

Brittany & Daniel



HELLO

As parents we know that words cannot adequately express the love that a mother feels for their child. We understand the magnitude of the decision you are facing and we feel honored to be considered.

We believe you are strong, you are brave, and you matter.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us. We hope you feel supported and are surrounded with an overwhelming sense of peace as you navigate through this time in your life.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

You can never be replaced in your child's life.

It is our hope that your child will always keep a strong connection to you, while growing in our family. We promise to love your child as our own.

Love,
Daniel & Brittany



Our hearts for adoption

When we got married back in 2008, we knew we wanted a large family. Daniel came from a family where he had both a brother and a sister and said, "everyone deserves to have both a brother and a sister."



After we lost Selah we began finding heart rocks all over the beach in Maine. Now we take them back to Nashville each year and put them on her grave.

We knew that at least four kids were in our future, but we couldn't have predicted having so many boys. After giving birth to five wonderful boys, we got pregnant with boy/girl twins in 2020. Everything was going well until they were delivered at 33 weeks. Our son, Audric, was born kicking and screaming and our baby girl, Selah, tragically passed away 7 hours later.

While her death is hard to make sense of, our faith is strong. We don't plan to have more biological children, but we still have a space in our hearts for a daughter. It is our hope that she can join our family through adoption.



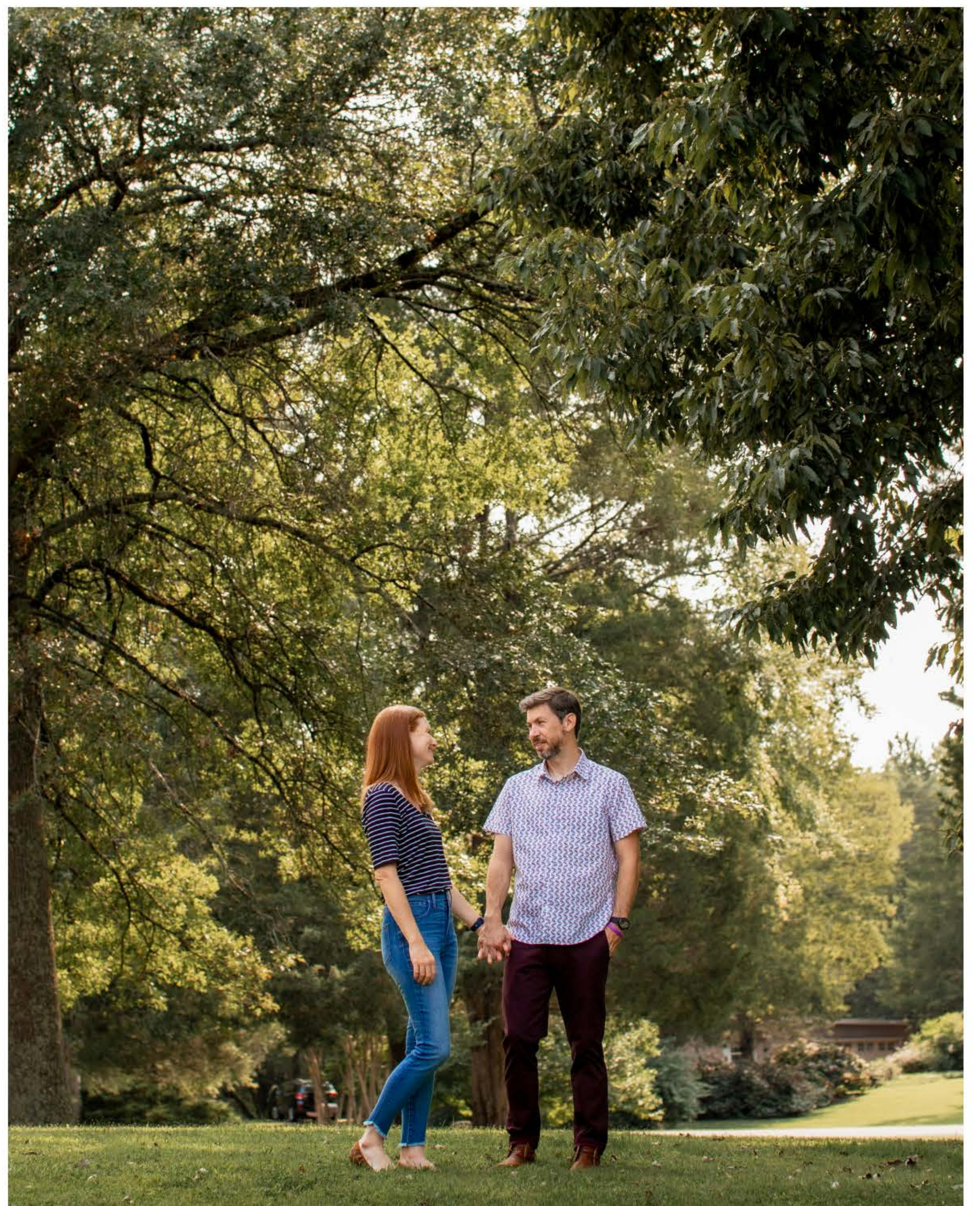
OUR STORY

We met through mutual friends on an old social media platform called MySpace. It was a bit like Facebook, but before a time when it was "socially acceptable" to find new friends online.

Daniel sent Brittany a message and said he "liked her smile." Brittany wasn't quick to message back, but when Daniel started writing "choose your own adventure stories," where Brittany got to choose where the story went next, she was hooked. We eventually met up in person at a friend's birthday party, and the rest is history!

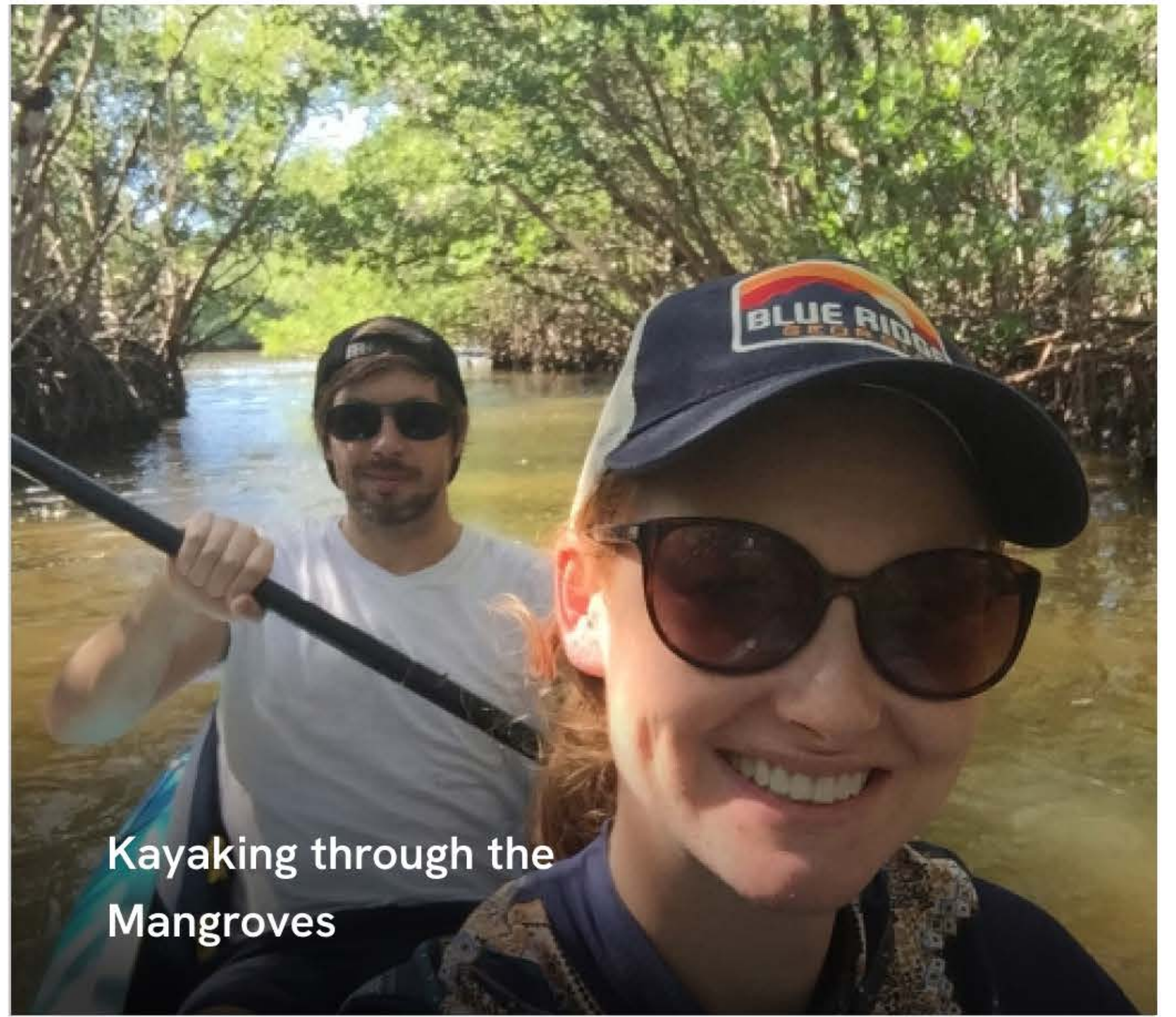
We have now been together for 16 years and married for 13, and we have been choosing adventures together ever since!

