Dave and Britni

A Note From Us

Hello!

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We are excited to give you a glimpse of what we are about through this book, and pray that more than anything you sense a presence of love, laughter, and support in who we are.

We are David (Dave) and Britni. We have been married 9 years, but have been together for 13. We met at church when Britni moved back to her hometown and started attending. We dated while Britni was finishing college at Indiana Wesleyan University with her degree in Children's Ministry. Dave graduated from Mount Vernon Nazarene University in Religious Studies major with a focus of Youth Ministry. He has since gone back to get his Masters of Divinity. We got married and moved to our current residence where Dave has been the lead pastor for 9 years. Our church has been an amazing support system over the years. We don't know what we would do without them!

Along with our church, our family and community are our biggest support systems. It's been amazing to see the love and support poured out through this whole process, and I often tell people that we feel like our child will be raised by this community because he/she is already so loved and bathed in prayer. It's just been incredible!

We don't have any children, but we do have an eight year old yellow lab who is spoiled rotten. After years of struggling with infertility, we began to pray about the possibility of adoption. One morning while visiting my parents, Britni was in the shower getting ready and Dave was in our bedroom, and she remembers adoption being extremely weighty on her heart. She was praying about it and asking God to make the path clear for us on timing. She remembers Him answering it so clearly: the next time Dave gets a raise from the church, we need to take the extra money and save for adoption and begin the process. We had asked our church prior not to give us a raise because we were going through a remodeling process in the sanctuary. Little did she know that while I was having my moment with God, Dave was in the bedroom getting a text from the treasurer telling him that the church was giving us a raise. What! So now here we are, writing our story for you.

We appreciate you taking the time to read this. If God allows us to cross paths, we will be excited to offer our love, prayers, and support for you and baby. Should we go in different directions, we pray that you find perfect peace in whatever path life takes you.

Humbly,

Dave & Britni

This Is Who We Are

Vacation in Panama City

Our relationship is one built on Godly values and mutual faith through Jesus Christ. We value faith, family and fun! Up until a few years ago the only things we had in common were our love for God and our love for each other. Opposites really do attract! Over the last few years we have discovered new things we love doing together. One of them is traveling around the state to try new bike trails. We love bike rides and discovering new beauty in creation on the trails. We also go to the church and have "jam sessions" where we play music and sing. Dave plays electric and acoustic guitar and Britni plays piano and bass. We also love to dance! While Dave didn't love to dance at first, he has grown to enjoy two-stepping and waltzing. We often go dancing while we are visiting Brit's parents. We also love to have "sleepovers" where we drag a mattress out to the living room, make popcorn and watch a movie. We love being with friends, doing cookouts, enjoying water and winter activities, & having campfires with s'mores to name a few other interests.

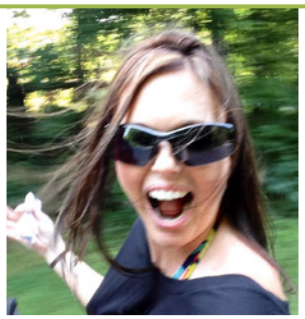
Britni loves to read and bake. She has a huge collection of children's books that she can't wait to share with the little one. She also loves dancing. Anything that has a beat, you can bet she will be dancing! Texas two-stepping with her dad is her favorite. She loves playing and listening to music in general, and there is always worship music playing throughout the house. She spends a lot of time at the church preparing for children's and family ministry events. Vacation Bible School is a big deal around this area, and Britni loves directing and ministering to the community kids through this event. She has a passion for teaching both in church and public schools, and substitutes at the Elementary School in town. She would love to stay home when the baby arrives.

Dave loves playing guitar and being with people. He's typically not allowed to go to the store anymore because he will stop and talk to everyone. But that's who he is! God has given him the gift of community and compassion. He also loves coffee, probably to an unhealthy level. We have a coffee bar in our house that has all kinds of gear and different brewing methods. There's no Folgers for this guy - he's all about good quality beans! Britni makes fun of him often for being a "coffee nerd." While coffee is one of Dave's interests and passions, he is also very heavily involved in ministry, as he is the lead pastor of our church and networks with many pastors in the community. He has been on missions trips to Haiti and New Orleans. He has a heart for people and strives to make everyone feel like part of the family. He loves to love on others!

About Dave (by Britni)

If there was one word that came to mind when describing Dave, it would be love. And not the gross, mushy, movie-type of love, though he is a helpless romantic, but the kind of love that is modeled after Jesus. A type of love that is selfless, sacrificial, patient, forgiving, and all in. He lives a life dedicated to serving the Lord and his family. I know I am biased and a lot of people say this about their spouse, but he really is one of the most genuine, caring, let-me-help-you kind of guys that will bend over backwards to make you feel like part of the family. I know he will be a great dad because love is embedded into his DNA. It's who he is and how he lives his life. It's the result of a deep rooted relationship with Jesus. I think this is why kids and adults are drawn to Dave. He is going to take the time to make you feel like you're the only one in the world he wants to be with. When we visit our family, my nieces are glued to him. My parents will ask where he is, and you can bet he's around somewhere being fun "Uncle Dave." The uncle that plays dolls, or is outside teaching basketball, or racing toy cars around the track. He just outpours love on whoever he encounters. He has so much of it to give. Anyone who knows him will tell you that his heart is one of a kind. I am so blessed to call him husband, and your child will be even more blessed to call him dad.

