



ben &  
emily

Adoption

SUPPORT CENTER  
CALL OR TEXT 317-255-5916

# hello,

We write this letter to you with hopeful anticipation of what could come, but also the sincerest appreciation for your time and consideration. **WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ADOPTION IS NOT AN EASY CHOICE TO CONSIDER.**

**WE HOPE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A PICTURE OF OUR LIFE, SO YOU CAN UNDERSTAND WHO WE ARE.** We are Ben and Emily. We have been together for ten years, married for five. We live with our dogs, two of which are rescue pups, and the other a certified therapy dog. Emily is a Registered Nurse that works with pediatric patients. Ben is a Police Officer who specializes in mental health. **WE ARE HONEST AND HARD-WORKING PEOPLE WHOSE LIVES FOCUS ON SERVING OTHERS.** God is at the center of our life. We believe that our paths have crossed for a reason.

As prospective parents, we look forward to activities like family time on Christmas morning, cheering loudly at sporting events, movie nights at home, making pillow forts, visiting Grandma's house, playing with cousins, riding bikes in neighborhood, and catching lighting bugs. **WE WANT YOUR CHILD TO FEEL EMPOWERED TO DREAM BIG AND WE WILL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN AS PARENTS TO MAKE SURE THEY DO.**

**WE ARE OPEN TO AN ADOPTION THAT WORKS FOR ALL OF US.** We envision weekly texts or phone calls for the first six months, and from there transitioning to monthly calls, virtual phone chats, or texts until your child is one year of age. We are open to in-person visits 1-2 times per year and envision meeting at an agreed upon location in your hometown or near you. We are also open to keeping you updated by sending photos so you can follow milestones and watch your child grow. **WE ARE OPEN TO DISCUSSING ALL OF THIS WITH YOU. WE RESPECT YOUR WISHES AND ARE OPEN TO YOUR THOUGHTS.**

We recognize that this is a difficult time and want you to know that your courage, strength, and selflessness is admirable. **REGARDLESS OF WHAT DECISION YOU FEEL IS BEST FOR YOU AND YOUR CHILD, WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR CHILD IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS.**

Sincerely,

**-Ben & Emily**



# OUR STORY

WE MET BACK IN 2013 AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT. We were both there with friends and waiting for a table. Emily was 19 and had just graduated high school and Ben was 20 and home for summer break after his first year in college.

LITTLE DID WE KNOW THAT THE 15-MINUTE WAIT FOR A TABLE WOULD BE AS LIFE CHANGING AS IT WAS.

A few days after this encounter, we began messaging and talking non-stop. We eventually went on our first official date and spent the evening putt-putting, getting ice cream and walking around downtown Carmel, and then sitting and talking at a local park for hours.



Emily was drawn to Ben's work ethic, sense of humor, and quiet confidence. Ben was drawn to Emily's beauty, sense of adventure, and her ability to make him feel safe and comfortable.



Fast forward to December 2015, after dating throughout college, Ben surprised Emily with a horse-drawn-carriage ride around downtown Indianapolis. We were both dressed up and prepared to exchange Christmas gifts on the carriage ride. Ben gave Emily a heated blanket.....very thoughtful indeed, but not exactly what she was hoping for. Little did Emily know this was a diversion for the true gift ahead. **AT THE END OF THE CARRIAGE RIDE, BEN GOT DOWN ON ONE KNEE AND ASKED THE QUESTION, "WILL YOU MARRY ME?"** OBVIOUSLY, THE ANSWER WAS "YES."





**We are truly best friends and love spending time together with our three dogs by our side.**

We love that we are authentically able to be ourselves with one another. We have seen one another at our weakest and strongest. We have experienced highs and lows, but ultimately we keep choosing one another each and every day.

