



Ryan & Whitney

Hello!

Thank you for taking the time to read our profile book. While we'd much rather sit down with you over a nice meal to chat and answer all your questions, it is our hope that this book can answer some of those and give you more of a sense of our family. We love deeply, we make mistakes and forgive often, we try to always be learning and growing, and do all we can to give our kids every opportunity to soar.

After struggling with infertility, adoption became part of our family's story with the birth of our daughter, Addy, in 2017, and we cannot imagine life without her. We give thanks every day for her incredible first mama, whom we love dearly.

Please know that above all, we love and are praying for you. It is our sincere belief that every child is a precious gift, and you sincerely have our love and support as you consider your choices.

We are deeply humbled and honored to have you consider us as adoptive parents for your child, and it would be such a privilege and gift to us to have the chance to walk alongside you in this journey. You and your baby are both in our prayers throughout this process, and we pray for your peace, health, and comfort, now and into the future.

Sincerely,

Ryan & Whitney



Our family



Hi! We are Ryan & Whitney, with our kids, Parker & Addy. Our kids are our whole world, and it is the greatest blessing and joy to be their parents. We would love nothing more than to grow our family. Parker and Addy have the most amazing relationship - even with their 11 year age difference! But with Parker heading to college in a few years (which is so hard to believe!), we have always prayed for a younger sibling to grow up with Addy. Addy is just born to be a big sister - she's the most natural nurturer and adores taking care of her younger cousins.





Parker & Addy are so excited to welcome and love a new sibling!



We love to travel and enjoy sharing those experiences with our kids.



Being outdoors, and especially exploring our National Parks, is one of our favorite things.

≡ Fun Facts ≡

Whitney & Ryan drove 19 hours, through 9 states, in the middle of an ice-storm to make it to the hospital for Addy's birth!

Ryan is fluent in Spanish and studied abroad in Spain for a year in college.

Whitney once held several state records in swimming.

Ryan completed the Marine Corps Marathon and runs the local 5k Turkey Trot every Thanksgiving Day before cooking Thanksgiving dinner.

Whitney, her aunt, and her niece (Abigail) all share a birthday, December 12th (12/12)!

Ryan has visited 48 states and most of our US National Parks.

About Ryan



Ryan was born and raised in the suburbs outside of Chicago. Both of his parents were educators, which meant they enjoyed summers traveling the country. Ryan's love for travel has taken him to 48 states and almost all of our National Parks, something he enjoys introducing to our kids..

Ryan loves anything outdoors: hiking, running, camping, working in the yard, boating, fishing (especially fly-fishing), relaxing at the beach, or cheering on a baseball game. When he isn't enjoying time outdoors, our family is spoiled by his excellent cooking,!

Ryan is an incredible father, sharing his love for history, travel, cooking, the outdoors and exploring with Parker & Addy, while also encouraging and supporting their own unique interests and hobbies.





About Whitney

Whitney was born in Ohio, but in order to escape the cold winters, her family soon moved Charlotte, NC. Both Whitney and her brother were competitive swimmers, so she doesn't remember a time when they weren't in a pool!

Whitney adores children, which works out perfectly since she works at our church's Jr. Kindergarten through 8th grade school. She was lucky to work there for most of the time Parker was in school, and now Addy has started school there as well!

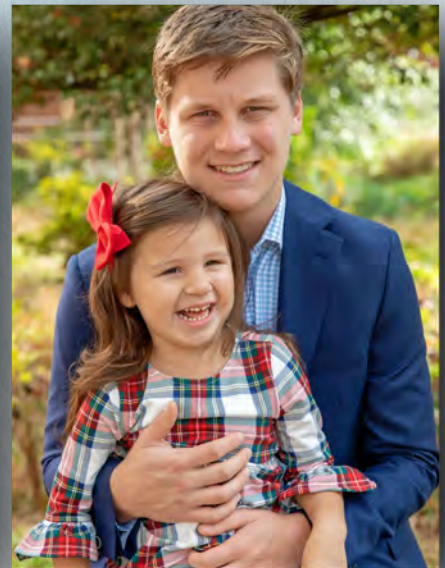
Whitney enjoys baking - something she's especially loving sharing with Addy. She loves time with family and friends, going to the beach, exploring museums, camping, and taking care of our garden. Whitney documents our adventures with lots of photos!



