



*Now may the Lord of peace himself give
you peace at all times in every way. The
Lord be with you all.*

2 Thessalonians 3:16



Nathaniel & Megan



Hello!

Before we introduce ourselves, we just want to take a minute to say thank you. Thank you for considering us as a future family for your baby! Thank you for choosing life, for choosing love. Words fall short when we consider the heaviness of the decision you are contemplating and we are filled with admiration for your heart and your courage, and of course, for *you*.

If you do choose us to walk this path with you, we pray you know just how deeply your child will be loved, cherished, and treasured. We pray you know how deeply you, too, would be loved, cherished, and treasured as part of our family. While we cannot promise the fanciest of possessions or most expensive of houses, we can offer a cozy home centered on peace, with giggles bouncing off every wall, and open arms bursting with love.

Adoption was never a backup plan for us, it's been on our hearts as long as we can remember, and after two very difficult pregnancies, that voice in our hearts was all the clearer calling us to grow our family further through adoption.



Our Story *by Megan*

We met as baby-faced 14 year old high school freshmen in 2008, thanks to a local home school drama group. We spent three years hanging around with that same friend circle, until senior year when we became best friends. (I feel it also rather important to add, I was crushing on him pretty much the entire time.)

Much of the growth in our friendship and later relationship, was due to a ballroom dancing group I participated in all through high school, and finally roped Nathaniel into as seniors.

Almost immediately after graduation - and to no one's surprise - we began dating, as being just friends simply didn't cut it anymore.

While dating, we followed each other across the state as Nathaniel attended college. Six months after moving, we were engaged, and after another very full six months, we were married in July, 2015, in a little church back home where we both grew up.



We had a small, intimate wedding, filled with lanterns, burlap, sunflowers, and naturally, ballroom dancing.

It thundered so loud during our ceremony the sanctuary shook, but it cleared up just in time for pictures, and even gave us a double rainbow!



We share a love of antiquing and nature walks, all things Disney, Lewis & Tolkien, Marvel, Firefly, and movie scores.

You can always find us either reading or writing something, or looking for any good excuse to dress up!

We love that, since meeting so young, we've already known each other half our lives! Check out us out at 15 in our theatre production of Beauty and the Beast!





A little about Megan

by Nathaniel

My wife and I have grown up together since the beginning of high school. Megan feels very deeply, and has a bottomless well of love for those close to her, both family and friends. Particularly, she makes it a point to care for our girls' needs, to make sure they are safe, healthy, and loved. Megan is adept at turning a house into a home, and loves to entertain guests. We both have a heart of hospitality; having people over to enjoy each others' company

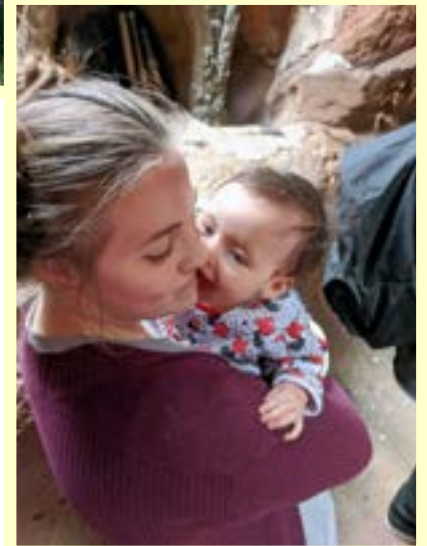
is an activity we enjoy, and one of the activities that Megan and I share a desire to do together.

She is a Disney connoisseur, and thus is more than happy to braid and brush hair, and help our daughters play dress up whenever the fancy strikes them.

Oh, and she hates folding laundry.

Courage, dear heart. -C.G. Lewis





from Megan

I love writing fantastical stories. I sing while I cook and I make sense of my thoughts with music. I watch Disney movies by myself - Tangled is my favorite ever, but I do love a good K-drama. I'm a twin! My favorite color is yellow and I cry at just about anything. Motherhood was my biggest wish and is my greatest joy.