**“WHAT TRULY MAKES ME LOVE BEN THE MOST IS SEEING HIS COMPASSION FOR OTHERS.** I often times hear him on the phone with his clients that are in crisis. He is with people at their absolute darkest moments, takes them by the hand, and leads them towards the light. **HIS SENSE OF STEADINESS, EASE, AND EMPATHY WILL MAKE HIM AN EXCELLENT FATHER.”**



**“EMILY IS SELFLESS AND THAT IS WHAT I LOVE MOST ABOUT HER.** She puts her family, friends, dogs and me before anything else. I know that she will put a child’s needs, desires and wishes above her own wants. **EMILY WILL ENSURE THE CHILD KNOWS WHAT LOVE AND SUPPORT IS AND THE CHILD WILL NOT WANT FOR ANYTHING.** She will provide our little one with all the tools needed for success.”



OUR RELATIONSHIP IS UNIQUE IN THE SENSE THAT EVEN THOUGH WE MET AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE WE HAVE NEVER WAVERED IN OUR LOVE AND COMMITMENT TO ONE ANOTHER. Rather than us growing up and growing apart, we have grown up together. We cheer one another on to reach personal and professional goals. Not many couples at 28 and 29 can say they have been together 10 years, have bought two homes together, grieved the loss of two parents, adopted three dogs, and struggled through infertility together and came out stronger. **WHILE WE HAVE BEEN THROUGH TOUGH TIMES, OUR BEST ATTRIBUTE IS OUR ABILITY TO LIFT EACH OTHER UP AND COME OUT AS A STRONGER COUPLE.**



**“The values we would like to instill in our child include confidence, respect and self-worth, service to others, and compassion.”**

Being a Cop and a nurse we are both dedicated to serving our community.

**WE ARE DEPENDABLE PEOPLE WHO  
FOCUS ON HELPING OTHERS.**

We are both Christians who believe in treating others the way we would want to be treated. We believe in loving everyone no matter their age, gender, sexuality, or race. We plan to raise our child in a faith-filled home that includes going to church, participating in community service, and empowering others.

I am a nurse at a local pediatric hospital where I specialize in orthopedics. We see a wide variety of children ranging from broken bones, to severe trauma cases. **WHILE SOME DAYS CAN BE CHALLENGING I FEEL THIS IS MY PASSION IN LIFE.**

I grew up in Indianapolis near Broad Ripple. I am blessed to live within 30 minutes of my mom and sister. I **LOVE LIVING CLOSE TO MY FAMILY AND OFTEN SPEND MY FREE TIME WITH MY 4 YEAR OLD NIECE AND 2 YEAR OLD NEPHEW.**

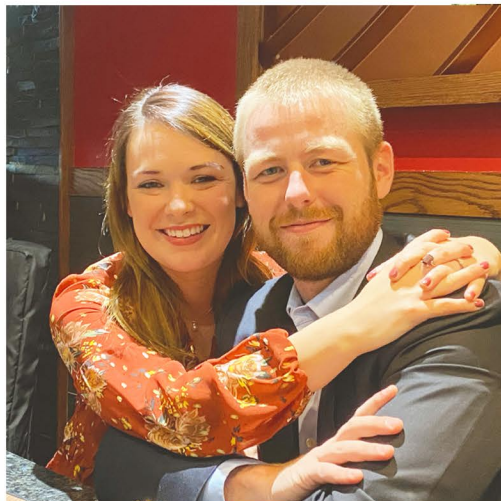


#### **SOME OF MY FAVORITE THINGS ARE...**

Spending time with my family. Visiting South Haven, MI and spending time by the lighthouse or on the beach. I love to be outdoors whether relaxing on our back deck, hiking at local parks or going kayaking. I also enjoy interior design and making our house into a home. You can often find me on the weekends painting, or doing home renovation projects. I also enjoy movie nights at home with Ben and spending time with our three dogs. I am very passionate about rescuing animals.



**MEET**  
**emily**





# MEET BEN

I grew up in Carmel, IN with my 2 parents and younger sister. Growing up our family was always on the go. My sister and I played competitive hockey and traveled around the country. **WE SPENT MANY WEEKENDS CAMPING AND ENJOYING THE OUTDOORS AT OUR FAMILY FARM.**

As I grew up, I never lost my competitive drive and enjoyment for the outdoors. I continue to play hockey, hike, kayak, and spend time with our 3 dogs enjoying the gifts of nature.

