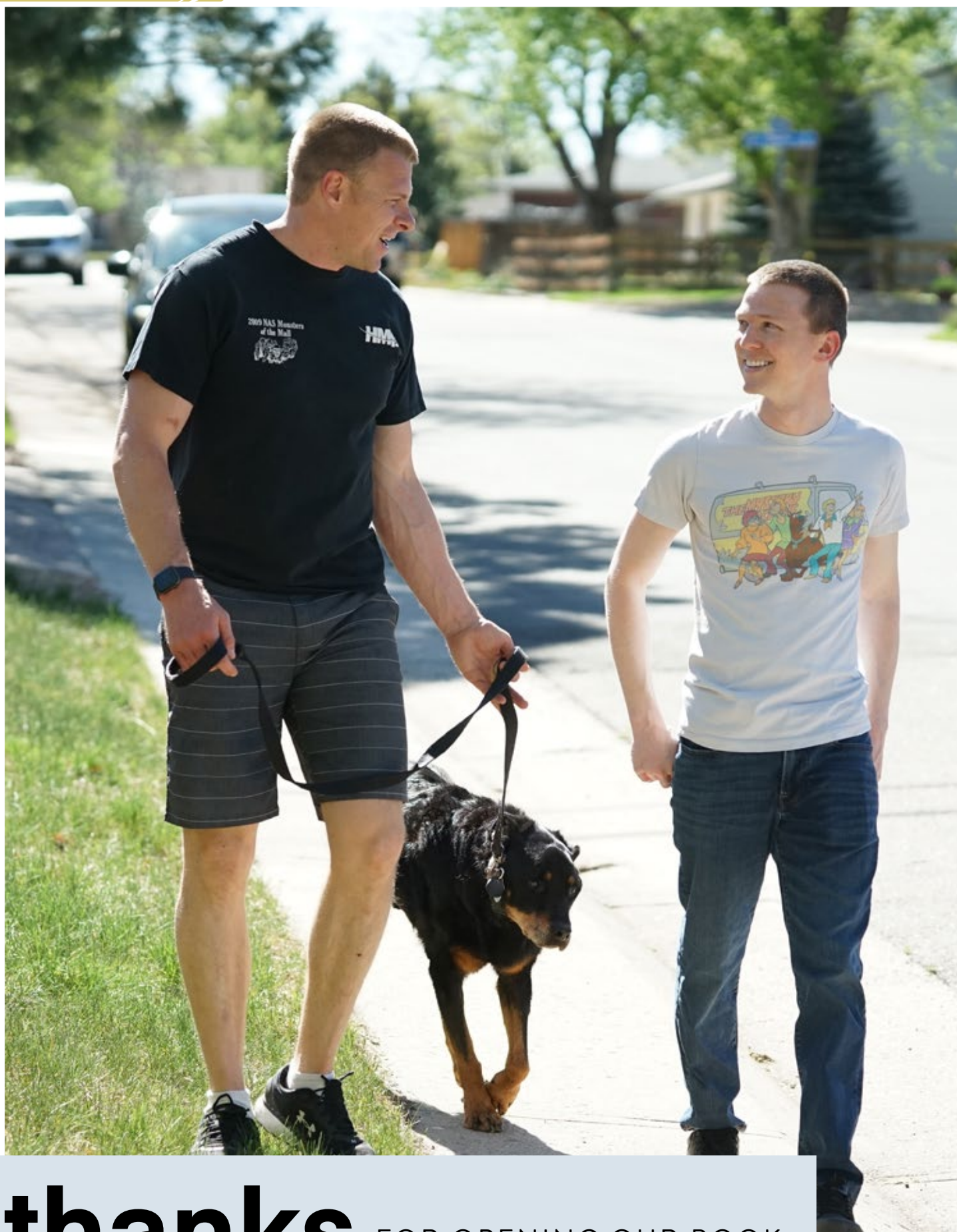




**shane and eric**





**thanks** FOR OPENING OUR BOOK



# hello

## SO NICE TO “MEET” YOU

Welcome to our profile book! Our names are Shane and Eric, and we know this is a strange and unique circumstance to get to know someone. **But as you read on, we hope you'll get a feel for who we are as a couple and as prospective parents.** Since we don't know anything about each other yet, here's a bit about who we are. Both of us are 36 years old and have been together for 15 years. We actually first met in middle school when we went through confirmation together at our local church. We didn't know it at the time, but it seems God had bigger plans for us! We are proud homeowners in beautiful Colorado where we live close to our family and friends.



