



Caleb *and* Mandy





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# Hello!

We are Caleb and Mandy, and we are honored that you're taking time to learn about who we are. Although we don't know each other, we care for you and value your emotions, health, and heart. We hope these photos and stories help you connect with our family and bring you peace and hope. We recognize this is a difficult decision for you and admire your courage to consider adoption.

Adoption has been in our hearts for many years, and we are excited to be considered to walk this journey with you.

Our heart and prayer is for love and restoration.  
Caleb and Mandy

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## 9 Years, 2 kids, and a dog later, our Story continues...

As parents to two active kids, we genuinely love family time, but have also learned that it is important for each of us to explore activities that bring us personal joy.

Aside from school, work, and extracurricular activities, we treasure our time in conversation as a family – learning about one another’s personalities, interests, and feelings. At times these conversations are difficult, but we know they’re crucial for our family to be healthy.



FROM MANDY

## Our Story Began...

in 2011 at Wheaton College in the Chicagoland area. Caleb played on the baseball team and I played on the softball team. Our teams shared practice and workout facilities where Caleb first noticed me long before I noticed him.

Student athletes often worked the ticket booth at other sporting events and we happened to be working at the same game one night. Caleb overheard me talking about a former baseball player who was one of his friends and had since graduated from Wheaton. He introduced himself and asked how I knew his friend and I shared that we were from the same hometown and worked at sports camps together. Caleb responded with “oh, you’re the girl he told me about”, and the rest is history! We started dating and got married 2 years later.



# MEET Caleb

Hello!

I'm Caleb. Thank you for taking a moment to learn more about our family. I strive to be an open-minded individual, loving and accepting people as they are, being willing to hear their stories and to make space for their experiences.

I am a baseball fanatic and enjoy being active, including playing co-ed softball with Mandy and coaching the kids. I also enjoy music.

More than anything else in the world, I love our family, and I view close friends as family. I want to be remembered not for my work as an attorney, but as a lover of God and people—as a husband, father, and friend.

## Favorites

**FOOD:** Fajita  
**MOVIE:** Bruce Almighty  
**SEASON:** Fall



## A Note from Mandy

From the day I met Caleb his personality echoed the Bible verse James 1:19; he is *quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry*. Caleb is extremely patient and genuinely cares about the way he listens and responds to others. He often will go out of his way to make sure anyone and everyone feels welcomed by him. For example, individuals from a different religion than us came knocking on our door to share their faith with us. Even though we believe something different than them, Caleb still listened to them and proceeded to meet them again at a later date for coffee. He goes above and beyond to form and foster relationships with family and friends.

Caleb is a hard worker and loving husband and father to our two children. Even when his work life gets busy he continues to make us a priority. He has coached both of our kids in sports and makes sure to never miss their extra-curricular activities. The support he offers our family is unwavering.





# MEET Mandy

Hello!

I'm Mandy!! I have always wanted to be a stay-at-home mom, just like my mother was when I was younger, and I got my dream job! I love being able to stay home and be available for my children.

When I am not taking care of household duties you can find me volunteering somewhere. I've served as the PTO President at our kids' school, and I help in several areas at our church during the week and on Sundays.

Being able to play a small role in helping our community grow stronger together is truly life-giving. I also enjoy going on walks, hiking, weight-lifting, and traveling.

## Favorites

**FOOD:** Tacos

**MOVIE:** The Proposal

**SEASON:** Fall



## A Note from Caleb

Mandy is the heartbeat of our family and personification of God's love in my life. Her unconditional love throughout our nine-year marriage has inspired me to be a man of integrity. She is a strong, resourceful, and beautiful leader.

I knew Mandy was made to be a mother when she sleep-trained Scottie, our first baby. Since then, it has been my joy to watch her nurture the body, mind, and spirit of our kids. I've witnessed her coach t-ball, learn about karate, participate in counseling to support Scottie and I on our mental health journeys, lead the parent-teacher organization at our kids' elementary school, and make time for self-care. Her love is active and selfless.





# SCOTTIE

Scotlynn, also known as “Scottie”, is our daughter. Her favorite subjects at school are science and art. She loves the chance to understand new things.

Scottie is very creative and always thinking of ways to bring others joy. For example, she planned a small birthday party for Caleb one year that consisted of all things baseball since he loves the Houston Astros. She hung decorations, chose hot dogs, nachos, and peanuts as party food, and created a homemade pin-the-ball on the baseball bat game. We love the thoughtfulness and excitement she brings to our family.

Scottie is energized by family time, cherishes the moments we get together, and is excited about the thought of a new baby joining our family. Her favorite things are swimming, playing with dolls, singing and dancing, cooking with mom, and spending time with friends.

## Meet our Kids – Scottie & James



# JAMES

Our son, Jameson, also known as “James”, is in pre-k and his favorite part of school is the playground. He loves getting the chance to play with his friends!

James is very friendly, empathetic and always wants to lend a helping hand. For example, once during dinner time his sister dropped her food on the ground and was upset, so he got out of his seat and picked up her food for her while she tried to calm down. We love his eagerness to think about and serve others.