About Parker



Parker is the most incredible big brother. Even though he's 11 years older than Addy (and a high-schooler!), he always makes time for his little sister. (Don't tell his high school friends, but his little sister can always convince him to watch a Disney movie with her!)



Parker started high school during the pandemic, and jumped right into the high school experience - playing varsity football and lacrosse, being selected to participate in his school's scholars program, and making lots of new friends. While we're excited to see what Parker's future holds, none of us are quite ready to see him leave for college in just a few short years!



About Addy



Addy is five, which makes her pretty excited these days! She absolutely radiates joy - whether she's singing, dancing, reading her books, riding her bike, or delighting in her big brother. She loves school, and her teachers often comment on what a kind and sweet friend she is to all her classmates.



Addy is Lakota Sioux, and it is very important to us to teach her about and celebrate her heritage. Whether we're working on learning the Lakota language together, reading books by Lakota authors, learning about and watching Lakota dancers, we want to give her every opportunity to know and appreciate her heritage.



Our Home



Our neighborhood is perfect for enjoying family walks - or for the kids to get out on their bikes. It also has wonderful parks within walking distance, as well as great local restaurants. Additionally, we have easy access to the opportunities of a major metropolitan area, including great museums. We are an easy drive from the mountains, where we love to go hiking and camping, and also a short distance to the beach.

We love spending time outdoors in our yard gardening or relaxing. Our back patio is perfect for enjoying comfortable days, grilling out, or getting cozy by the firepit and roasting marshmallows for s'mores on a cooler evening!



One of our first projects when we bought our house was to finish the basement, which is now the ultimate playroom - filled with a great "princess cottage," kids-trampoline, gymnastic bar, and toys galore!

Family Traditions



Traditions we can't wait to share:

Making s'mores over the fire pit, hanging Christmas stockings, Ryan teaching our children to cook, nightly prayers and story-time, pulling out all of our favorite Christmas ornaments, decorating for and celebrating birthdays, carving Halloween pumpkins, fall apple-picking and homemade apple pies and apple sauce, going camping and hiking, going to see "A Christmas Carol" each December, planting our garden every spring, and more.

OUR FAVORITES



We love Christmas lights, and we love family trips to see light displays!



Time with family and trips to the beach in the summer are always favorites!



Living near the water provides lots of fun opportunities - like taking the kids fishing. Ryan is even starting to teach Parker how to fly-fish now, too!



Adventures outdoors are some of our favorites! We love to go camping and hiking, and sharing those experiences with our kids is so important!



We all love cooking, and it is so fun to watch both Parker and Addy learning their way around the kitchen now, too!



Fall means apple picking! It is wonderful to live an easy drive from the mountains and some great family farms and orchards.



Whether it is enjoying a walk around the neighborhood together, or traveling on an adventure, we love spending time and making memories as a family.



We believe it is important to encourage our children to explore their interests - whether that is sports, music, art, or other activities.

Family



Whitney's parents, Brenda & Jim (Bidsy and Granddaddy), live less than an hour and a half away right on the river. Being so close means we are able to spend weekends together, celebrate holidays and birthdays together, and see them often.

Bidsy & Granddaddy adore their grandchildren, and even a simple weekend with them feels like a special occasion!