We understand this is an incredibly difficult time for you, and it's impossible for us to know exactly how you are feeling. Adoption is not a decision someone comes to easily. It is fraught with uncertainty, fear, and doubt. We want you to know that you are not alone, and we plan to be as supportive as we can through your journey. **If you do decide adoption is the best choice for you and your child, we would love to be considered as an option.**

We've always wanted to have children and spent several years discussing how and when we wanted to grow our family. We decided on adoption as the right choice for us. We have many people in our lives that have adopted or were adopted themselves, and we've seen how wonderful it can be for the adoptive parents, the child, and the biological family. **For us, adoption means providing a safe, loving, and stable home for our child to flourish.** We are at a place in our lives where we have the time, resources, and support to ensure the child we adopt is well taken care of and given every opportunity to thrive. We are so excited to open our home and our hearts to a new member of the family and to you!

Thank you so much for taking the time to look through our book! The road ahead will come with many difficult choices, but we have faith you will make the right ones for you and your child. Our hearts and prayers are with you, and we hope that you will allow us to join you in this journey.

WITH LOVE,

*Shane + Erin*





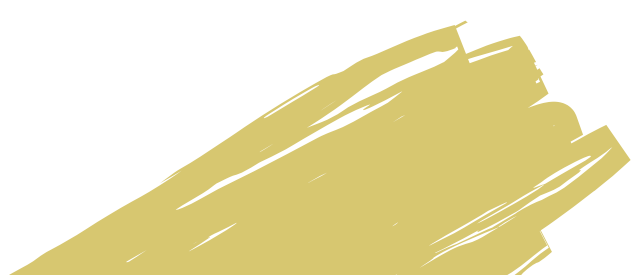




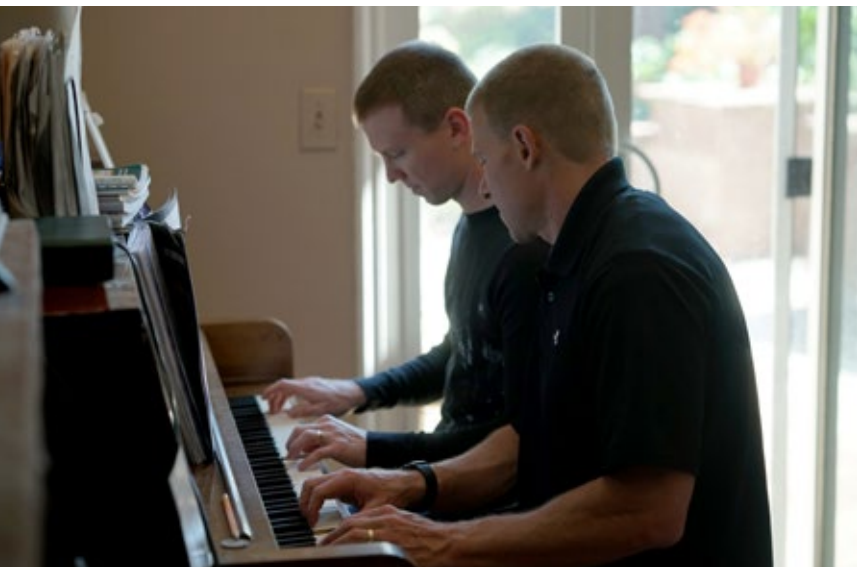
# THIS IS OUR **story**

We grew up just neighborhoods away in Colorado, but first met at the Lutheran church in which we were confirmed during middle school. We went to different high schools and coincidentally met again through a mutual friend when we were 18. **It feels like fate that we kept finding a way back to each other.** We reconnected when we were both 21 and have been together ever since! Shane was drawn to Eric's smile, laugh, and his ability to bring calm to every situation, while Eric was attracted to Shane's strength, conviction, and charm. We moved in together in 2010, then had a civil union in 2013. We got engaged 11 years after we started dating, when Shane proposed to Eric at the church we met at decades earlier. **We have built a beautiful and secure life together and have been married since November 2020.**