A little about Nathaniel

by Megan

We've known each other for so long, it's hard to remember what first drew me to Nathaniel. He is, and always has been, one of the best - you'd be hard pressed to find someone he can't get along with. He's considerate of other people whether it be a friend or stranger, and he's generous with his time. He's the guy that'll hold the door for you, go out of his way to help you move that couch, and just be present for the people that need him.

As a husband and a father, he is a relentless provider and a firm protector. He is attentive and gentle with the girls. To say he is hands-on would be an understatement. One of the girls is always on his shoulders, playing at his feet, following him around the yard, or cuddled up for his specialty bedtime stories. He is always the first to ask to hold a friend's new baby, and isn't scared off by dirty diapers, which I mean, kudos to him there.

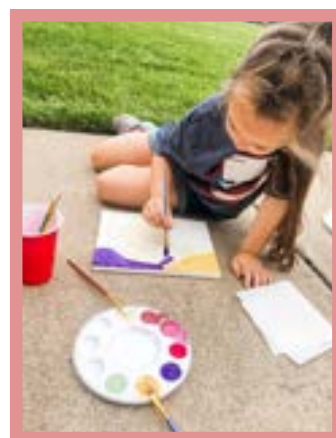
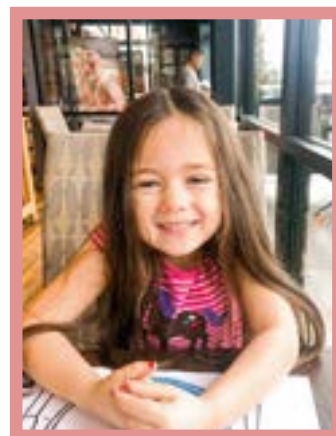
He makes it easy to love him, despite how much he may nag me about laundry.





from Nathaniel

I love working in the garden, reading and writing. My favorite color is gray (my wife can't understand!), and my favorite food is tacos of any kind! My favorite book is *The Martian*, it's a tale of survival that reminds me no matter how hopeless a situation can be, there's always a way to see good in a situation and solve any problem that comes your way.



This is Jemma!

She was born November, 2017, and is full of life and words and dance moves. Her heart is the biggest, and she absolutely loves being a big sister. She's always quick to help, comfort, and entertain her little sister. And her cousin. And her friends. Her imagination finds the magic in the mundane. She is the definition of a free spirit and knows that any floor is a dance floor if there's enough space to twirl. Currently, her favorite things are Disney princesses, eating snacks, and outfit changes.

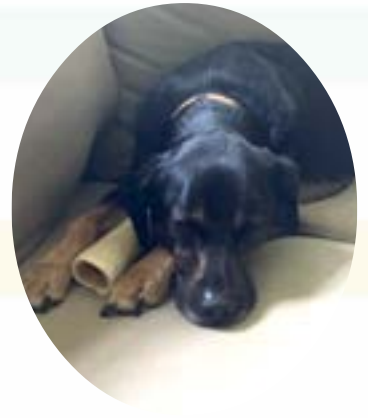




This is Felicity!

She was born August, 2019, and has the cheesiest smile, the biggest hugs, and the goofiest funny bone. She'll do just about anything to get her big sister to laugh. While she tends to be shy around new people, she is a joyful little soul with a pretty strong stubborn streak - she is not one to be coerced into anything. She always has a song on her tongue, believes empty laps are for sitting and is at her happiest with a baby doll in her arms and stealing everyone's food.

