



Amanda, Brad
& Elijah



Hello

Thank you for taking time to look through our book. We hope you will get to know us a little bit and see the love we have for our family, and what the life of a child could look like.

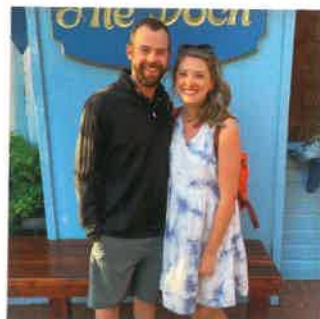
We have always dreamed about being parents even before we were married. We adopted our first son Elijah at birth in 2019.

We would love for Elijah to have a sibling to grow up and bond with so we are thrilled to hopefully adopt again!

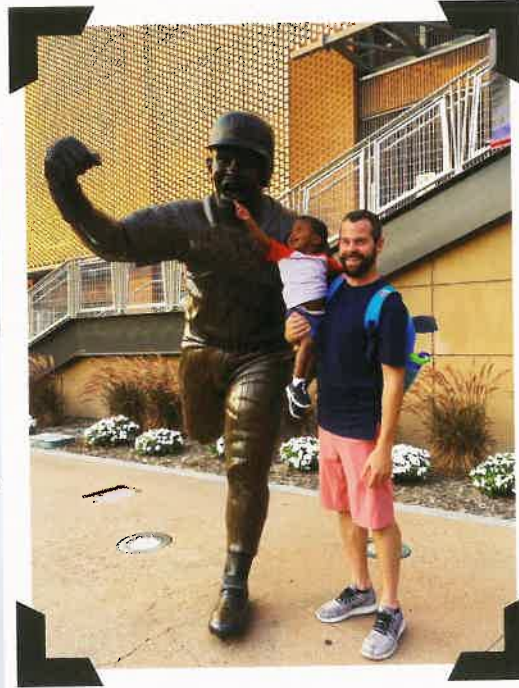
We want you to know how much respect and love we have for you already. We pray that you have strength and courage as you go through this process. Know that we are thinking of you and wishing you the best in this journey.

With Love,

Brad, Amanda, Elijah



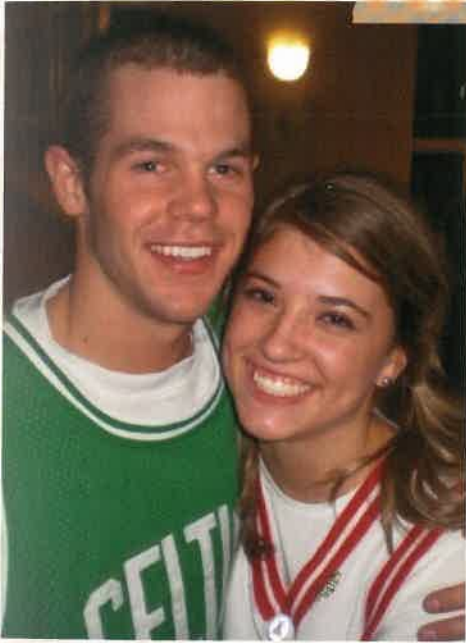
ALL ABOUT US



We live in Minnesota and absolutely love it! We live near lots of family and friends. There is so much we love to do even in our cold winters.

We love to hike and bike the trails in the summer and walk the frozen lakes in the winter. We love our Minnesota sports teams!

One of our favorite things is the Minnesota State Fair. We go every year at the end of the summer and our favorite food is the roasted corn!



In 2008, Brad and Amanda met in college.

In 2013, we got married.

In 2019, we adopted our son, Elijah.



Amanda



Job: Teacher
Favorite Foods: chocolate & pasta
Favorite Musician: Ingrid Michaelson
Hobbies: reading, cooking, hiking
Favorite Show: Stranger Things

I love being outside,
spending time with my
family, doing yoga, and I
love being Elijah's mommy.



Amanda from Brad's
perspective:

One of my favorite things about Amanda is that she cherishes our time together as a family. She is always finding new and creative ways to play with Elijah and he LOVES it!



My mom is my best friend. She is my role model and the reason I wanted to be a mom.