We are both independent, introverted people. We find space to be ourselves but also come together as a team. **We challenge each other, make each other better, and have strengthened our relationship through many years of discovering our shared values.** Being introverts helps us to think logically through our challenges. When we do disagree, we can calmly and humbly talk through them in a thoughtful and respectful way. Our favorite thing to do as a couple is date night! Since the beginning of our relationship, we realized we needed to reserve a day just for us. We hope to continue this as a family, and know that the stronger our relationship is, the stronger our family will be as a whole.









# WHY WE ARE **adopting**

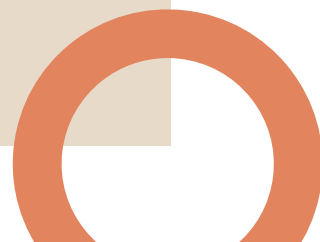
We spent several years discussing how we wanted to grow our family. **We discovered that adoption best aligns with our desires to be parents.** We know we can provide a loving and supportive home, and we desire to build an open, welcoming family through adoption. We also chose this path because we have many great examples of adoption in our families, and we are excited about how adoption will shape our own family.

**We want to provide a physically, emotionally, and financially stable environment for our child.** We have a loving home that we are eager to welcome a child into, and we are committed to being strong, loving parents. **Our dream for this baby is that they will be able to learn all they can; think independently and empathetically; and desire to help others.** We want to ensure our child's education is an important foundation, both inside and outside the classroom. We have an amazing support network of family and friends who are rooting for us. Our parents, siblings, and friends are more than happy to provide us with their time, wisdom, and love to ensure we have what we need to be successful parents.





**"We know we can provide a loving and supportive home, and we desire to build an open, welcoming family through adoption."**








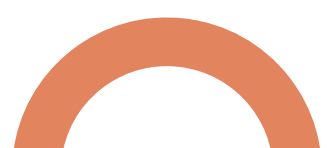
# OUR **values**

Faith is our foundation, and we both believe that Christianity is something we're drawn to because we enjoy learning and growing. We also want our faith to be something that is talked about openly at home. **We want faith to be a foundation for our children, but we also want them to feel free to ask big, brave questions.** We want our child to think independently and decide for themselves what is their best path to faith.

Travel is also important to us. We love traveling and exploring our country (recently, we have been focusing on the south). **We have also traveled internationally and plan on taking our child with us on all of our adventures.** Our family built a cabin in the mountains, where we love to spend many days across seasons. This is a new tradition that we're also excited to share as a family.



The financial security we have is important to us. **It will allow us to spend more time with our child and provide flexibility so we can go to more games, recitals, and just be there more often.** Right after the adoption, we plan on using family medical leave to stay home with our child. We plan on switching off to extend the amount of time we will be able to spend at home with the baby (five months with at least one of the two of us being home). We live close to our families, and both of our mothers plan to help with some of the childcare as well.







**FAVORITE BOOK:** Ender's Shadow by Orson Scott Card

**I'M INSPIRED BY:** Finding solutions! Everything has a solution, it just needs to be imagined.

**I'M MOST PROUD OF:** The strength of my relationship and partnership with Eric. My career and being a leader at my work, and my educational journey as a dyslexic person.

**FRIENDS DESCRIBE ME AS:** Passionate



## MEET **shane**

I grew up in Colorado and spent most of my summers as a kid playing at an area we dubbed "Andy's Fort." These days, I still walk the dog in the area I grew up in!

For work, I am an Advance Practice Organ Recovery Coordinator, which means I help facilitate organ donation. I supervise a group of 20 clinical staff and make decisions on if someone will be an organ donor through a screening process. When I work in the hospitals, I perform tests like scanning the heart and body. I also perform various procedures to improve organ function. **I love my work because I am able to help people and find solutions to important emotional and medical challenges.** In my free time, I have been teaching myself to play the piano. I'm passionate about music, and I love the challenge of learning something new. I love spending time with our dog, Buster. Buster and I could go on walks for hours!