About Britni (by Dave)



Britni has approached all aspects of life with a sense of focus and tenacity. Some have called her a "firecracker" or "a pistol", I like to thing of her as "passionate." She's "all-in" with whatever she is doing. She's passionate about her love for God and sharing that love with others. Most days worship music is blasting while she sings along and works around the house. Her passion for God is demonstrated in her dedication to Him in the good and bad days, her willingness to serve even when no one notices, and her commitment to seeing all things done to completion. She puts countless hours into the children's ministry at our church with a deep passion that they grow in their relationship with Jesus. I believe she will carry this same passion into mothering your child. She gives everything she's got and then somehow finds another gear to go the extra mile. Britni has a sparkle in her eye and a smile that is contagious. She brightens every room she enters with her love and laughter. Her nieces know her as "Aunt B" and they love spending time with her. I often hear giggles when they are around and can't help but wonder, "what are they up to?" One of the many things I have learned from Britni is that if you're going to do something, do it with everything you've got. I'm grateful everyday I'm alive to have a wife that passionately points me to Jesus and passionately loves me when I'm at my best and my worst. I know as we pursue raising your child together, she will pour all her passion into being the best mother she can be.

Our Family & Friends

We adopted our dog, Jackson, a yellow lab mix when he was around 1 1/2 years old. The shelter thinks he was abused in his past because of his mal-nourished state and he had a BB pellet stuck in the side of his ribs. He is 8 years old now and as you can see, well nourished and spoiled! He has brought so much joy to our lives. He loves children and has been around our nieces and friends' kids. He lets them sit on him, put their feet on him, grab his tail, step on him, and just about everything else. He is so good! Jackson also loves to play hide-and-seek (no, really, he does!) We have taken him to the church with our friends' kids and played hide-and-seek in there. It is so fun! He also loves to grab a toy and be chased. His favorite toy right now is called "Duckie." He uses these soft toys to play with and then snuggle up to when he's done.

Our family is very spread out, but we always make it a priority to see them. Dave's father passed away when Dave was 12 years old, leaving his mom and sister. His sister, Trish, is 14 years older than Dave and is married with no children. Unfortunately, her husband was diagnosed with Louie-Body syndrome and must be in a 24-hour care facility. His mom and sister are 90 minutes away and we take turns visiting each other as often as we can. Britni's aunt also lives in the same town as Dave's family, so we try to visit her when are in town.

Britni's immediate family lives in a different state. Both of her parents are still living and together, and she has one older sister who is married with 3 beautiful girls. We typically see them 1-2 times a year, and when we go we stay for weeks, not days.

Both families have been amazing support systems through the years and especially during this adoption process. We are blessed to have them in our lives and can't wait for our child to be loved and spoiled by them!

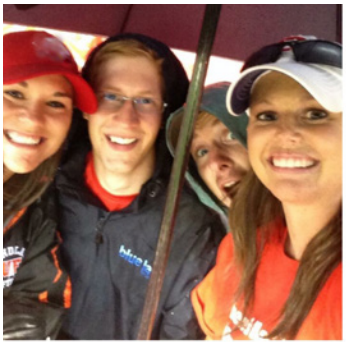
Our friends are another team of strength and support. We have been blessed to call so many people brothers and sisters through friendship. We love to cookout, go shopping, and attend baseball games and concerts together.

We believe your child is going to be raised by a community of love and support. Our church, friends, and family have been praying for you and for your child. They are just as excited as we are to be welcomed home and spoiled!

Dave's mom's birthday celebration

Dancing with Brit's family

Game Day with Brit's family



Baseball game with friends

Parade fun with friends

Dave and Brit's family

Dave's sister and brother-in-law

Brit's sister & family

Brit's Aunts, Great-Aunts, Sister, and Sister-in-Law.

Baking with nieces

Snow tubing with friends

Our Home

Our home is a small but open 4 bedroom ranch-style house that sits on the church's property. We have worked hard to make it a warm and cozy home so that when people walk in the door, they feel like they belong and can sense God's peace and love. The nursery is ready to go, and we turned one of the bedrooms into a playroom! Our house sits in a quiet location, having only 1 other residence and a nursing home in the vicinity. Because it sits on the church property, there is already a playground ready to be used by your child! The parking lot is a great place to learn how to ride a bike, and there are several basketball hoops that are ready to be dunked. The spacious back yard is perfect for fun activities and adventures! We are also about 2 miles from the YMCA where your child will have opportunities to learn how to swim and be involved in all kinds of camps and events!

Dave baptizing our friends' son

Brit frosting cookies with her niece

Dave leading worship for VBS

At a concert with friends

Brit decorating for VBS

Fun Facts & Favorites

	BRITNI	DAVE
Education:	Bachelor's Degree Children's Ministry	Bachelor's in Religious Studies in with Youth Ministry focus, and pursuing Master's of Divinity
Favorite Food:	Chocolate	Sushi
Favorite Show:	Friends	24
Favorite Kids Movie:	The Lion King	Emperor's New Groove
Favorite Vacation:	Panama City Beach with the family	Any with family
Favorite Bible Verse:	Philippians 4:4-7	Romans 12:1