

# Christian



I am excited to have the opportunity to introduce myself and my community to you! I am thrilled to be on my way to fatherhood and am excited to be able to provide a loving home for a baby.



Story time with some of my students



Two of my nephews. They and I love our visits in the summer!

I have been teaching children for almost a decade. My main focus has always been early childhood and this is where my main passion lies. Outside of school, I have also worked for many families as a nanny and tutor. These experiences with children not only gave me years of experience working with many types of children, but it solidified in my heart that I want to be a father.

To start my education career, I earned a B.A. in Sociology and Family Studies. It was after this that I earned my Masters in Early Childhood Education. My experiences with children as an undergraduate cemented my drive to begin my career as a teacher.

The perks of being an educator include set hours that allow for plenty of time together, many breaks to use for travel, and the summers off as a family. I am looking forward to experiencing the milestones of and encouraging growth in my own child!



Halloween!



Water Day! Everyone's favorite day of school!



Oscar and Mochi



My Home

For most of the year, I live in a suburb of Shanghai. I get the benefit though of four paid breaks per year and the summers off which I usually spend in the US. The area I live in is a beautiful gated neighborhood with an very international community. Within walking distance of my home are multiple playgrounds, pools, two parks, a doctors office, a movie theatre, many restaurants, tennis/soccer fields, multiple children's club, and the amazing PK-12 International School where I work. My community offers multiple play groups within the neighborhood for the children who are not in school yet. I also attend a church every Sunday that offers Sunday School classes for infants through high school.

My house is a spacious two bedroom condo with a balcony that overlooks a beautiful treescape. There is plenty of room to run and play and the building is full of families. Sleepovers and playdates happen daily. There are also two cats, Oscar and Mochi, who love nothing more than to sit in your lap.

Growing up, I never had a community as supportive or family friendly as this one. Most American expat families move to this area of the city to be near one another and to have access to all the amenities this area has to offer. I could not have imagined a better or more supportive community to start my family in. I can't wait to experience all that my neighborhood has to offer anew through the eyes of a child.



Nursery



Neighborhood Playground



My Family Exploring Ames, IA

My family and I are very close and speak often through Skype and Messenger. I visit them every summer and it is like I have never been away. My mother is extremely supportive of me and can't wait to be a doting Grandmother.

Every visit home includes time with cousins, nephews, Aunts and Uncles, and Grandparents. They are all just waiting to welcome another member to the family.

The community here has been one of the most welcoming and supportive I have seen anywhere. All of the teachers live in the same neighborhood, so there is always a friend to call on or a dinner to set up. We often travel together, and families plan multi-family trips to different countries. We celebrate the holidays by Trick-or-Treating, having Thanksgiving dinner together, throwing holiday parties, and putting on Easter egg hunts. When you are an expat, you all become a large extended family.

There are also many teachers and families here who have adopted children. They often get together for play dates and to support each other. Many are also single parents who stick together. One more child would be welcomed with open arms!



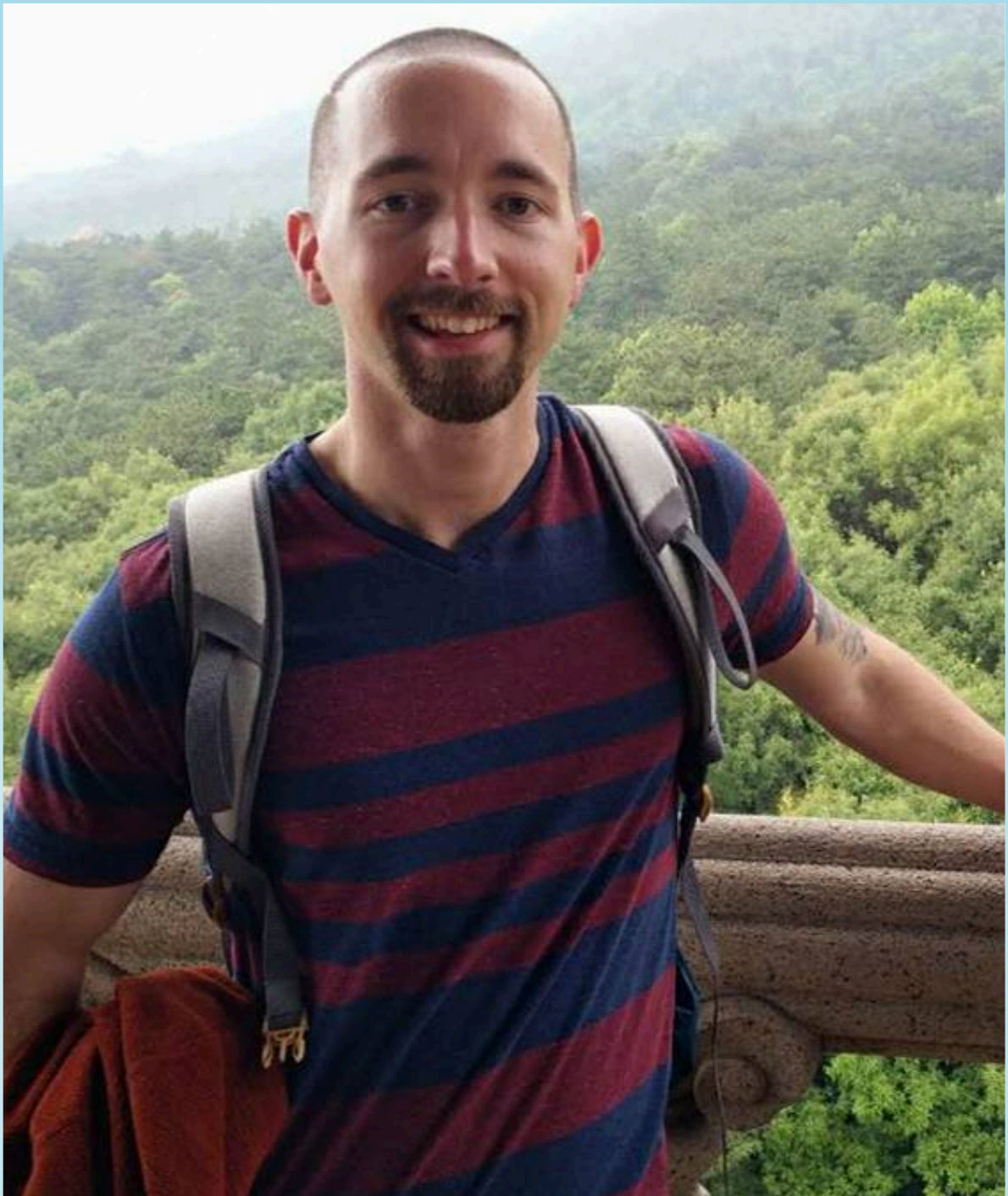
Trick-or-Treaters!



My Best Friend Larissa



Thailand Trip with Friends and their Adopted Daughter



Thank you for taking the time to read and look over my profile book. I hope that it has helped you get to know me a little better and I hope I get the opportunity to know you as well.

-Christian