

DANIEL, KRISTEN, & JAMES





WELCOME

Dear Mama,

Thank you for taking a few moments to get to know our family and for considering us to be potential parents to your precious little one. We hope that throughout these pages you will see a family that loves each other and loves Jesus! As you are making this difficult decision, please know that we are praying for you. May God give you wisdom and strength as you take your next steps, no matter what they will be. We admire your bravery and selflessness in choosing life and considering adoption. We are excited to grow our family! We promise to raise your child in a Christ-centered home and to surround them with love and support throughout his or her life. We joyfully await meeting the newest member of our family and it would be an honor to have you as part of our lives too! Thank you again for considering our family.

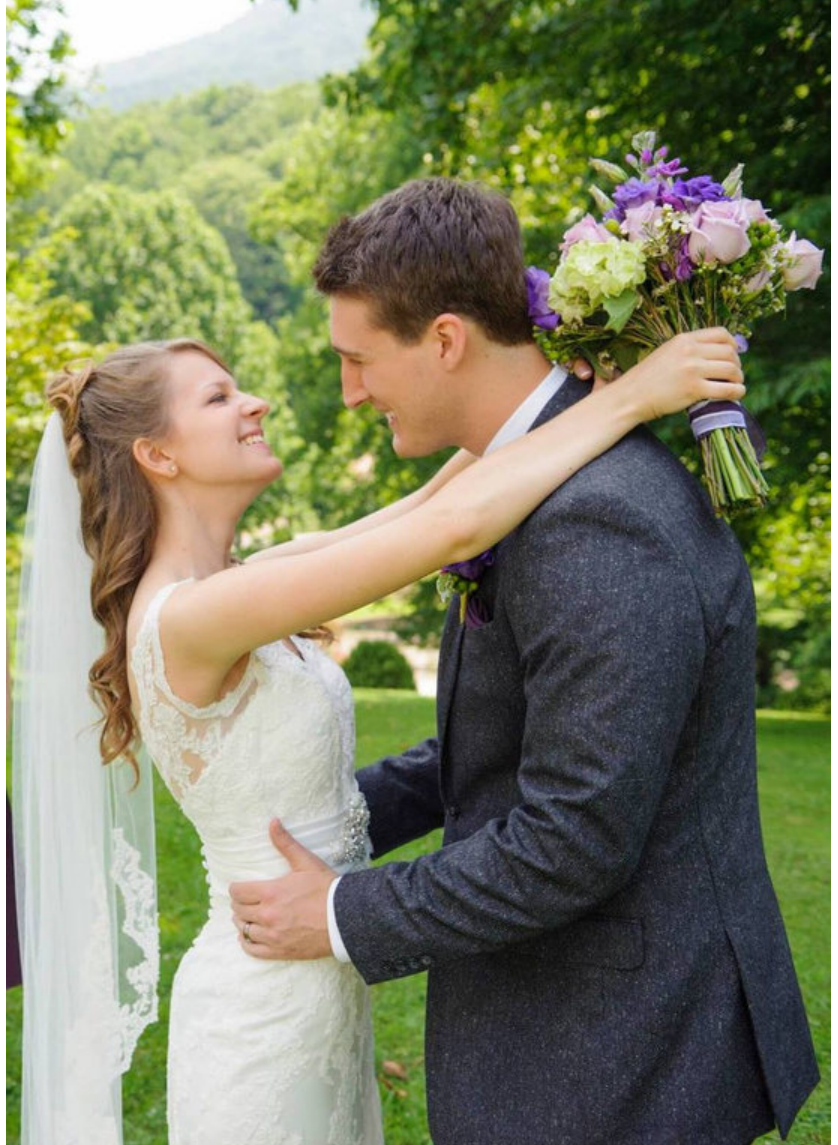
With love,

Daniel, Kristen & James



THE BEGINNING

of our love story



We both grew up in North Carolina but on opposite sides of the state. We did not meet until college when we both attended an out-of-state university. We became friends during our sophomore year of college, began dating our junior year, and then were engaged our senior year. In 2024 we will be celebrating 10 years of marriage! Throughout our marriage, our relationship has strengthened with life's ups and downs. Though we are imperfect, we love one another so much and we strive to center our marriage on Christ. We prioritize, encourage, celebrate, comfort, and laugh with one another. Being parents has been one of life's greatest gifts to us, but we also want our children to see how much their mommy and daddy love and prioritize each other.

MEET

Daniel

Through Kristen's Eyes

Daniel is a devoted husband and father. He loves his family and prioritizes our time together. Many would describe Daniel as goofy and fun. He knows how to make people laugh, and he has truly filled my life with joy and laughter. He can also be extremely responsible and thoughtful. Partnering with Daniel to raise our children is one of my greatest joys and blessings. One of our favorite times of the day is after dinner time. If we don't already have plans, we sing songs along with James and his toy guitar, piano, and drum. Often, Daniel will play wrestle with James, we will have a fun bath time, and then read a Bible story before bed. As for hobbies, Daniel loves the Carolina Panthers football team, watching movies, and eating good food. Daniel has a Master's Degree in Preaching and Pastoral Ministry. He is currently serving as the Lead Pastor of our church. I am very proud of how he leads our church and, most importantly, our family.



