



FRED *and* TARA



hello

IT'S SO NICE TO MEET YOU!

We follow Jesus, laugh until we cry and love with all our hearts. We are committed in faith, rooted in good moral principle and strive to always be the best version of ourselves.

We are family oriented and enjoy the time we spend with family and friends — whether it's sharing our hobbies, going on adventures or just spending time together on the nights and weekends.

We love new experiences, but also know there is no place like home. Home is more than a house to us; it's a sacred space of love where we have conversations, start traditions and make memories.

Our Story

HOW WE MET

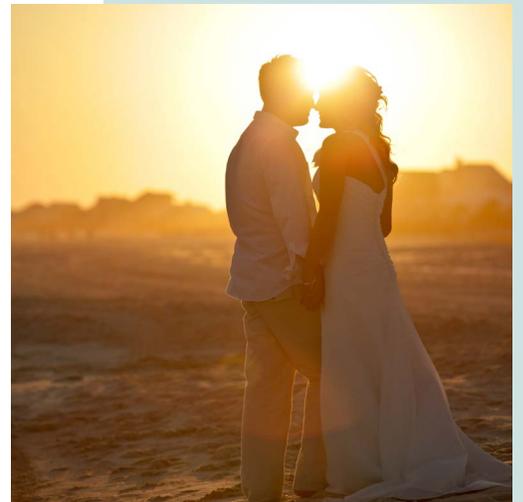
We met at church. Fred was playing the keyboard and singing on stage; it was love at first sight. I knew on the first date, he was the one I was meant to share my life with. He proposed on the beach in Grand Cayman Island in March 2011, and we were married on the beach in Fort Morgan, Alabama six months later. It's been over eight years, and we love the life we've built together. It's a life built out of love, communication and commitment, and we can't wait to start a new chapter as parents.



Why Adoption

BECOMING PARENTS

For the past seven years, we've been trying to start a family. The process has been a difficult journey, but we are hopeful that you and your child will become part of our story. Our desire to become parents has led us to adoption, and our understanding of it throughout this process has deepened. We greatly admire your strength, courage and love for your baby as you consider adoption and would be honored if you were to choose us. We know how much you love him/her, and we will remember that always. We'd love for you to become part of our family, or whatever type of involvement you are most comfortable with. Please know we are here to support you in whatever ways we can.



Our niece and nephew are a huge part of our lives, and so are our closest friends' children. As much as we love our roles as Aunt Tara and Uncle Fred, we can't wait until we are able to hear a tiny voice call us mom and dad. We have so much love and life experiences we can't wait to share with this child.





a little about

FRED

I am a logical, analytical problem-solver who loves to work towards big goals in all areas of my life. I love to learn, and I love to be creative! I get to exercise my creative muscles in my career as an engineer and in my love for music. I graduated with a bachelor of science in metallurgical engineering and most recently an MBA, and I actually work at my alma mater as director of design, construction and space management. Working collaboratively with other design professionals – architects, engineers and planners – is rewarding, particularly on large, complex architectural projects. I love having the opportunity to play a lead role in the development of the long-term vision of the buildings and grounds at the university, which is integral to the community.

Music is a big part of who I am. I play the keyboard and guitar, and sing and lead in our church band. I have a deep love and appreciation for music of all kinds.

I also love to travel to experience new cultures and places. I've been fortunate to travel to the Philippines, Cayman Islands, Hawaii, Vancouver, Haiti, and all over the USA – the most recent trips I've taken have been with my best friend and wife, Tara.

My favorite thing to do in life is to spend time with and laugh with family and friends.





Fred loves traveling and enjoying the outdoors.



Fred grilling on the big green egg smoker/grill.



At our favorite park with our niece and nephew.





a little about

TARA

Faith, family and friendships are pretty much what make my world go round. My motto is be kind, do good and give grace, and I strive to live this out every day. Family and friendships are my heart; we love game nights and having everyone over to hang out.

I am committed to a healthy lifestyle and love to stay active. I love to run, lift weights, hike outside and do yoga. I have my bachelor of science and master of science in technical communication. I work at a university in marketing and communications as a User Interface/ Experience Designer. I'm passionate about what I do because it is the perfect fusion of creativity and technology. I am able to be creative while working on improving people's lives through technology. My job is to focus on people and make their experience with a website or app the best it can be. Making an impact on someone's life in a tangible way is very rewarding.

