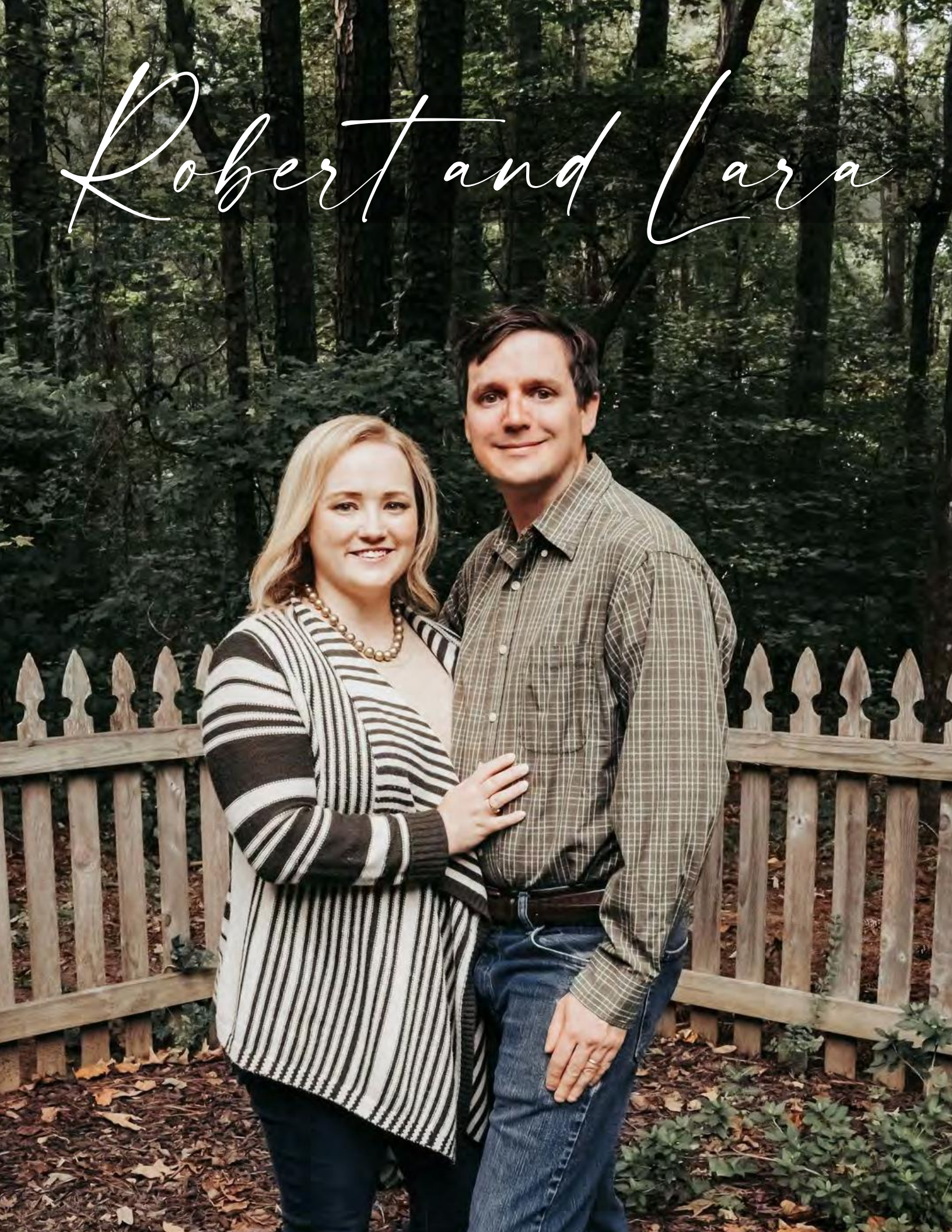


Robert and Lara





# hello

We are so grateful that you are considering blending your family with ours. For us, adoption is about having chosen family and knowing that you can never have enough people in your life who love, support, and believe in you.

We know you have many things to consider. Know that we are praying for you and your child. It is our genuine desire to know you and to love you - to welcome you into our world. We know God has big plans for each of us!

Thank you for taking time to get to know us. It would be a privilege to get to know you more as well.

W E C A N ' T W A I T T O M E E T Y O U

R O B E R T + L A R A

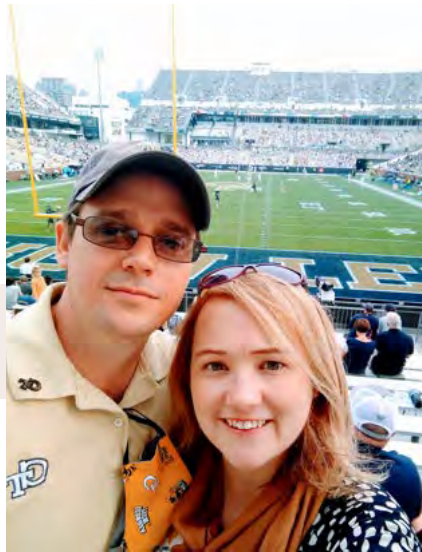
# Our Story

Our adventure began when we met working at summer camp at just 17 and 18 years old. Being childhood sweethearts is a very special part of our story.

When we met neither of us had ever met someone else who we could talk with so openly or who made each other laugh so much. We dated for 5 years and have been married for 14 years, meaning we have been together more of our lives than apart.

We have always known we wanted a large family . At first infertility seemed as if it may crush this dream. But God has blessed us with 3 great kiddos through adoption and we are excited to hopefully be growing our family again soon.

It is hard to put into words what our home is like – we are silly and adventurous. We are far from perfect, but we love each other, forgive each other, and cheer each other on when life gets crazy.