My family is my main priority and passion. I enjoy spending time with Emily and hosting our families and friends for holidays and game nights.

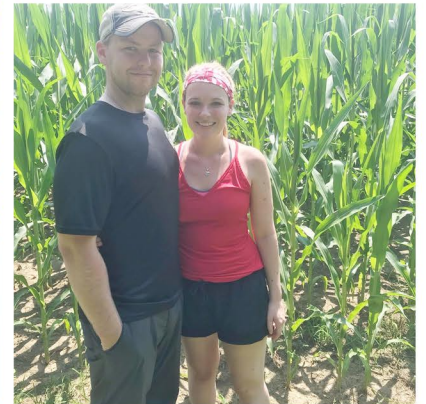
**OUTSIDE OF MY FAMILY, I HAVE A PASSION FOR MY WORK AS POLICE OFFICER AND THERAPY K9 HANDLER.** I developed a specialized crisis response team that focuses on connecting citizens in crisis to local resources.





# a little about us...

WE BOTH HAVE A STRONG PRIORITY ON FAMILY.  
We have the ability to laugh at ourselves and find the humor in any situation.



## OUR FAVORITE THINGS TO DO AS A FAMILY ARE...

No matter what we are doing we enjoy one another's company. **WE ENJOY BEING OUTDOORS.** We often will go on a hike or go kayaking to enjoy being in nature. This could also look like spending time at home on our front porch which is one of our favorite spots in our home. We enjoy listening to music and will find local musicians to go see to experience new things around us. We enjoy trying out new local restaurants. Having family over or enjoying their company at family get togethers is something we always look forward to.

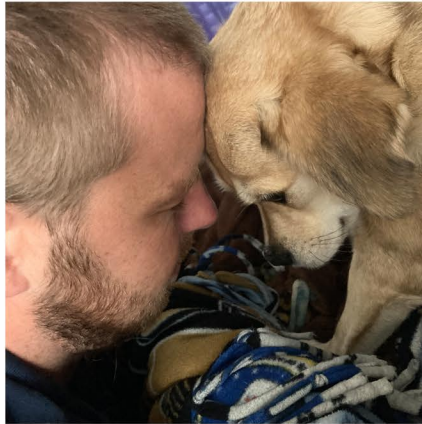
A TYPICAL WEEKEND FOR US USUALLY INCLUDES GETTING TOGETHER WITH FAMILY, OR FRIENDS. WE ENJOY GOING OUT TO RESTAURANTS, HAVING AT HOME DATE NIGHTS, AND RELAXING TOGETHER WITH OUR DOGS.



# Meet Abby, Holly & Luna

**ABBY IS OUR 10 YEAR OLD PUG/BEAGLE MIX.** We have had her for six years. We rescued her from a local shelter after she was homeless for 6 months.

**ABBY ENJOYS RELAXING, NAPPING, AND EATING.** She is quiet but is the first to be down for a belly rub. She loves to get a butt scratch from her niece and nephew.



**HOLLY IS OUR 3 YEAR OLD TERRIER/GREY HOUND MIX.** She is the sassy one of the group. She was rescued from the side of the road in St. Louis when she was only a few days old. She insists on sleeping in between mom and dad, under the covers at night. **SHE LOVES TO GIVE KISSES AND IS ALWAYS DOWN TO PLAY FETCH/ROMP AROUND.** She is dying to have a little boy or girl to play fetch with.



**LUNA IS OUR 2 YEAR OLD BLACK LABRADOR THAT IS A CERTIFIED THERAPY CANINE WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.** She is the first in the country to perform the role she does. She goes to work all day with Ben. They respond to mental health crisis calls within the community. She has various commands including, snuggle, go say hi, visit, and knuckles. **SHE IS HAPPIEST WHEN SHE IS SURROUNDED BY PEOPLE AND WORKING.** At home Luna enjoys cuddling on the couch and playing with her toys. **SHE ESPECIALLY LOVES WHEN OUR NIECE AND NEPHEW COME OVER.** She gives lots of kisses and is very interactive with the kids during playtime.