MEET

Kristen

Through Daniel's Eyes



Kristen is a loving, kind, empathetic, and organized woman, who loves Jesus and her family with all her heart! During the day time when I'm at work, Kristen is very intentional with our son. She incorporates fun learning activities while discipling him to know Jesus. She does this through books, and songs, and by showing him what it looks like to love and serve others. Kristen enjoys family walks, grabbing a meal or coffee with a friend, watching comedies, and exploring new restaurants. Kristen has a degree in Communications and worked full-time in the marketing field before having our son. Kristen now works minimal hours remotely for a marketing firm, which allows her to focus her time on our son, building relationships, and being actively involved in our church.

MEET

James



James is three years old. He is kind, playful, and such a helper! James loves music, singing, dancing, and playing instruments. We are sure he will be an amazing big brother. Because our church has so many young children, once a week, we have a play group that meets for them to play and for mothers to bond and build community. James has so many friends in this group. At age two, James started a half-day program at a local Baptist preschool. He goes four mornings a week. He has amazing teachers and the school plans activities for them each day. They have a music class, library day, art projects, chapel day, and more. He looks forward to going to school and has made several friends. He will be at this school until he starts Kindergarten. From there, we are leaning toward a private Christian school but we are still exploring our options.

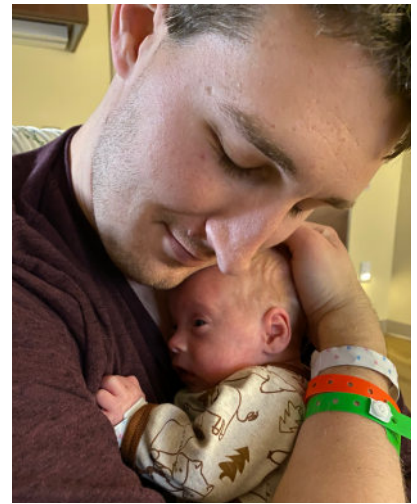
JAMES' BIRTH STORY

James was born seven weeks early, due to Kristen suffering from severe preeclampsia. This was an unexpected and scary time for our family. James spent the first seven weeks of his life in the special care unit of the hospital. This was a trying time, but our community of friends, family, and church surrounded us with love and support. Throughout that time, God gave us strength for each moment. We praise God that James is a very healthy and happy toddler!



OUR HEART FOR ADOPTION

Adoption has been on our hearts for over a decade. The night James was born it became very clear to us that we were going to pursue adoption in the future to grow our family (due to complications that could arise with a second pregnancy). We trust that God orchestrates all circumstances and guides our steps!



DAILY LIFE & TRAVELING



We strive to keep a routine. Monday through Thursday, James is in preschool in the morning. In the afternoons, after nap time, Kristen and James do a variety of things. For example, we love playing in the playroom or backyard, going to a local park (we have several amazing parks in our area), going to a friend's house, or a local museum. Kristen will typically then cook dinner while James likes to watch and "help". We make it a priority to eat dinner at our dining room table together almost every night. We have a consistent nighttime routine which we finish with a Bible story and prayer. Being a pastor, Daniel works Sunday through Thursday and has Friday and Saturday off. We take advantage of these days to have extra time together as a family, rest, and explore new things. When we travel, apart from visiting family, we usually take a vacation somewhere once a year in the summer. We enjoy exploring new areas, restaurants, and experiences!

HOLIDAYS & CELEBRATIONS



We love spending time with family and friends during holidays. Typically, we visit one side of the family for Thanksgiving and the other side for Christmas. Since we are typically not in our home on Christmas Day, we have started a tradition of celebrating “Christmas morning” in our home the day before we travel. We open gifts, eat yummy breakfast burritos, and read about the birth of Jesus. This is a special time for us.

In our house, we love celebrating birthdays! Each year, for our son, we plan a party with his friends and/or our family. This past year he had a music-themed birthday party. We rented out our neighborhood clubhouse and brought all of his musical toys. Daniel even brought his guitar and led everyone in a handful of our son’s favorite songs. We want our children to feel very loved!

We like to celebrate successes big and small. For instance, if one of us has finished a very busy or difficult week, we will oftentimes go out to ice cream. Whether that be a milkshake from Cookout, custard from a local shop, or the Dairy Queen that is right by our house, ice cream is a favorite treat for our family.