My job at the university is also flexible and fully supports a healthy work/life balance. I will have ample time off when baby arrives and can return to a flexible work/home schedule after leave.





Tara loves spending time with our niece and nephew.



Tara is committed to a healthy lifestyle.



Meeting Henry, her friend's son, for first time.



what Tara LOVES ABOUT FRED



Not only is Fred an amazing husband, he is one of the BEST humans I've met. I love everything about him. He loves God, has a heart for worship and truly cares for people. I never doubt that he always has my best interest in mind and he continually puts me before himself; he's selfless in just about every way. Anything Fred pursues, he does so with excellence; he is intelligent, patient, hardworking and determined. He can always make me laugh, and he's a great cook. I'm a better person because of him, and can't picture my world without him. I know he will be a great dad, and I can't wait to see him in that role.

Five fun facts ABOUT FRED

He's been scuba diving since he was 12.

He was a drum major in high school.

He's been on two international mission trips to the Philippines and Haiti.

He loves to cook!

One of his favorite movies is A Beautiful Mind.

what Fred LOVES ABOUT TARA



Tara has taught me how to love others more and just to be a better human. I love how she cares for others, listens to what they have to say, and never gives up on people. She's a very determined, intelligent individual who doesn't give up on her dreams. Tara has a passion for everything she does and doesn't do anything half-heartedly. She always looks for the potential in others and takes interest in helping others achieve their dreams. I love everything about who Tara is.

Five fun facts ABOUT TARA

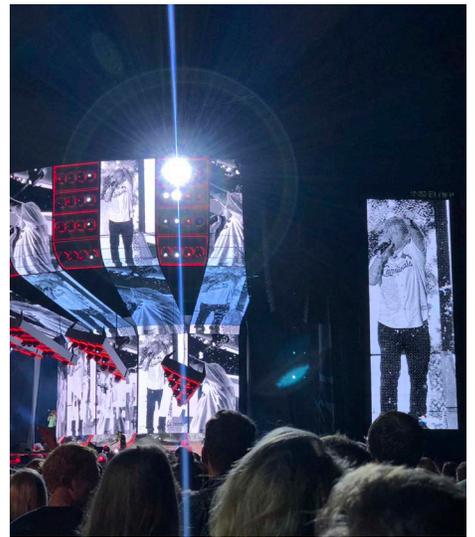
She teaches introduction to professional writing at her alma mater.

She's the first from her family to graduate from college.

She's completed two full Tough Mudders and two power lifting meets.

She ran track competitively. She competed in the 100, 200 and 400 meter dashes and relays.

She published her first poem when she was 10, titled Hot Air Balloon Ride.



Our interests AND HOBBIES

We love travel to experience new cultures and places. The beach is our happy place although we try to vacation in new spots each year. We also enjoy hiking, camping and spending time outdoors.

Music is a big part of our lives so we go to concerts often. This past year, we were able to see Justin Timberlake and Ed Sheeran.

We love sports and try to support our teams when we can. Baseball and football are our favorites!





Our favorite TRADITIONS

THANKSGIVING - Each year, we host Tara's extended family at our house for Thanksgiving. Fred smokes a turkey and makes a special cranberry salad and Tara bakes her famous coconut cream pie - something the family looks forward to every year.

CHRISTMAS - Homemade pizza and sugar cookies are a yearly Christmas tradition; it's something we started with our niece and nephew when they were young. They love being creative with the icing and sprinkles.

ST. PAT'S - Our area is known for our St. Patty's Day celebration. We love getting together with our friends and family to watch the parade and participate in festivities.

FOURTH OF JULY - Each year, we take our niece and nephew to our area's famous 4th of July carnival. Rides, funnel cakes and fireworks are always on the list!



our home AND COMMUNITY



We own our 3 bed, 2 bath home at the very end of a cul-de-sac, and our backyard is forest. It is not unusual for us to be enjoying morning coffee at our kitchen table and look out the bay window and see a family of deer. With all the deer, birds, butterflies and other wildlife, our backyard can at times seem like a nature reserve!



Wildlife that Fred has photographed in our backyard.

A research university is in the center of our town.