GRANDPARENTS

make the world a little softer, kinder, and warmer



Whitney's younger brother Reid and his wife Melissa have two adorable little girls - Caroline and Abigail, who are just a few years younger than Addy. We love spending time together, and especially our family trips to the beach. Parker and Addy adore their younger cousins, and Addy is such a sweet big cousin, always wanting to hold, feed, and take care of her little cousins. Reid and Melissa are the best uncle and aunt, and we love how much they love our kids.





Ryan's dad and step-mom, Dave and June (Nana & Papa) adore and spoil their grandchildren in the very best ways, and they are so excited for another grandbaby to love!

We love taking trips together, and have spent time with them in Colonial Williamsburg, in the mountains of Shenandoah National Park, and more!



Family



Ryan's mom, Barb (Grandma), loves to travel, enjoying trips to New Zealand, Antarctica, and throughout the US. She's a wonderful photographer, and her photos have won a number of awards. She loves taking pictures of our family, and she's very excited to have another grandchild to photograph!

Ryan's parents (and Whitney's mom) were all educators before they retired, so they have so much great experience and guidance to share. But most importantly, they love us and their grandchildren unconditionally, and adore spending time together! They make sure that our children know how loved and supported they are always.



We consider our friends to be a special part of our extended family, and they have walked beside us for years. Many of our friends have also adopted, and they welcomed Addy with open hearts and arms and love and cherish her just as much as we have.

They join us in sending you and your baby love and support, and they want you to know that they promise to love and support this child and our family always.

Our Promises



We will keep our home filled with books and read with your child every day.



We will laugh, play, smile, sing, dance, and fill your child's life with joy.



We will teach your child to ride a bike, ice skate, throw a baseball, swim, explore, love beauty, clouds, count the stars, make s'mores, and all the other adventures of childhood.



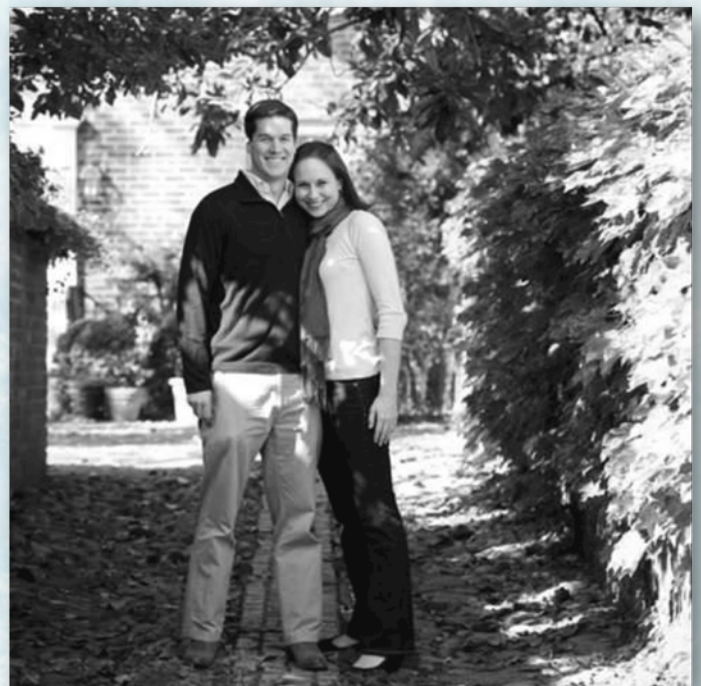
We will teach your child to be a good friend, to be kind and respectful, the value of hard work, the importance of forgiveness and joy of helping others.



We will make education a priority, and always attend school events.



Most importantly, we will always make sure your child knows how very much he or she is loved. By God. By you. And by us. Always.





Thank you for taking the time to look through our book. It seems so hard to try and give you a good feel for who we are in such a short space, but we hope that it has given you just a glimpse into our family, and the love, joy, and nurturing we long to share with a child.

Please know how much we appreciate your consideration, and no matter what you decide, we continue to pray for peace and comfort for you in your decision, and the very best for you and your baby always.



Ryan, Whitney, Parker, & Addy