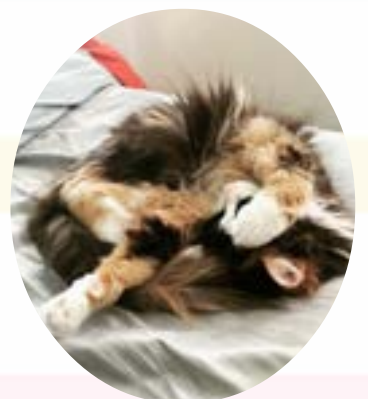
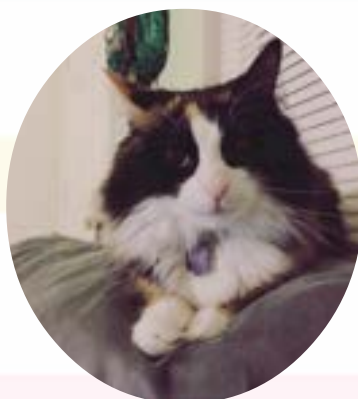




Our Pets

We have two pets in our home! Addie is our black lab/hound, whom we got at just 10 weeks old in 2014 when we were still dating! She's a tolerant, middle aged pup who pulls her weight in our family as the resident floor-food vacuum. Her people-pleasing retriever side is strong and she only ever wants to be included.

Willow is our fluffy-butt of a kitty. We rescued her when she was about 6 months old in 2015, just after we got married. She's a petite little thing, who likes to keep to herself much of the day, unless she's in need of a cuddle, then there's no escaping her. There's rarely a temperamental mood in her, and she's become ever more friendly with the girls, especially once she realized they are always eager to smuggle her food.





May the Lord bless
you and keep you.

The Lord make his face
shine on you and be
gracious to you.

The Lord turn his face
towards you and give you
peace.

Numbers 6:24-26



Our home also sits near the end of our street! Which makes it perfect for evening walks and learning to ride bikes.

Our Home

In May of 2020, we bought a house back in our home town, just around the corner from the little church where we married!

While it's not the largest house at 3 bedrooms and 1 bathroom, it holds so much character between the vaulted ceilings, the open floor plan, the coziness of the painted beams, the giant back deck prime for playing, and the wall of windows and sliding glass doors that practically invite the outside in.

The girls are currently - and excitedly - sharing a room, and we can't wait to explore and see how our family grows and fills every nook and cranny of our home.



This home is built on *love & shenanigans*



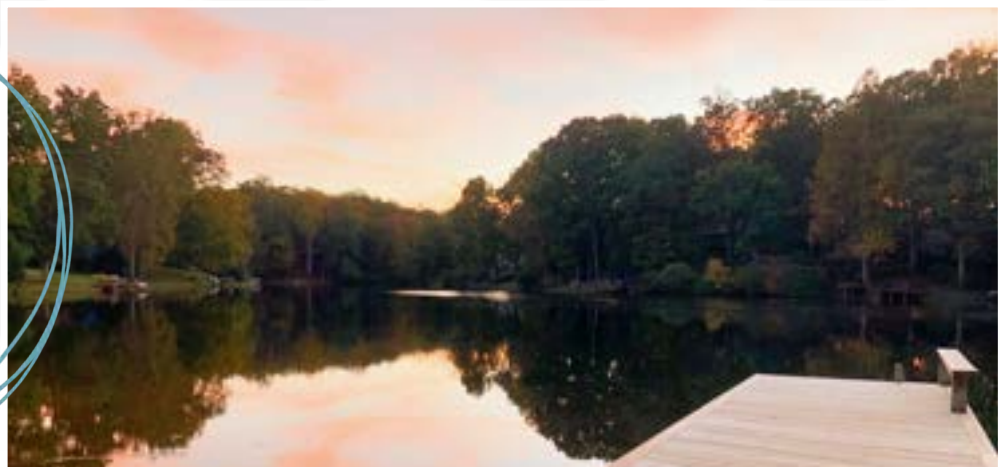
Our Neighborhood

We live in a quiet, charmingly rural neighborhood that's still close enough to town that errands don't take all day.

Our neighborhood also has three little lakes, private for residents, and with one just a short walk from our house, it's a dream to think that our kiddos will get to grow up on the water.

