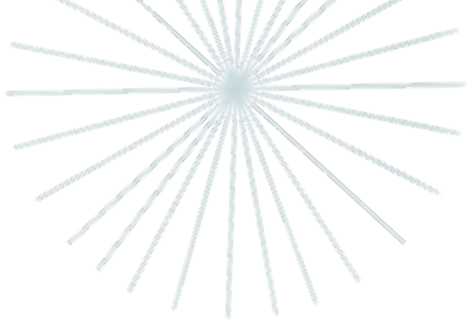
We're lucky to have met through a friend who knew we were meant to be! We met in 2015 through one of my (Sarah's) best friends from college who was working with Garrett. She kept pushing for us to meet. **When we finally met, it was an instant connection and lots of laughter.** We've been each other's best friend ever since! In 2016 Garrett made my 25th birthday extra special by surprising me with all of my family at his house. Each of my family members was holding a single rose, and after dinner, he gave a beautiful speech and proposed, followed by revealing a party bus full of all my friends (some all the way from New York!). We got married in 2017 at an outdoor wedding on a gorgeous fall day and grew to a family of three when our son, Brooks, was born in 2019.

We're incredibly thankful to have such a solid relationship. **There is so much love and admiration for one another, which makes our relationship feel easy most days.** We work hard to communicate effectively and with the utmost respect for each other. We celebrate each other and make each other a priority. As a couple, we love going on dates, trying new food, hanging out with family, and traveling. Although we love taking Brooks on trips, we make it a point to go somewhere as just the two of us about once a year. Being good parents requires us to be connected as a couple. As a family, we love to go to the zoo, to the lake close to our house, the Discovery Center, and anywhere else we can watch Brooks learn or be active.



"We celebrate each other and make each other a priority"





ADOPTION

has always been in our plans

We've always known we've wanted children and adoption has always been on the table for the both of us. (Both of our dads were adopted!) We often talked about having two biological children, then adopting a third child. In attempts to have a second child, we conceived, but Sarah was diagnosed with a complete molar pregnancy. It became clear that we would not be able to have another biological child. While the grief and acceptance of laying our original plan aside was hard, the choice of adoption never was. It's always felt like the perfect path for our family.

Our dreams are that this baby will know how incredibly loved they are. We can commit to a loving home with parents who have dreamed of parenthood since being kids themselves. We will welcome this child to a home full of laughter and joy, committing to teaching them resilience to get through the hard times in life. We will teach this child about the love and grace of Jesus Christ and provide them with unconditional love and support.

"It's always felt like the perfect path for our family."



Friends describe me as:

Optimistic, joyful, uplifting, passionate, caring, driven, thoughtful, fun, and genuine

I'm most proud of:

Building a successful career without a college degree and never letting cancer or hard circumstances tear me down



meet SARAH

I grew up in a small town in Kansas, but consider Topeka my hometown. I love getting to know people deeply - what makes them tick, who they are, and what makes them belly laugh. **One of my greatest passions is to be a good friend to those who need one, which perfectly fits my job.** My position is the Manager of Culture Initiatives. It is my role to dive into my company's employee experience and ensure our workplace is a positive environment. I enjoy it because I get to serve people daily and bring little joys into each day for my coworkers. In my free time, I love spending time with Brooks and Garrett, especially doing fun activities that bring us all closer together - like going to a local book store or the zoo. **Music is a big passion of mine, and I am a worship leader with my church. We also like to sing (loudly) in the car as a family.**

Being a mom is hands down the coolest gig I could've ever asked for. Brooks touches parts of my heart I didn't know existed, and I'm so grateful to be his mom. It brings me so much pride to watch him learn and experience new things. **Becoming a parent has made me more patient and has made me want to be the best version of myself for my family.**



Favorite movie:

The Proposal (or anything that makes me laugh)



Favorite memory:

Seeing Garrett's face as I walked down the aisle, or telling him I was pregnant

FIVE THINGS SARAH LOVES:

- Music - Singing, playing guitar, writing music, and attending concerts
- People - Making other people smile and reminding them of how much they're cared for
- Feeling healthy - Exercise, talking kindly to myself, and creating balance when it comes to food
- Travel - Exploring new places and seeing more of the world that our Creator made
- Jesus - Spending time with him and worship

Friends describe me as:

A jokester and loyal

Favorite memory:

The first time our son saw rain. We taught him to stomp in the puddles and he started dancing

