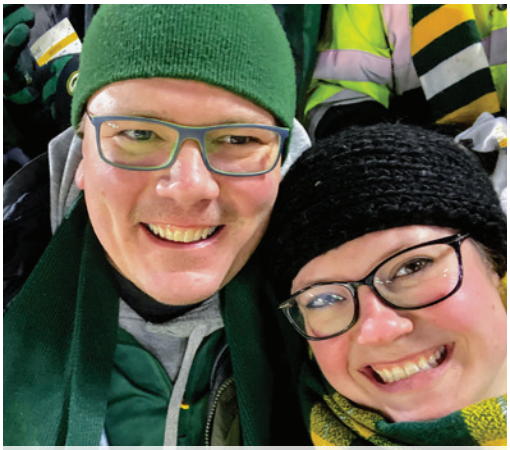
jp + emily



about us

We met online when we were both in graduate school and knew very early on that we had something very special, but we still dated for a couple years before we got married. Emily was a professor of voice, opera, and musical theater for 8 years and is now pursuing a new career in clinical mental health counseling. JP is a professor in counselor education and teaches future licensed school counselors and clinical counselors. We both share a passion for helping others and want to help support the development of those around us.

We struggle with fertility issues, but through IVF we were blessed with the birth of our daughter, Piper, in October 2022. We also have 2 very sweet dogs. Ted is an 11-year-old Morkie who is extremely loyal and very cuddly. Sabine (or Beany) is a 6-year-old Cavachon who is very playful and loves children and babies. We pursued adoption prior to the birth of Piper and still are excited about growing our loving family through adoption.

We are open-minded people who are moderate in our political beliefs but feel very strongly about social justice. We are strong in our faith, and we pray together and attend church regularly. We plan on raising our children in the Christian faith, but will encourage them to explore their own interests and if that includes other religions or faith practices then we will respect and support their choices. We are very close with both sides of our family and have close friends that we treat like family. We are loyal, silly, a little nerdy (we own it), curious, and most of all full of love and not afraid to show and share it.

JP loves:

- anything Star Wars
- playing the baritone ukulele

Emily loves:

- crocheting amigurumi (stuffed animals/toys)
- crafts & sewing

JP & Emily both love:

- watching football & baseball
- reading fiction
- puzzles & board games
- cooking & barbecuing together
- working outside on the lawn & in the garden

Fun Facts about JP:

- JP coached some athletes who made it to the Olympic trials in swimming
- JP was the starting goalie for a national championship water polo team in college

Fun Facts about Emily:

- Emily is a former opera singer
- Emily has lived and studied in both Italy and Austria

about JP

By Emily

When I met JP, I knew he just had to be a dad someday. I often refer to him as "a giant 12-year-old" because he is such a little kid at heart. He is so playful and funny (especially in the pun and dad-joke categories) that Piper and I can't help but smile when we're around him. He gets so excited about going to baseball games, you'd think he had never gone to one before (even though we go to 4 or 5 every summer). He is also incredibly sweet and an amazing dad. He hates going to the grocery store, but whenever he does go (which he never complains about), he often returns with flowers. On top of all of this, he is highly intelligent, ambitious, hard-working, and yet always reminds me to slow down and take a break. I never wanted to get married before I met JP - I'm so incredibly lucky to have such a great partner.

about EMILY

By JP

Emily is one of the kindest, most giving people, I have ever met. She will do anything for a person that she cares about. She takes joy and pride in contributing to the success of others. This is evident in the way that she gushed about the success her former students and loves to discuss the new things she is learning about counseling. She also cares very deeply about her family and friends. She stays in close contact with her siblings and parents and is always supportive of them and their desires. She is such an amazing mother, and I am excited to continue to grow our family with her. She truly makes me a better person by being in my life.

our HOME

Our home is a warm and welcoming place which we love very much. It is a two-story colonial home with a finished basement and an inground pool in the backyard. JP spends a lot of time on the enclosed patio working on his laptop or playing his ukulele. Emily is often found playing the piano or reading in the library. We both enjoy spending time in the family room in our basement. In the summer, the backyard is a favorite for us both for gardening, swimming in the pool, or reading in the hammock. We both also enjoy cooking and entertaining guests in our large kitchen and dining room.

OUR family

Both of us come from very loving and supportive families and both of our parents are still together after many years of marriage. JP's parents have been married for over 50 years and have 6 children. JP is their second child and has two sisters (both married) and three brothers. Unfortunately, one of JP's brothers passed away recently, but the remaining siblings are close and we often get together with all of them to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, and holidays. Our 6 nieces and nephews on JP's side range in ages from 5 to 25. We are lucky enough to live relatively close to most of JP's family, so we get to see them pretty frequently.

Emily's parents have been married for over 40 years and have 3 children. Emily is the oldest child and has one brother and one sister (married with 2 kids). Our niece is 6 and our nephew is 2. Emily's family lives farther away, but we are fortunate enough to visit with them often, regularly spending several days visiting with them at different points throughout the year, and keeping in touch via video chat and phone calls weekly.

Both of our families are excited about our potential adoption and are looking forward to welcoming our new family member. Piper is currently the youngest in both families and is spoiled with love and attention on both sides. She loves playing with her cousins and would be a great big sister. The support we receive from our families is incredible, and we are grateful to have caring parents and siblings in our lives.

JP with his Mom & Dad after earning his doctorate

Celebrating our niece's baptism with family and friends

Family photo for JP's parents 50th wedding anniversary

Neighborhood 4th of July "Favorite Movie" Parade: The Wizard of Oz

Christmas dinner with family

Emily's Bridal Shower

JP with his golfing buddies

Celebrating the New Year with family

dear friend,

Thank you for taking the time to learn about us and our family. We realize that your child may be different from us in many ways, and to us that is such a blessing and an opportunity to celebrate! We will encourage your child to know where they came from, learn who they are, and strive to be who they want to be, regardless of their gender, race, or what other people think of them. No matter what, we will love them. No matter what.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us! We have so much respect for the decisions you are making right now and are very appreciative that you are considering us.

EVER GRATEFUL,

jp + emily

why ADOPTION?

Adoption is how we feel we are supposed to grow our family. We have some infertility issues as well as some health issues that would make another pregnancy potentially dangerous for Emily. Prior to having Piper through in vitro fertilization, we were matched for adoption, but the match failed. We still feel that adopting is the right choice to continue to grow our family. There are so many children in the world who could use a loving home, and we are so very ready to share ours.

Building Blocks Adoption Service Inc.