Our neighbors are the bring-you-fresh-baked-cookies-and-home-grown-veggies type, everyone waves to each other in passing, and we truly treasure being in a community filled with other families with kids. We are so thankful to find our family in a place with a slow paced way of life where people value knowing their neighbors.

We live in Virginia, which is rich with history, both good and bad, to learn from. We cannot wait for the day we can take full advantage of the many museums, parks, and festivals of our home town.



Our Family



We are fortunate enough to live in the same city as many family members!

We are able to see Megan's family regularly and Nana (Sheila) and Pops (Joe) are living their best lives loving on their grandbabies!

Megan's twin brother, Ryan, and his wife Bekah, have two little girls, Iliza, born March, 2018, and Alora, born November, 2020. They are also expecting a little boy, due late February, 2023.

The girls all adore one another, and are practically inseparable once they're together.



Nathaniel's parents, Nonnie (Janis) and Grandpa (Steve) live just a short drive out of town! Steve also pastors a church only a few minutes from us.



Nathaniel's brother, Brian, his wife Carrie, and kids, Grant and Harper, also live in town! Holidays are always a great time together, and we are so grateful for every chance to see them.

We were beyond blessed that Nathaniel's sister's family was able to visit Christmas 2022! Heather, Matt, and kids, Jonas, Brock, Eli, Gwen, and Lincoln, live out of state so it was a such a treat to spend a week together!

We're already looking forward to the next time we can all get together again.

Extended Family

Megan's extended family all lives out of state -up and down the east coast- but we all value family time, and though the pandemic threw things off, we try to get together in some manner as often as we can. It is no easy feat trying to get all 29 of us under 1 roof!



Our Community

We are fortunate enough to find ourselves at home once more in the same church Megan grew up in. After the pandemic, we were finally able to be plugged in again, and are now very active members of our church body.

In the midst of finding ourselves again through activities at church, we also fell in with a group of friends who have shared a love with us the likes of which we've never known before.

These beautiful people have truly come along side us, and allowed us to come along side them in return. They have befriended our girls, welcomed us in, and truly have become family.





They have become those we long to celebrate our joys with, and those who have seen our pain and known how to love us through it.

Between birthday parties, Lord of the Rings marathons, thrift store runs, babysitting, pool parties, parenting, and just day to day routines, we are so blessed to be able to share life with these wonderful souls.

For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

Matthew 18:20



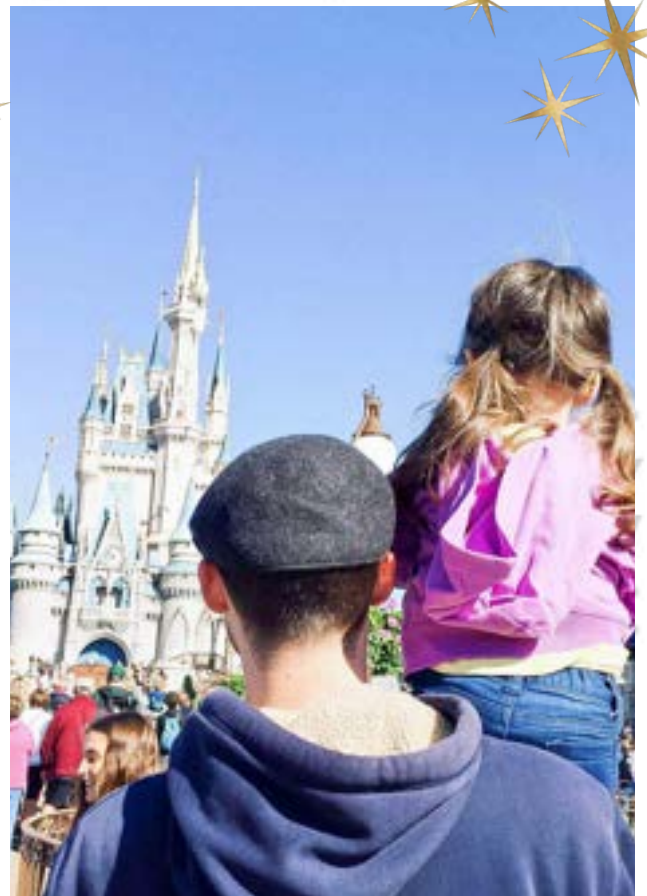
Trips and Adventures



We love to make adventures out of the ordinary. And we may be the odd ones out, but we think the lake is great all year round! We might not be able to swim in winter, but taking walks to the beach is still pretty fantastic.