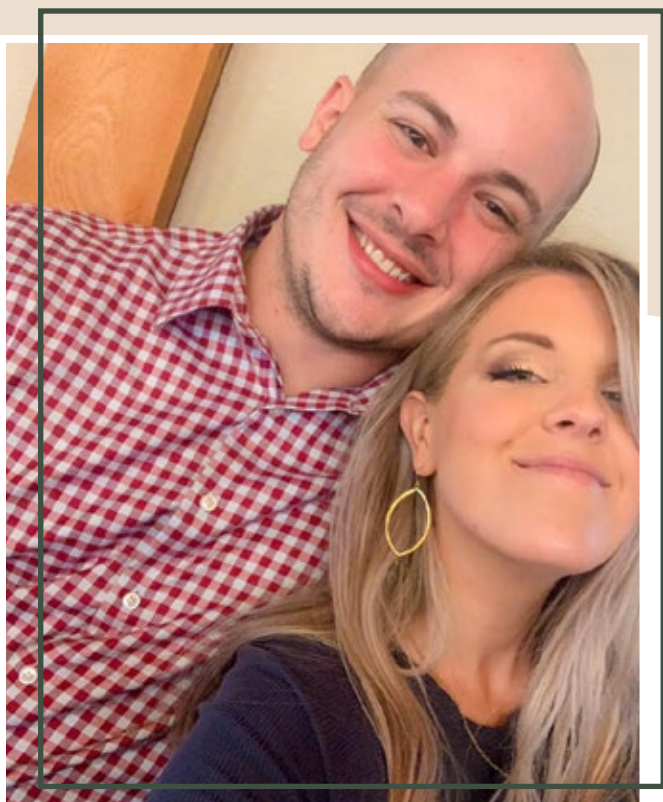


meet GARRETT

I was born and raised in Topeka, Kansas. My parents, both grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins all live in Topeka, so I never dreamt of moving away. **Family is the one constant in my life and the most important thing to me, so we are all very close and supportive.**

I studied actuarial science (mathematics and statistics) in college and got hired as an actuary shortly after I graduated. It is an ever-evolving career that provides opportunities for critical thinking as well as flexibility to focus on my personal life. In my free time, I enjoy reading, mostly fantasy. I also enjoy exercising. I'll work out at a gym, but I'd prefer to work up a sweat in some kind of competitive sport.

Graduating, starting a career, and getting married were all huge milestones in my life, but nothing compares to becoming a dad. I want to give my son the world on a plate, but also protect him from it as well. **My favorite thing about being a parent is the absolute joy I feel when I see a genuine smile on my son's face.** Whether it's because he took his first steps, brushed his teeth by himself for the first time, or learned a new fact at school, I am most proud of him when he is proud of himself.



Favorite book:

Anything by the author Brandon Sanderson

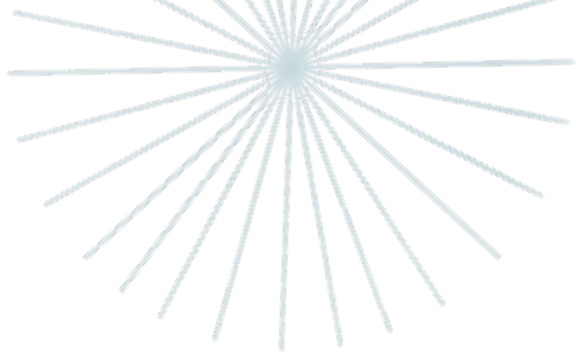


I'm inspired by:

Watching my wife go to battle with cancer for two years and never once letting it dim her glow