**I want to be a parent, because Eric and I have a lot to offer a child.** I want to raise our children like my mother raised me. She challenged us and she taught us about Jesus. She showed me the value of working for others and being a servant-hearted leader. I would love to pass these values on to my own children. I also want to be that dad at sporting events and music recitals, and the dad that lets my kid go to the park to play for hours. We decided to parent in our 30s, partially because we are well established in our careers. **I am able to take more time off from work to spend with our child, and I want to be as involved as possible in our child's life.**



# Five things Shane loves

MUSIC • STRONGMAN AND FITNESS  
PIANO • LEARNING • OUR DOG



**FAVORITE BOOK:** House of Leaves by Mark Z. Danielewski

**I'M INSPIRED BY:** The openness of the future

**I'M MOST PROUD OF:** The life I've built with my amazing husband. Also, building a career in clinical research with no prior experience and being accepted into a master's program in which most of my classmates are physicians and professors.

**FRIENDS DESCRIBE ME AS:** An excellent listener and counselor

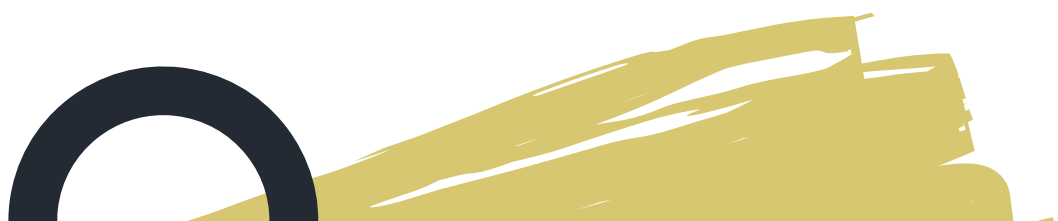


## MEET **eric**

I grew up in Colorado in a great neighborhood about two miles from where we currently live!

I've always had a passion for education and helping others, which is why I originally pursued a career in elementary education and how I fell into my current job. I work at a local university in the school of medicine where I manage clinical research trials. I love that I am always learning new things in this position and acting as a support for education and assistance for our study participants. I'm currently working on my Master's of Science degree in Bioethics of Human Subjects Research and plan to graduate in 2023. **In my free time, I enjoy playing board games with friends and relaxing by playing video games or watching some TV or movies.** I also enjoy hiking, concerts, traveling, and supporting causes related to my area of research (like the Multiple Summits for MS and the Alzheimer's Walk).

**I want to be a parent because I love to teach, nurture, and help people grow.** I've been blessed with so much opportunity in life, and I would like to be able to provide the same for our own child. Children are such a blessing, and it would bring me joy to help raise a child to be the amazing person they have the potential to be.





# Five things Eric loves

BOARD GAMES • HIKING • TRAVELING  
VIDEO GAMES • GOING TO CONCERTS





## eric in shane's words

*"Eric is patient, thoughtful, smart, and his smile could make armies lay down their arms. He is the least judgmental person I have ever met. He has the patience that children need, and it just comes naturally to him. He has a passion to teach and fix problems. When I am quick to misinterpret others, judge others, or act too quickly, he is my opposite. He calms the room down when he enters. He will be an amazing parent. He is an amazing husband, so I know he will be that and more to our family."*

# shane in eric's words

*"Shane is one of the strongest people I know, and I don't just mean physically. He has powerful convictions and does not shy away from conflict or challenges. He is dedicated, loyal, and protective of those he loves. Family is very important to him. This is how I know he would be an amazing father. He consistently exemplifies what hard work, taking chances, and pushing oneself to accomplish things looks like and where it can lead. As a parent, I know he will encourage growth, strength, and confidence all while providing love and support."*



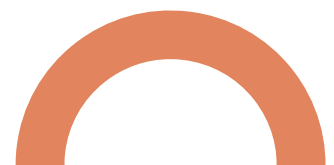




# OUR home

We live in Colorado in a suburb close to Denver. Our home is a four-bedroom, tri-level on a quiet street. **Our favorite part of our house is the large backyard, which has a waterfall.** It's very calming and has become a haven for the birds, bunnies, and squirrels. We already have the foundation for a playground in our yard, and we will get one from our siblings when the time comes. There is enough room in our backyard to play ball, kick a soccer ball, run around, and garden. At home, we love to cook together, work in the yard, watch movies, and take care of and cuddle with Buster.