# WHERE WE CALL HOME



**WE RECENTLY MOVED TO THIS FAMILY STYLE HOME AS WE BEGAN TO PREPARE TO GROW OUR FAMILY.** Our home was built in the mid-1990s, but was recently renovated to include modern updates that make it more functional overall.

**OUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS VERY FAMILY FRIENDLY.** Our home is on a cul- de-sac that has a strong sense of community. There are always children out playing soccer, kickball, and tag. The parents often sit in lawn chairs in their front yards watching the children play and socializing. **WE LOOK FORWARD TO SITTING AND WATCHING OUR FUTURE CHILD PLAY WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS FROM OUR FRONT PORCH.**

We also have a large back yard that includes a large willow tree, deck, and play set. **THE YARD IS ALSO FENCED IN MAKING IT A SAFE PLACE FOR CHILDREN AND PETS TO EXPLORE.**





# OUR FAMILIES

## Emily's side...

I grew up in Indianapolis and had one sister who is seven years older than me. My father passed away when I was 12 years old. This has shaped me into the person that I am today in more ways than I could express. **IT HAS TAUGHT ME THE IMPORTANCE OF FAMILY AND THE LIMITED AMOUNT OF TIME WE HAVE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

My mom lives 20 minutes away and insists this is too far. She is re-married and actively involved in both my sister and my life. **I TALK TO HER EVERY DAY ON THE PHONE AND SEE HER SEVERAL TIMES A MONTH.**

We enjoy going to garden centers during the summer to pick out flowers.

My sister now lives only 12 minutes away from us. She is married and has two children. Mary is our spunky 4 year old niece who wears a different princess dress to school each day. Patrick is our 2 year old nephew who enjoys dinosaurs, cars, and being on the go. **WE SEE THEM ABOUT ONCE A WEEK AND HAVE TRULY CHERISHED OUR TIME AS AUNT EM AND UNCLE BEN.**

**AS A FAMILY, WE ENJOY GETTING TOGETHER TO HAVE GAME NIGHTS, COOKIE EXCHANGES, AND SHARE QUALITY TIME AWAY FROM THE CHAOS OF EVERYDAY LIFE.**

## Ben's side...

I grew up in Carmel IN with one sister who is 4 years younger. My father continues to live in our childhood home which is about 10 minutes away from where we live.

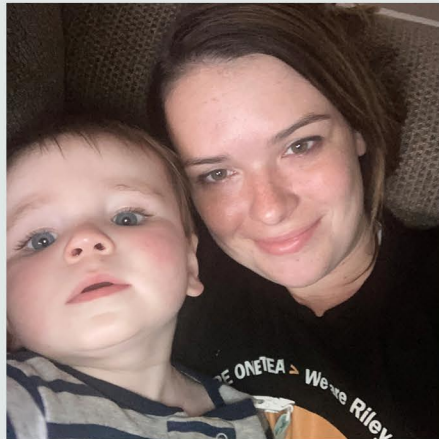
**WE REGULARLY GET TO SEE EACH OTHER AND WE LOVE HAVING FAMILY CLOSE BY.** My mother passed away in June of 2022 after a battle with cancer. **WHILE THIS WAS EXTREMELY HARD, AND I MISS HER VERY MUCH, HER PASSING EXEMPLIFIED HOW STRONG AND CONNECTED OUR FAMILY IS.**

**MY SISTER AND I ARE CLOSE AND HAVE MANY THINGS IN COMMON.** We speak regularly and are often having playful arguments over which professional hockey team is better. She is nurse at a local hospital and I am extremely proud of her accomplishments.

**WE REGULARLY SEE EXTENDED FAMILY WHO I VIEW NO DIFFERENTLY THAN MY PARENTS.** I enjoy spending time with them at family gatherings and I know they will be a valuable asset to us as we grow our family.

**WE WILL NEVER BE ASKED TO DO ANYTHING ALONE BECAUSE OUR FAMILIES WILL BE BY OUR SIDE EACH AND EVERY STEP OF THE WAY.**

# our families





# Our Hearts for Adoption

THE DECISION TO HAVE CHILDREN WAS NOT DIFFICULT AS WE BOTH HAVE ALWAYS WANTED CHILDREN. THE ABILITY TO HAVE BIOLOGICAL CHILDREN WAS THE DIFFICULT PART.