DANIEL'S

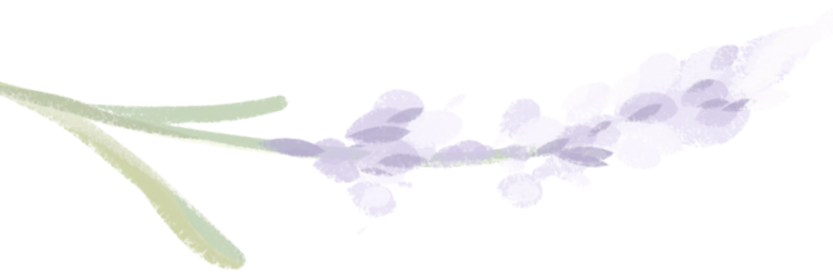
Family

Most of Daniel's family lives about a seven-hour drive from us. We visit them twice a year and they try to visit us about twice a year too. We are thankful for technology because we can call them on FaceTime. This makes us feel like we see them more often! We are very close with our family and value their support and wisdom. Daniel's mom is a music director at her church and his step-dad is the facilities director at the church as well. You will often hear her say to her grandchildren, "Mimi loves you, Honey. Best Friends Forever." At their house, everyone enjoys music, movies, and great desserts. We love cinnamon rolls, pound cake, and apple fritters. Daniel's dad is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and his step-mom is retired from the IT field. At their house, you can expect to eat yummy food, play board games, watch football, and hear laughter. Daniel's brother is married with two children who are in 6th grade and 2nd grade. He and his brother are very close. Our sister-in-law was adopted, so she will be a wonderful person for your child to know and be encouraged by. Daniel's stepsister lives in Kansas with her husband and one-year-old son. His stepbrother lives in North Carolina. They are excited about our growing family!



KRISTEN'S

Family



All of Kristen's family is less than a four-hour drive away from us, so we see them several times throughout the year. We are very close to our family! We FaceTime with them often and send pictures almost daily. There is no doubt that our newest little one will feel very special! Kristen's mom and dad have been married for 34 years. They are both retired and enjoy spending their extra free time with their family. A typical visit includes playing outside with Granddad and riding in the kiddie SUV and car. We also enjoy playing piano and organ with Mimi G. Kristen's sister is married with two children who are in 1st grade and Preschool. Our brother-in-law grew up in Brazil and he and his children are dual citizens. Kristen is very close with her sister. Ma is the only living great-grandparent on both sides of our family. She enjoys teaching Sunday school at her church and interacting with the many kids in her neighborhood. She also bakes the most delicious cookies!

FRIENDSHIPS



We treasure our friendships! God has been so kind to surround us with friends throughout our lives. Kristen has several friends from college that she still is very close to, however, they live a couple of hours away (some farther away). When we get together we have such a fun time and so do all of our children! Daniel has several long-term friends, many from previous churches he has been a part of. These men have been a blessing and encouragement to him. Locally, our closest friends are families in our church. We are so thankful for these friendships and love getting together over a meal, coffee, or fun activity. Our friends have been praying for our family throughout the adoption process and are so supportive! They are looking forward to showing love to the newest member of our family when the time comes.

HOME, *sweet* HOME.



We live in a 3-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom home. We have a playroom downstairs full of toys and learning activities for our son as well as any children who come to visit. We have a fenced-in backyard, with a lock, and a small lake behind the fence. Perhaps one day we will buy a paddle boat or canoe to enjoy the water together. Our backyard has several play toys and plenty of room to run around. Our neighborhood has a playground, tennis court, and pool. We enjoy taking walks around our neighborhood. We are five minutes away from our son's preschool and 10 minutes away from the church building. We live centrally in our town and have access to a variety of restaurants, grocery stores, parks, entertainment, etc.

THE baby's NURSERY



We have set up a nursery with a bear, bees, and honey theme. It's suitable for a boy or a girl! We want our child to feel so very special in their room. We look forward to adding more personalized touches once we know more about what they will one day like and enjoy. In the room, every member of our family has signed the back of a piece of art that reads "You Are So Loved". Kristen's sister painted this for us. Our family all wrote messages of love, support, and how excited we are to meet your baby.

OUR FAMILY VALUES

Christ

In our home, you will hear the name of Jesus all the time. We trust in the good news of Jesus in our place. It is our greatest desire for our children to one day repent, believe, and live for Jesus.

Community

In our home, we prioritize living in community with others. We often have guests in our home for church community group, playdates, meals, and other events because it's something we so strongly value.

Communication

In our home, we strive to communicate respectfully and clearly with one another. We want to take time to talk to each other and truly listen. We believe in modeling what it looks like to live at peace with others and truly forgive one another.

Care

In our home, you will hear "I love you" a whole lot. We want our children to know we love them unconditionally and that they can come to us when they have questions, have messed up, or need help.

Comedy

In our home, you will hear lots of laughter. Though it's important to be serious at times, we also want to enjoy life and be silly with our children.



OUR *sentiments*

Thank you for taking the time to get to know our family! We truly believe God is already orchestrating the details for you and your child's life. We know that your child is "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14) and we are praying that "He will show you which path to take" (Proverbs 3:6) in this very difficult decision. We are continuing to pray for you and your baby!

With love,

Daniel, Kristen, & James





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