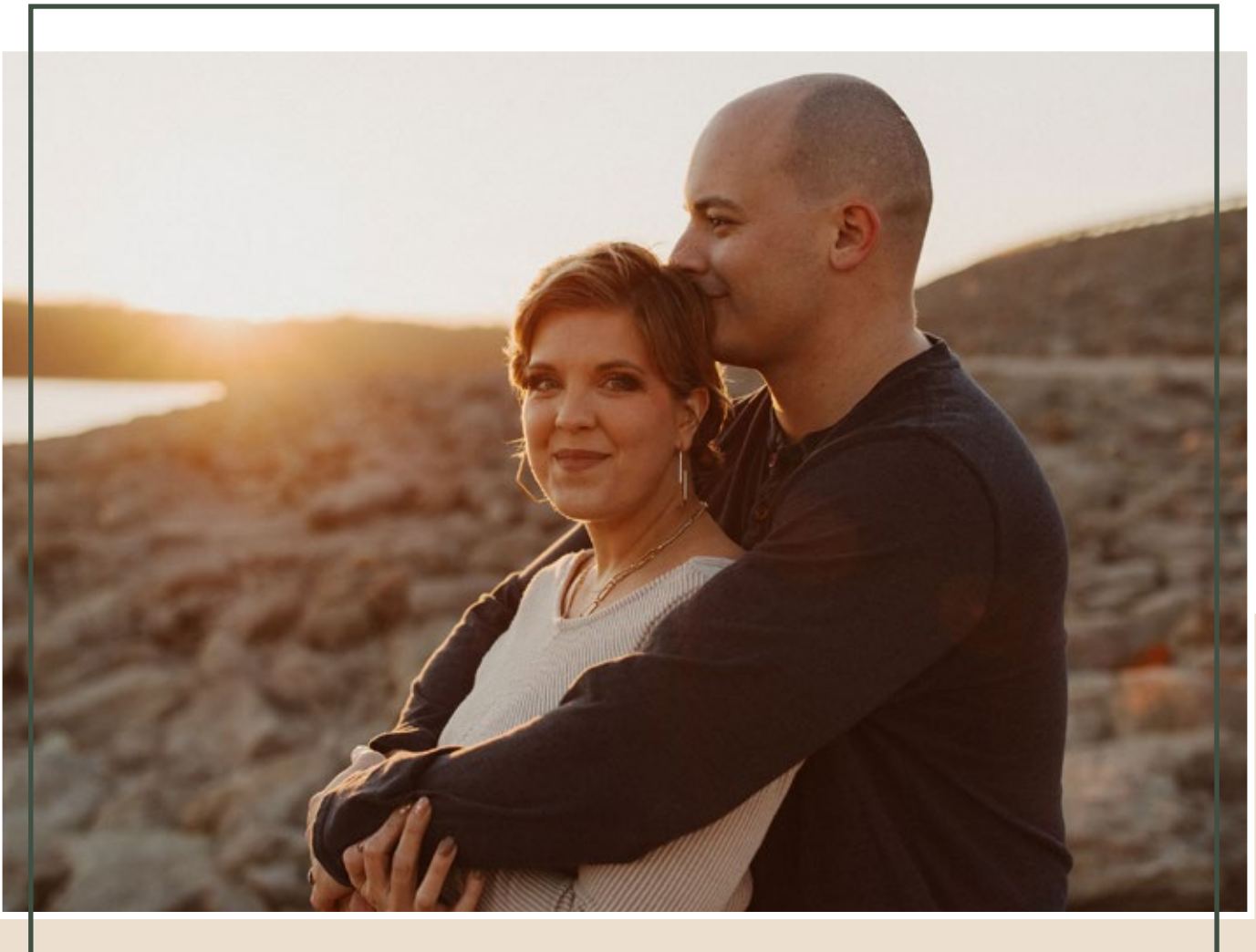
FIVE THINGS GARRETT LOVES:

- Our church - I don't look forward to any other day as much as Sunday mornings.
- Travel - Especially with my family, immediate or extended.
- Competition - Sports, video games, board games, you name it!
- Reading - Mostly fantasy
- Watching sports - Whether it's the Chiefs, Royals, Kansas State Wildcats or the Kansas Jayhawks