BRAD



Job: Technology Sales
Favorite Musicians: J. Cole, Chance the Rapper and Eric Church
Favorite Sport: Basketball
What I wanted to be when I was 5 Years old: "Taco Maker" I've always loved Tacos!



My best friend, Ashley and I challenging ourselves by hiking a mountain in Colorado.

Brad from Amanda's perspective:

One thing I love about Brad is his passion. When he loves something, he is dedicated and all in. He has been this way with his family, basketball and now his number one passion - Elijah. Everything Brad does is for Elijah. He is the best dad and I know he's ready to welcome another child into our family.



After work I love being with my family and going for walks on all the paths by our house.

Elijah

Elijah is happy,
curious, playful and
funny.

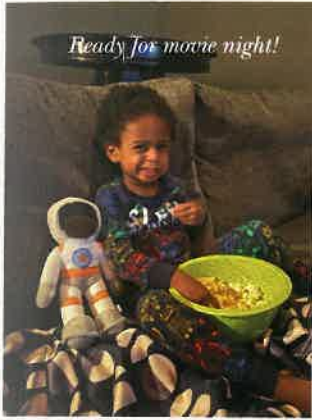
He has brought so
much joy to our lives
and our love for him
grows every day.



Favorite Food: Pizza
Favorite color: Blue
Favorite Toy: Monster
Trucks
Favorite Movie: Cars
Hobbies: swimming,
building with Legos,
riding my bike, playing
with trucks

OUR HOME

We love to spend time in our home making food, watching movies and hosting parties. Our favorite place to be is the porch.



Ready for movie night!



The porch!



*Making pancakes,
a family favorite*



*Elijah helping us
get a room ready
for a new sibling!*

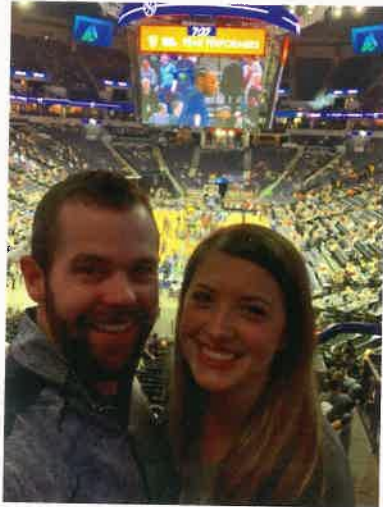


*We're also lucky to have
great paths and nearby
parks that we walk to
almost every day. And
also a lake with a great
beach, which Elijah
loves!*

OUR INTERESTS



Having fun at an airshow.



Minnesota Timberwolves
basketball game

WE LIKE...

- boating
- homemade pizza
- swimming
- going to the zoo
- hiking
- watching basketball
- traveling
- movies with popcorn
- biking
- playing board games
- fishing



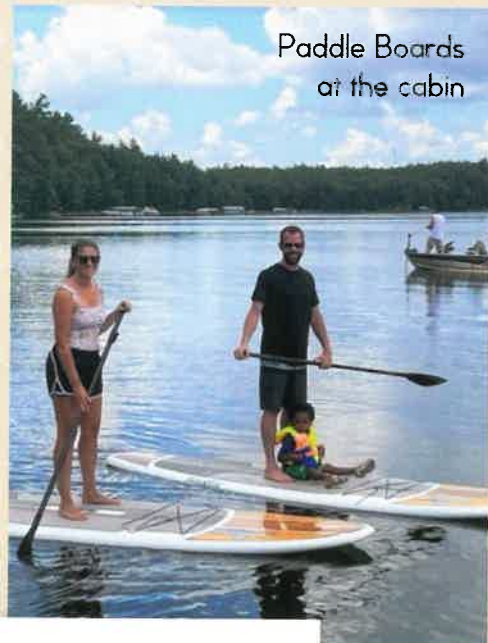
Visiting a local zoo.



Pool time!

We love to be with each other and think any activity, big or small, can be an adventure.