We were able to take a family trip to Disney World in February, 2020, with Nana and Pops, and to say it was magical is an understatement. It was Nathaniel and the girls' first time at Disney, and seeing everything through Jemma's eyes was a magic of its own. Jemma asks to go back every time she sees pictures, and we don't know when, but we do plan to go again, and we already cannot wait!



We are also lucky to live a short drive away from a wonderful & ethical zoo. The girls and Megan have had membership passes for a couple of years, and between hearing monkey calls, watching the bonded cheetah and dog play, catching the otter feedings, and eating picnic lunches, the girls have loved every trip!



Traditions



- Kiddo birthdays are started with a special breakfast out with Megan.

-Both of us grew up with lasagna as Christmas dinner, so, naturally, we kept that going.

-St. Patrick's Day gets a classic, boiled Irish dinner that we wait for all year.

-We accidentally created a tradition of going out for ice cream on our anniversary.

-Nathaniel is excited that the girls are now getting to the age to have family game nights.

-And matching Christmas PJ's of course!

Our Future

We truly wish to stay in our current home until it's filled to bursting. We love this house and neighborhood so much, but we still desire a larger family, with, Lord willing, at least four kids, so we know one day we will eventually outgrow our home. When that happens, we plan to stay in the area, as near to family and friends and our current location as we can.

We'd also love one day to have a little bit of land, for gardening and animals like horses and chickens, maybe even goats!



As parents, our greatest desire is that our children grow up to be kind and honest and gentle and strong.



We plan to homeschool our children as they grow older. Both of us grew up homeschooled as well, and we feel comfortable and well equipped to do the same with our children, especially surrounded by the plentiful resources and co-ops available in our area. If we know one thing for sure, it's that there will be no shortage of socialization available, between cousins and family, church friends, and play groups.

We place a lot of value in knowing the information our children are consuming and being taught, and we hope to instill in them practical skills and a personal faith in Jesus as they grow. By having the freedom to tailor their educations to their individual strengths and interests, we hope to help them have the skills they need to succeed on any path they choose to set themselves on later in life.



If you only knew the treasure
that you really are,
if you could understand the measure
of the Father's heart,
He loves you,
He loves you,
He loves you.

"Getting started" - Jeremy Camp

Dear Sweet Friend,

Before you go, we want to sincerely say thank you for reading our profile and getting to know us. We can only imagine how impossible it feels to get to know people from just a few pages, and our understanding only skims the surface of how overwhelming it must feel. We want you to know that we are praying for you. Regardless of if you choose to make an adoption plan, regardless of if you choose us or another family, we are praying that you would feel peace over every decision you are making. We are praying for health over you and your baby, and that you would feel supported from every side and surrounded with love during this time.

If you do choose us to walk with you through this process, we want you to know that in our home, we would only speak of you with love and respect. We know the decisions you are facing require great love and courage, and that deserves to be honored to the best of our ability. We know that everyone has a right to feel proud of who they are and where they come from, and whether or not we share cultures or heritage, please know that yours and your baby's will be respected and celebrated in our home.

And while we desire to continue an open relationship with you and your family - sending updates and pictures, visiting and seeing you in person- we also want to honor your needs in that relationship, and we want meet you where you are.

Finally, we want to express our love for you once more. We see your heart, and in turn, we see your grief in all of this. You are so strong, and we are filled with admiration for you. We want and are fervently praying for what is best for you and your baby, regardless of what you find that to be.

*With love,
Nathaniel & Megan*