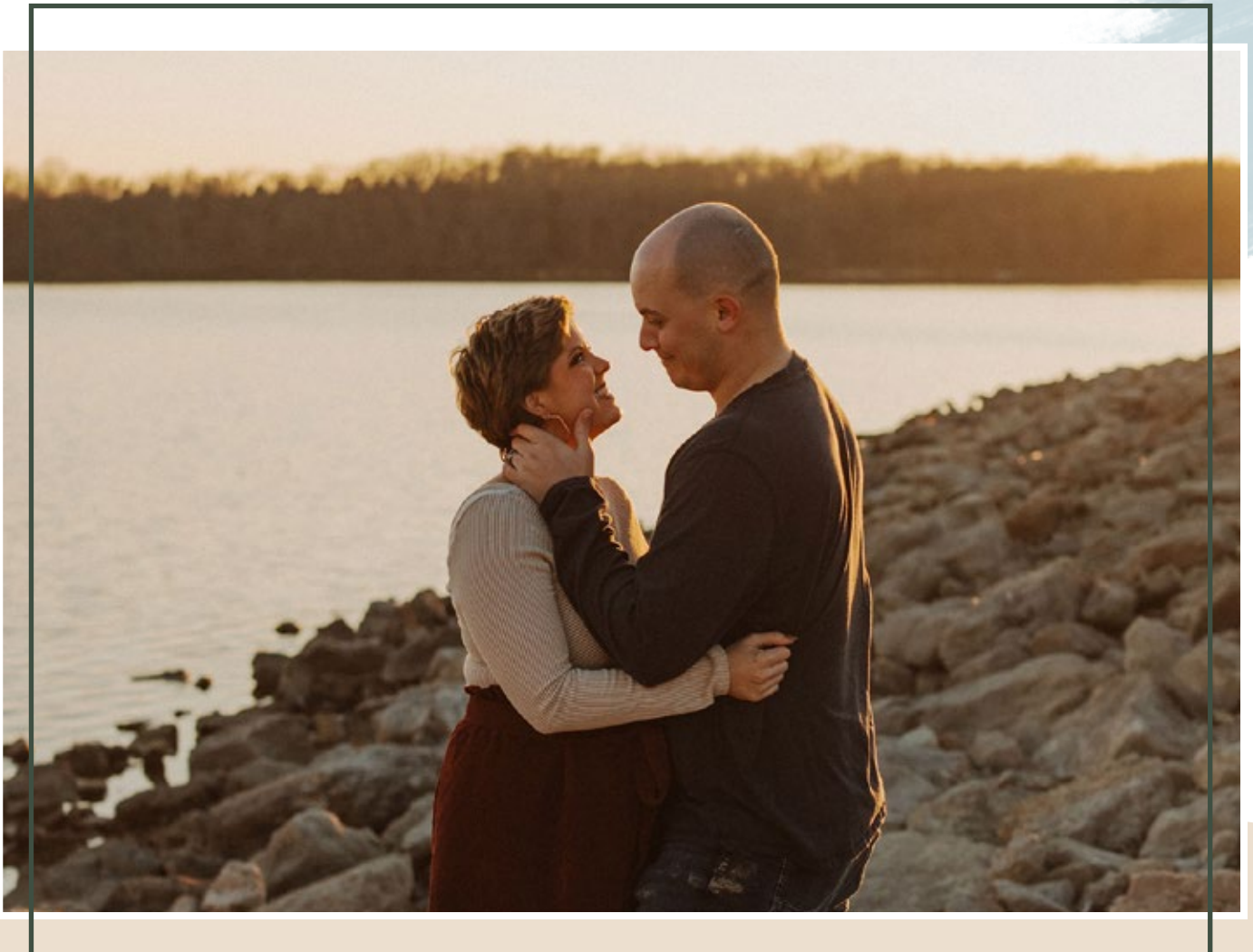
SARAH *in Ciarnett's words*

"Sarah is my fire. I am mesmerized by her every day. When I am lost or unsure, Sarah is my guiding light and my encouragement. This makes her an amazing mother as well. She pulls us close with her warmth. Sarah is a comfort to anyone who has had the pleasure of being around her, none more so than myself and our son."



GARRETT *in Sarah's words*

"Garrett is fiercely loyal, kind-hearted, and protective of those he loves. He would give the shirt off his back to anyone in need, but his family always comes first. One of the first qualities I noticed about Garrett is how much he loves his family. From the moment I met him, he's talked about being a father and how it would always be his greatest accomplishment. The amount of love he has for Brooks is so beautiful. He gives so much time, attention, and care to our son. It's truly a privilege to be a partner with him in this life."



MEET BROOKS

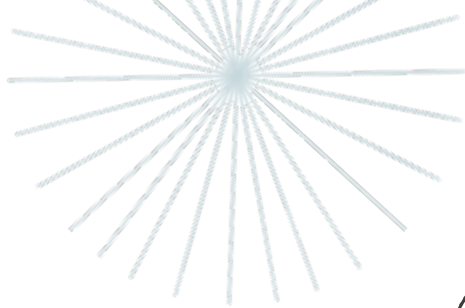
our social and sweet son

Brooks is our goofy four-year-old boy. He loves to wrestle, play in the dirt, and make everyone around him laugh. **He is such a social butterfly.** We think he's going to make the best big brother to a sibling, as he wants to constantly play with others. Brooks' daycare told us he often asks to go to the infant classroom to hold the babies. He always wants to be near babies and help with them at our church. **While he may be "all boy" with mom and dad, he is kind, gentle, and so sweet with his younger cousins.**





"We think he's going to make the best big brother to a sibling."



our friendly
NEIGHBORHOOD

We live in a three-bedroom spacious home in Kansas with an open concept in the upstairs living room and kitchen. We have high wood ceilings with dark beams in our living room, which is an inviting place to host friends and family. **We spend a lot of time together playing games, having movie nights, and cooking in the kitchen.** In the winter we love to have dad make a fire in our fireplace while Brooks and mom make hot chocolate and popcorn. One bedroom will become Brooks' "big boy" bedroom, and we will convert his room back into the nursery like it was for him when he was a baby. We love to use our front and backyard to play outside when the weather is nice. We live on a corner lot, so even though we're in a neighborhood, it feels as though we have a lot of space.