James has an incredible imagination and loves to play make believe with his toys. He enjoys building, riding his bike, playing with play-doh, and reading books. James is excited to be a big brother and life-long playmate.





# AT HOME IN OKLAHOMA

Our home was built in 1983 and was remodeled before we bought it. Our house has 4 bedrooms, 5 bathrooms (we love that!), an office, a playroom, and a super fun backyard. The neighborhood we live in is within a 5 minute drive to our kids' school. We plan to live in this house for a while and do not currently have plans to move. We love that our house has space to add more children to our family!



## CHEWIE

Chewie is our 2 year old goldendoodle! We named him after Chewbacca from Star Wars.

Chewie is extremely gentle and playful with kids. He loves to snuggle, play fetch, go on walks, and get on the trampoline. When babies are at our house he is cautious and well behaved.





We also lead a parenting group that consists of 10 families and 20 kids from our church. We meet several times throughout the year to study Bible-based parenting and support one another as a village. We, as well as our children, love the close friendships we have created with these friends and truly consider them our family. It has been a blessing to have this church family close by when our extended family lives out of state.

Our church and friends are an extremely diverse group of people from ages, race, and backgrounds. We are in community with several families who have adopted or have blended homes and consider ourselves blessed and fortunate to already have their support.



# Our Faith and Community



We raise our children in the Christian faith and are committed to inviting God into all aspects of our daily lives. As a family we pray, read bible stories, and memorize scripture. Our prayer is not that we would have perfect children who never make mistakes—but instead that our children would not feel ashamed of the mistakes and hangups they face in life, knowing that God always loves and forgives them and has a plan for them despite their flaws.

We regularly attend church on Sundays while volunteering before and after services. Recently, we had the opportunity to help launch a brand-new campus for our church and are excited to be a part of more people coming to faith in Jesus.



# Family Time



## Evenings are the BEST part of the day.

As soon as school is over the day, the fun begins at home! We play in the yard, walk Chewie around the neighborhood, or play games inside. We love having dinner as a family, and the kids enjoy helping us set the table and prepare dinner. During family meals we always share the best and worst part about our day, and occasionally we share what we love about one another. After dinner, we have a little more family time, such as watching “The Floor Is Lava” with Mom or wrestling with Dad, before bath, reading, and bedtime.





## Weekends are the BEST part of the week.

Weekends as a family are our absolute favorite times. The perfect Saturday for us would be one where we don't have to be anywhere and are free to enjoy whatever we want that day.

This type of Saturday usually looks like starting the day with coffee and Bible reading while the kids play, taking a walk to our neighborhood park with Chewie, exercising in our garage gym, letting the kids choose an activity or place to go, grilling some dinner outside, and ending the day with either a bonfire in the backyard or movie night on the couch with popcorn.

## Our Families

Caleb's parents are Mark (PaPaw) and Shauna (Mimi). They have been married for 36 years and live in Texas. Caleb's younger sister, Katie, loves to come stay with us and visit once or twice a year.

We see Caleb's family during the holidays and on special occasions.

Mandy's parents are Jackie (Gigi) and Ed (Gramps). They divorced several years ago, but still have a good friendship and enjoy getting our entire extended family together.

Mandy has 4 sisters: Erin is married to Dan and they have 4 children; Jessica is married to Jake and they have 2 children; Lauren is married to Brian and they have 2 children.

Mandy's entire family lives out of state and is spread out between Chicago and Texas, but we see them several times a year either taking vacations together or visiting each other's cities! Our children love getting to spend time with their cousins!



# Traveling has become a Family Tradition!



Traveling has become near and dear to our family. Whether it's just Mandy and Caleb traveling, or the entire family together, we enjoy getting out of town a couple of times a year. Our kids are extremely fond of the all-inclusive Mexico trips where they can order endless poolside slushies and indulge at the buffet bar. We also take a yearly family trip to meet Mandy's family at the Frio River in Texas.





# We go BIG for the Holidays!

You will always find us decorating easter eggs, dressing up for halloween, roasting a turkey, celebrating birthdays, baking christmas cookies, and counting down until midnight for the new year!

Christmas and New Years are our favorite holidays with the most traditions. We always bake cookies, drive around looking at lights and decorations, attend Christmas Eve church service, and wake up to fresh cinnamon rolls to eat while opening presents from family and Santa! On New Year's Eve we have a build your own pizza bar, pop-a-balloon hourly countdown, glow in the dark dance party in our living room, and light neighborhood-friendly fireworks in the driveway!





# Thank you,

for taking the time to learn about our family.

If you choose us to parent your child, we promise to raise them to know God, and to help your child discover their unique and special gifts.

We promise your baby will be told about you in a positive light, always reassuring him or her that they were loved by you from the very beginning.

We promise to prioritize your child's mental health and physical health.

We promise to continually pray for you in a way that tethers our hearts together from a far.

We will love both you and your child deeply and are open to hearing about the type of relationship or contact you would like to have with us before and after the adoption.

May the peace of God be with you always

Love,  
Caleb and Mandy