A B O U T

*Lara*

Lara's happy place is either snuggled up with a cozy blanket and a good book – or outside on a cool, crisp morning drinking coffee. She values building relationships and going on adventures with those she loves. Lara is an attorney. She owns her own law practice (just a few miles from home) which allows her to work a flexible schedule. Many weeks she works just 30 hours because even though she loves her work and the people she helps, her favorite job is being a mom.



*my favorite things*

KAYAKING & PADDLE BOARDING  
BINGE WATCHING NETFLIX  
MESSY ART PROJECTS  
READING OUT LOUD WITH OUR CHILDREN  
PLAYING BOARD GAMES WITH FRIENDS

FAVORITE FOOD: COFFEE & CHOCOLATE  
WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BE: AN ARTIST  
OR A SOCIAL WORKER  
WHAT I DO NOW: ATTORNEY





A B O U T

# Robert

Robert is a self-proclaimed nerd – in the best way possible. He loves learning and actually has 4 college degrees. He dreams of one day getting his PhD. Robert also loves the outdoors – camping, hiking, and kayaking! He even built a small campsite on the back of our property. Robert works in engineering research for a large university. His job allows him to mostly work from home. When he's not working from home he gets to be a drone pilot and travel to research facilities throughout the country.

## *my favorite things*

COOKING  
LEARNING NEW "DAD JOKES"  
CAMPING, HIKING & KAYAKING  
PLAYING MAGIC & STRATEGY GAMES

FAVORITE FOOD: COFFEE & STEAK  
WHEN I GREW UP I WANTED TO BE: CIVIL  
ENGINEER

WHAT I DO NOW: TRANSPORTATION  
ENGINEERING RESEARCH









## L E L A N D

LOYAL, NURTURING AND SUPPORTIVE.

**Leland loves:**

Running and soccer

Video Games

Harry Potter

Fishing (He definitely gets from his biological father!)

**When he grows up he wants to be:**

Astronaut

**Favorite Joke:** How do you make a tissue dance? – put a little boogie in it.



## E L I Z A B E T H

MAKES THE WORLD A MORE BEAUTIFUL PLACE.

**Elizabeth loves:**

All Animals – especially cats!

Swimming

Playing dress up – princesses and super heroes

**When she grows up she wants to be:**

A librarian (with a library cat named Murphy)

**Favorite Joke:** Why did the girl throw the butter out the window? – she wanted to see butter-fly



## C H A R L O T T E

STANDS UP FOR WHAT IS RIGHT AND FOR OTHERS.

**Charlotte loves:**

Dancing

Everything purple!

Sea Turtle & Owls

**When she grows up she wants to be:**

Doctor ... and a mom!

**Favorite Joke:** Why can't you play hide and seek with a Pokemon? - because they always "Pikachu"

# what we believe in

## **GOD**

We attend church weekly. In our home we pray before dinner and read fun devotional books with our children at bedtime. Our faith is important to us because it is what gives us strength.

## **LOVE**

Love is so vital to feeling whole, and children learn to love by having love shown to them. We love big and in return our home is filled with love.

## **INDEPENDENCE**

Our role as parents is to use the short time given to us to teach our children the skills needed and the morality essential to be compassionate and successful adults. By encouraging their sense of independence we build their confidence in themselves and their love of others.

## **EDUCATION**

Education is so much more than academics. All of our children attend a Montessori School, which focuses on grace, courtesy, being a good friend and citizen, and building independence in addition to all things academic. Education is about expanding your knowledge and discovering your strengths and passion.

## **ADVENTURE**

We love to travel, to see new places and to experience new cultures. We both grew up camping and spending lots of time exploring family farmland. It is important to us that our children have room to roam and find adventure with us and on their own.

## **AUTHENTICITY**

All children are different, and we are committed to loving each and every child for exactly who God created him or her to be.

## **FAMILY + FRIENDS**

We both have loving and supportive families who were so excited to hear we wanted to grow our family. Our friends – or our “chosen family” – are also very important to us. Just as we have welcomed our children’s biological families into our family, so have we welcomed our friends. We always have more space in our hearts and family to love more people, and we will always welcome more people who desire to love us.





FRIENDS & FAMILY





**FAMILY ADVENTURES**

We love to take weekend trips. We go camping several times a year and love to take city trips to explore new parts of the United States. Last year we took a week-long road trip to see Leland's biological family and got to visit 5 other states along the

**WE LOVE CRUISING & BEACHES**

We love taking a yearly cruise. The best parts are disconnecting from all technology and access to lots of beaches. It's a great time to relax and enjoy time with each other.



**FAVORITE PLACE**

We have a small vacation home in Chattanooga. It's close to the mountains and the lakes for hiking and swimming. It has a fire pit in the backyard, because s'mores are the best.

**FAVORITE HOLIDAYS**

- Lara's Favorite = Easter
- Robert's Favorite = 4th of July
- "Girls" Favorite = Christmas
- Leland's Favorite = Halloween

**BEST HOLIDAY TRADITIONS**

- Halloween = Family Costumes
- Thanksgiving = Enchanted Lights
- Christmas = Advent Calendar







*we promise...*

You will always have a valued place in our family.

We will teach love and show love – for the child and for you!  
We know how important it is for a person to understand their  
own story and where they came from.

We promise to always honor your child's story.

We have experienced the beauty of open adoption and are  
eager to foster openness in this adoption as well.

Our greatest desire for your child is for him or her to be loved  
by as many people as possible, including you!

THANK YOU FOR TAKING TIME TO GET TO KNOW OUR FAMILY.

IT WOULD BE AN HONOR TO PARTNER WITH YOU ON THIS JOURNEY.

*with love*

R O B E R T + L A R A