We live in a friendly neighborhood with lots of kids, especially within our block. We're within two-to-five minutes of three elementary schools with huge playgrounds. **We also are extremely close to a lake that has many activities for families, beautiful walking trails, large sidewalks for riding bikes, and paddle boats.**





our rescue PUPS

MEET BUBBA AND GINGER!

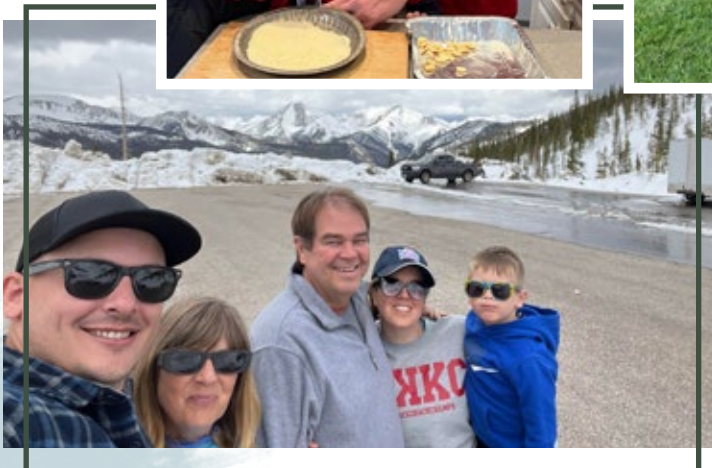
Bubba is a great dane mix who is dopey. He's a big loverboy and has no idea how big he is. Bubba became more protective of our home when Brooks came along, and they are best friends. Ginger is a snuggly mutt. She is a diva and her favorite place in the world is to snuggle up under a blanket. She is gentle with Brooks and loves to get treats from him. **We rescued both of them from the local humane society when they were relatively young, so they are very sweet dogs and part of our family.**



OUR FAMILIES

Sarah's family:

My parents live nearby, and we see each other probably once a week or every couple of weeks. **They are very active in our lives and love to spend time with Brooks and see him as often as they can.** They also have a camper so we go camping with them a couple of times a year! I have one brother, and he and his family live in Missouri, only an hour and a half away. My brother and his wife have four children - two boys and twin girls. As a large family, we get together probably four times a year. We do our best to not miss any birthdays and be intentional about gathering together.





Ciarrett's family:

My parents also live nearby, conveniently about a minute from Sarah's parents. They are at all of Brooks' activities and are amazing supporters of our family, offering help wherever needed. I have one brother and he and his wife recently moved to north Iowa. They will be involved in the baby's life when they are in town. My extended family lives in our hometown, so whether it's a big holiday or just a random Saturday, the entire family is invited to get together.

Our parents have a great relationship and even get together without us. It's so great to have our families mesh so beautifully together.

In our FAMILY...

We laugh a lot and **find joy in every day.**

We **love people deeply** and give grace and empathy to everyone.

We love adventure and **trying new things.**

We **put God first**, followed by family ("then followed by football" -Garrett).



BEFORE *you go...*

Thank you again, so much, for taking the time to learn more about our little family. We are so humbled by your strength and decision to consider adoption and consider us as a potential fit to love your child! We hope that you are able to see how deeply we love, how much joy there is within us, and a small glimpse into who we are.

Watching our son grow and learn new things is one of the greatest joys we get to share. Brooks taught a new level of love that our hearts didn't know we could feel. We have a mutual, deep desire and longing that Brooks isn't meant to be our only. **Our capacity to love another child equally is deeply rooted within both of us.** Brooks will make such a good big brother, and we can only dream of the day he gets to meet his younger sibling. While we don't do everything perfect as parents, we strive to have unity in decisions, create the best possible support in every scenario, and give them a life full of joy and positive memories!

IF WE ARE WHO YOU CHOOSE TO PARENT, WE PROMISE TO:

- Commit to a life pointed towards Jesus & knowing there is hope in any difficult circumstance.
- Commit to lots of joy, support & laughter in our home.
- Commit to love, grace and empathy to be shown, felt and taught.
- Commit to unconditional love for baby while honoring you as their birth mom and celebrating their adoption journey

We can't even begin to understand the decision you are faced with, but we pray for strength and clarity as you try to make it. Our family, extended family and friends are praying for you. **We may not know you, but we already love you as a part of our own. We hope to share in life events together, celebrating the different paths that have intertwined to bring us together.** We hope to share these things through an open adoption, engaging in life together! Thank you for considering us to raise your child!

With so much love,

Sarah, Ciarrrett and Brooks

THANK YOU
for considering us