A new elementary school just opened this last year in our neighborhood. The middle school, which is less than a quarter of a mile away, is also new. We have a nearby park with fields and a playground within walking distance. There is a beautiful trail that is 74 miles long that we are also able to walk to. There's also a park that Shane grew up near, about a mile away, where you can play in the stream, swing into the water, and walk the dogs. **As evidenced by the new schools, there are plenty of young families. It is a very safe neighborhood.**





**Meet Buster.** Buster is a 12-year-old rottweiler-mix that we rescued from a shelter when he was about two years old. He is very good with kids, and he gets along with our extended families' dogs. He, like most rottweilers, is protective, stubborn, and loyal. He offers us companionship and distraction on stressful days. He loves long walks and even longer naps.

*\* Since writing this, Buster has passed away. We wanted to include him as he was an important part of our family for the last 10 years. Buster will live on in us. As we look to get another dog, we will never forget the mark he left on our hearts.*



# our families

## SHANE'S FAMILY:

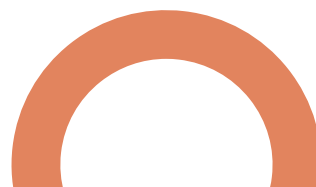
I am close to my brother and sister. My sister has two daughters, and they live in Denver, about 30 minutes away. **My nieces are seven and nine, and we see them often. I help pick them up from school several days a month. They will be very involved with the baby's life.** The girls have already talked about how excited they are to have another cousin to play with. My brother has a son who is four, and they live in Colorado Springs, 45 minutes south of us. We see him once to twice a month due to the distance. My mom and dad each live about 10 minutes from us. We see our family on all holidays and birthdays.