After 3 years of infertility, countless failed treatments and surgeries, we began to really question if we are meant to be parents. After prayerful consideration we each independently felt that God was calling us to adopt.

WE CAME TOGETHER AND REALIZED THAT WE BOTH HAD THE SAME CALLING.

**We agreed that this is the path that God chose for us to grow our family.**

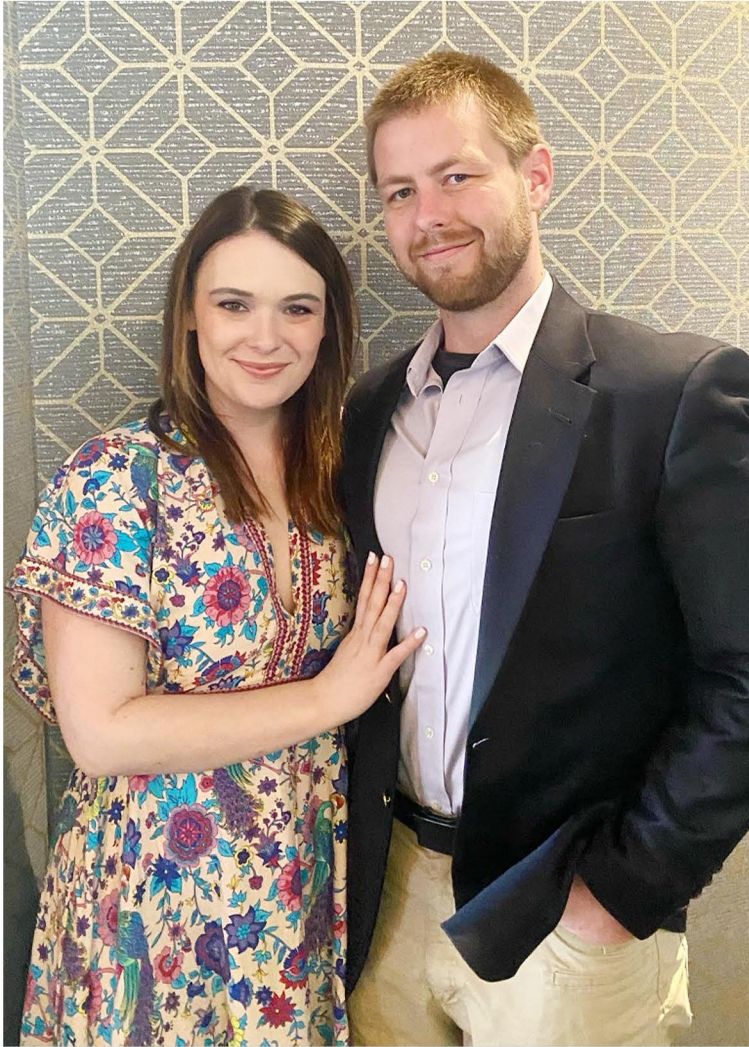
We feel that we are unable to have children biologically because we were meant to be parents through adoption.

While we know that through adoption a child may not look like us, and may not have our DNA, that doesn't change the fact that this child will be family.

**We are prepared to love and support a child.**







**“We hope to foster a relationship full of love and respect to ensure this child is proud of both their adoptive family and birth family.”**

We **COMMIT** to loving this child no matter what and supporting them.

We **COMMIT** to supporting their dreams and making them a reality.

We **COMMIT** to keeping this child safe both physically and emotionally.

**WE UNDERSTAND THIS IS NOT JUST AN 18 YEAR COMMITMENT, BUT RATHER A LIFELONG COMMITMENT FOR WHICH WE ARE PREPARED FOR.**

We also have the help of our extended families backing us.

**WE ARE PREPARED TO EMBRACE THIS CHILD'S BIRTH FAMILY AND BE UNIFIED IN OUR COMMON GOAL OF PROVIDING A QUALITY LIFE FOR THIS CHILD.**

**-Ben and Emily**