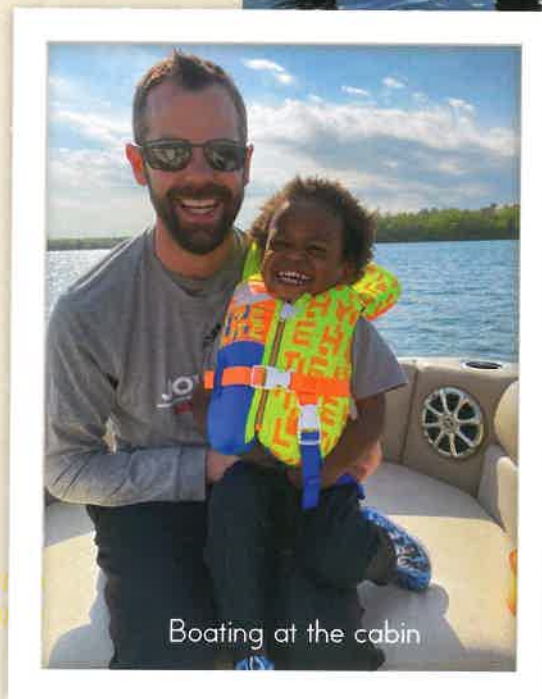
We want to make sure our children are happy, healthy and get to experience many adventures.



Paddle Boards at the cabin



Hiking in Arizona



Boating at the cabin

Brad's Family

We all live within 30 minutes of each other and love spending time together. We love playing and watching sports together.



Elijah loves to be with his big cousins (Maddy, Kennedy, and Ellie)



Elijah is loved so much by his grandparents!



Elijah gets his love of biking from Brad's family!



Brad with his brother at a Timberwolves basketball game

Amanda's Family



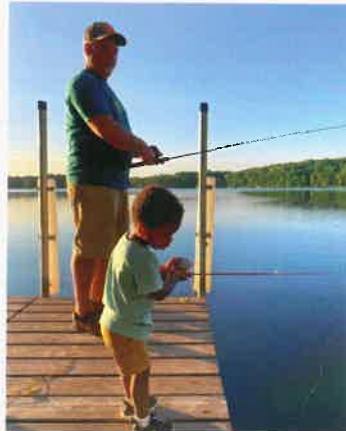
My parents (Keith & Debby) and 3 younger brothers all live close by and we get together often for dinners, celebrations and go to the cabin together on the summer weekends.



Elijah with his uncle Josh at the cabin.



Elijah is my parents first grandchild and they love being Papa and Gigi. It's been amazing to see them as grandparents.



Celebrating my little brother's engagement!

OUR FRIENDS: *They are like our family. They make us laugh and support us in the hard times. We are blessed to have them.*



We are still very close with many of our college friends.



Amanda with her co-workers and friends at a wedding.



Amanda and her best friend since they were born. Our sons are 10 days apart!



Brad with his best friend from college, Ashley. Ashley is also Elijah's godfather.



We get along with all our siblings and their spouses. We love to hang out with them!



Our goddaughter, Ellie



Amanda's goddaughter, Brooklyn

Friends & Fun Times



Amanda with her co-workers celebrating 100 days of school!



Our Goddaughter, Layana.



Holidays & Traditions

We both have large families that love to get together for holidays and special occasions



Celebrating Elijah's 2nd birthday with family



Christmas with Brad's family. Brad's dad is a deacon so we visit his church often during the holidays.



Annual Family Christmas Sweater Party at our house with Amanda's extended family.



We love Christmas and it's traditions. We get to visit Santa and decorate our tree.



This Easter we won the egg decorating contest.



Elijah has really started to love Halloween. We love going to orchards and dressing up together!



Amanda's mom and grandma making great-grandma's traditional Thanksgiving stuffing.

Our Promise



We promise to love a child unconditionally, to encourage them to follow their dreams and interests, and to fully be themselves. They will always go to bed and wake up with a kiss, a hug and an "I love You" from both of us.

We promise to share your story with them, and let them know how much you love them. They will know everything you want us to share about you and your love for them. The child will grow up knowing how brave you were and we will always speak of you with the respect and admiration you deserve.

We promise to teach strong character through experiences and opportunities; to learn compassion, empathy, and build a caring heart towards themselves and others. We will be there to guide them when they need direction. We will support them as they learn from making their own choices and build confidence in their decision making. Above all, no matter what, we will always love them every step of the way.