We live in the beautiful Ozarks where green space and conservation are a way of life. We love the safety and diversity of our small community. Our area is known as 'the middle of everywhere' because of our close proximity to major cities for a weekend getaway. The university where we both work provides plenty of opportunities for fun and education for children by hosting camps and special events that celebrate cultures from around the world.



these are our
FAMILY AND FRIENDS





FRED'S EXTENDED

Family



Fred has a close relationship with his parents and brother, and we are also close in proximity because most of his family also lives in the Ozarks. We love family gatherings: cookouts, potlucks, float trips, and playing games together. Scuba diving is a family tradition, and Tara actually got certified to dive when we were first dating. Fred has dived with his family in the Missouri lakes and in the Cayman Islands! His dad is a pilot, and during the summer months he flies a plane fighting fires. He is a carpenter in the off-season and loves spending time outdoors hunting, fishing, and riding motorcycles. His mom owns her own business, and she enjoys exercising, golfing, and spending time planting flowers and working in her yard. Fred and her share the same love for cooking, and she's one of his biggest teachers. His brother spends a lot of time outdoors and works as a carpenter. He's a golfer too and loves playing games with our family. Everyone is so excited to welcome and love the first grandchild on his side of the family!



TARA'S EXTENDED

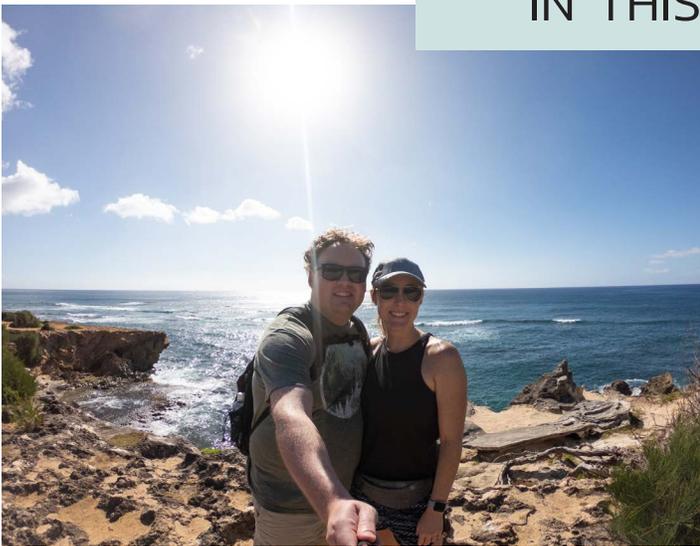
Family



Tara has three siblings. Her older brother and sister are from her dad's previous marriage and although they didn't grow up in the same household, they are a big part of her life. Her brother is a police officer and her older sister works at a technology company. Her youngest sister and her are only 22 months apart. They grew up very close, and her daughter, Haley, and son, Noah, are a huge part of our lives. They spend weeks with us at a time over summer break just so we can be together and enjoy new experiences, like our area's famous 4th of July carnival or their favorite swimming pool. They will wear the title of 'cousin' with pride. Our niece already can't wait to come help us with the baby and shower him/her with hugs and kisses. Tara is extremely close to her grandparents, and considers her grandma one of her best friends. They talk on the phone everyday. Her mom, grandparents, aunt and cousins all live just minutes away and are so excited about having a new baby to spoil!



IN THIS FAMILY WE...



LOVE WITH ALL OUR HEARTS.

FORGIVE QUICKLY.

SEE THE BEST IN OTHERS AND
OURSELVES.

GO ON ADVENTURES.

HAVE FUN!



promises FROM US TO YOU

Your love will never be unwritten from your baby's story. We want your child to admire you for your strength and selflessness. We promise to always tell his/her story with the love and respect it deserves. If we are chosen to parent your child, we will never forget the gift we've been given.

Your child will always be loved, nurtured and protected. We will always show understanding and grace and place his/her best interest first.

He/she will always be encouraged to build confidence to go after his/her dreams. We will teach him/her not to fear failure, stay curious and to never question his/her abilities.

We will have fun in life making memories that will last a lifetime. We will provide a safe and stable home and create experiences that will encourage growth and exploration.



we would love
TO CONNECT

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We are grateful for the opportunity to be a part of your journey. We hope you can see the love, laughter and stability we can provide your child. Whatever your decision may be, know that you will be on our hearts and in our thoughts and prayers.

We would love to learn more about you! We'd be so honored to get the opportunity to connect with you beyond these pages.