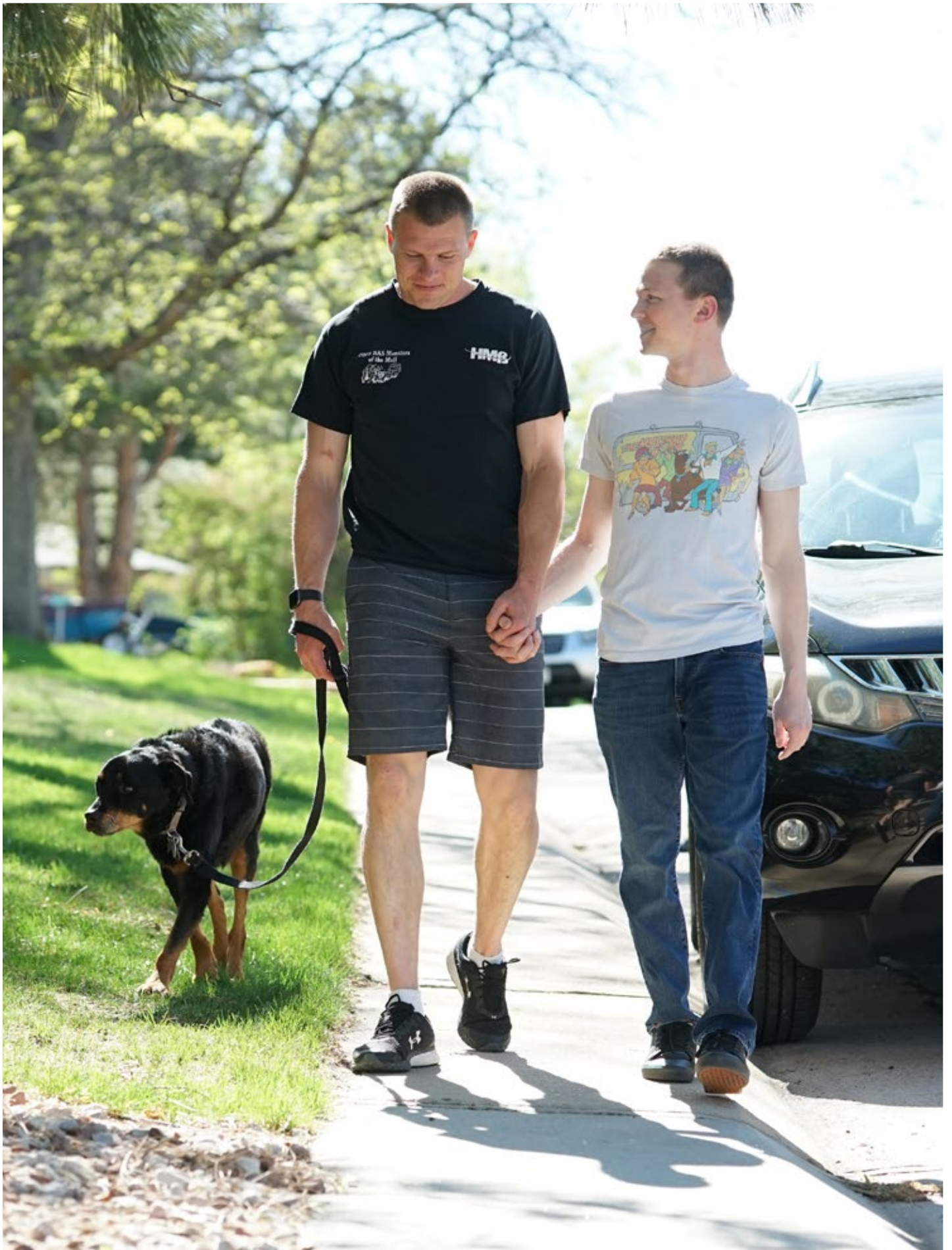


## ERIC'S FAMILY:

I have an older sister who has three children. My nieces are nine and six, and my nephew is four. They live about 15 minutes from us, and I babysit for them on occasion. My nieces and nephew would love to have a baby cousin that lives so close by! My mom and stepdad live about 25 minutes away, and we spend time with them at the cabin playing games, hiking, and relaxing. **We spend all holidays, birthdays, and special events together. We also get together for dinners and casual events.** My mom plans to help out with watching the baby when we need some support. My dad lives in Denver, and just like with my mom, we spend all holidays, birthdays, and other family-oriented events together. We also meet up for dinners, lunches, hikes, and trivia nights. He will also be part of the baby's life and will help out with watching them.









IN OUR **family...**

WE WANT TO LEARN, GROW,  
AND BE CHALLENGED.

WE LOVE TO VISIT NEW PLACES.

WE PRIORITIZE FAITH AND FAMILY.

WE ARE ALWAYS STRIVING  
TO BE BETTER.







# before you go...

Thank you again for taking the time to look at our home and our life together. We hope that, with each page, we've been able to paint a picture of who we are, and show you what we can provide. We hope we illustrated our commitment, stability, love, and trust.

We can pledge that if you choose us we will commit to the following:

- We will **show your child love, provide love, and live love.**
- We will **foster curiosity in your child.** Every day is a new day to learn.
- If you desire an open adoption, we commit to showing you the loving, caring life we can provide for your child.
- We want **faith to be a foundation for your child**, and we want them to develop their faith individually through challenging ideas, questioning what they're told, and introspection. We want them to grow in this faith, and use it to be the best person they can be.
- We want your child to not fear failure but to see it as an opportunity to learn and grow from it instead.
- **Education is valued in our family**, and it will be an important part of their life.
- We commit to **fostering passions and providing opportunities to seek them out**, be it a passion for music, sports, or games. Whatever it might be to help them grow and bring them happiness.

Engraved in our wedding rings is 1 Corinthians 13:13 "And now these three remain: Faith, Hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love." We want to extend the feeling of faith, hope, and love to you as you are walking through this process. And we have a deep gratitude for considering our family.

WITH LOVE,

*Shane + Erin*