Our personalities, while different, provide a great balance to our relationship. Daniel is extroverted, and go-with the flow, while Brittany is more introverted, organized, and loves planning. Our carpe-diem attitude has allowed us to have so many fun experiences together, and our optimism and faith have carried us through hard times. We approach parenting as a team, and no role is seen as belonging to only one of us. We share the household chores, discipline, and ins and outs of running a family. We are mindful of each other's needs and try to always extend grace to each other. We know that when raising a family, it's important for our relationship to remain strong, so we try to make time for the two of us as often as we can.

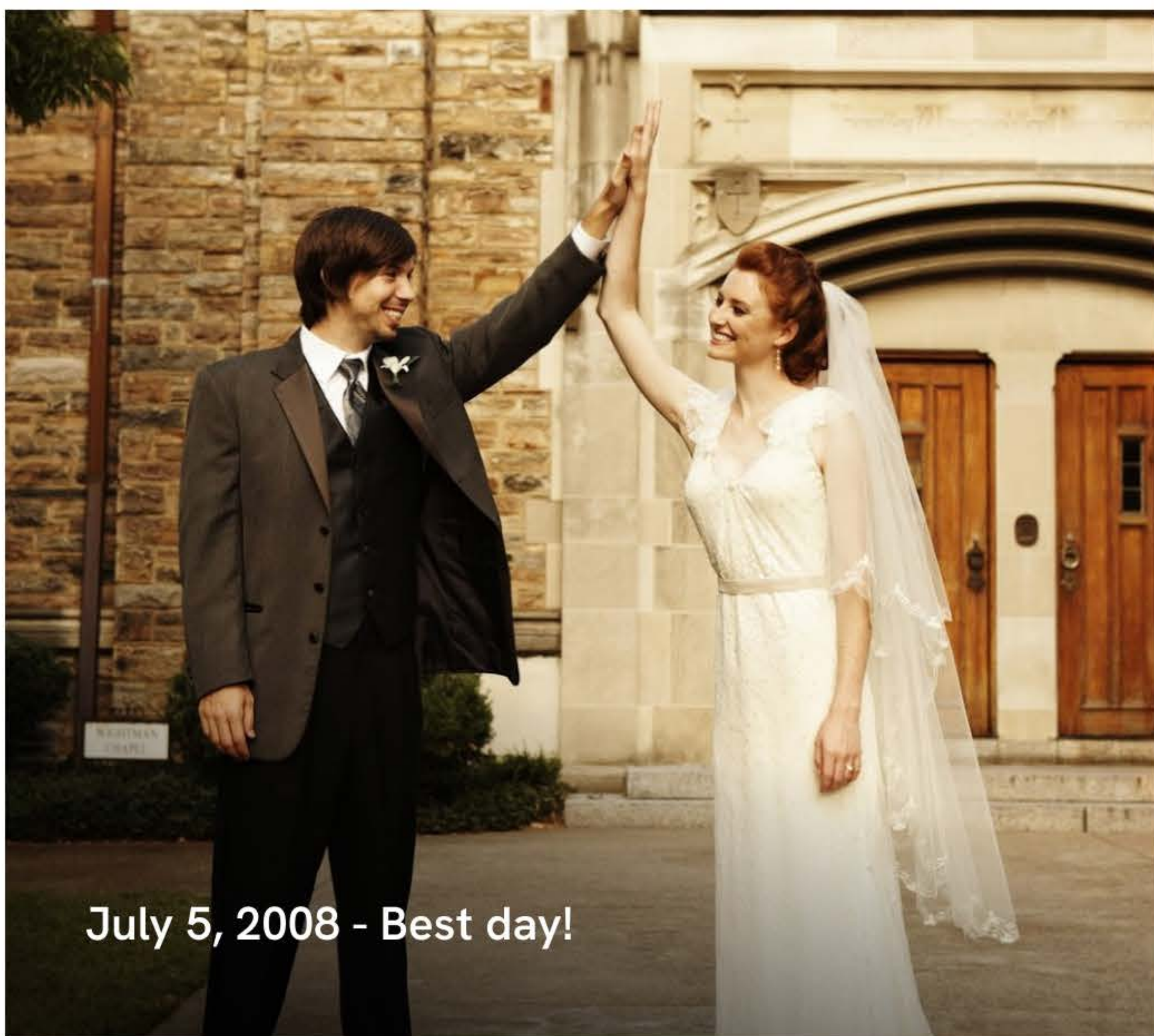




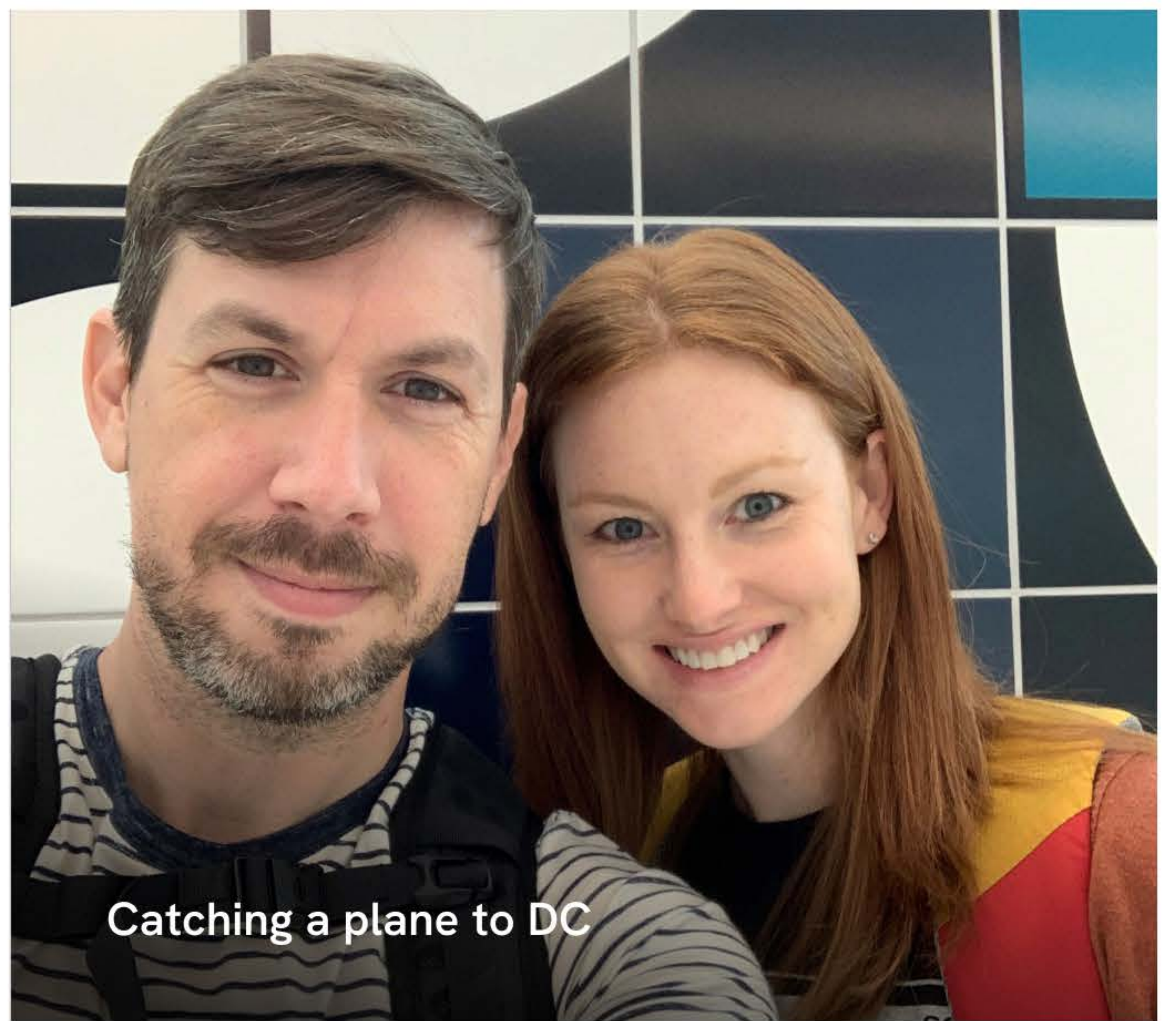
Cooking Barracuda in traditional Garifuna style



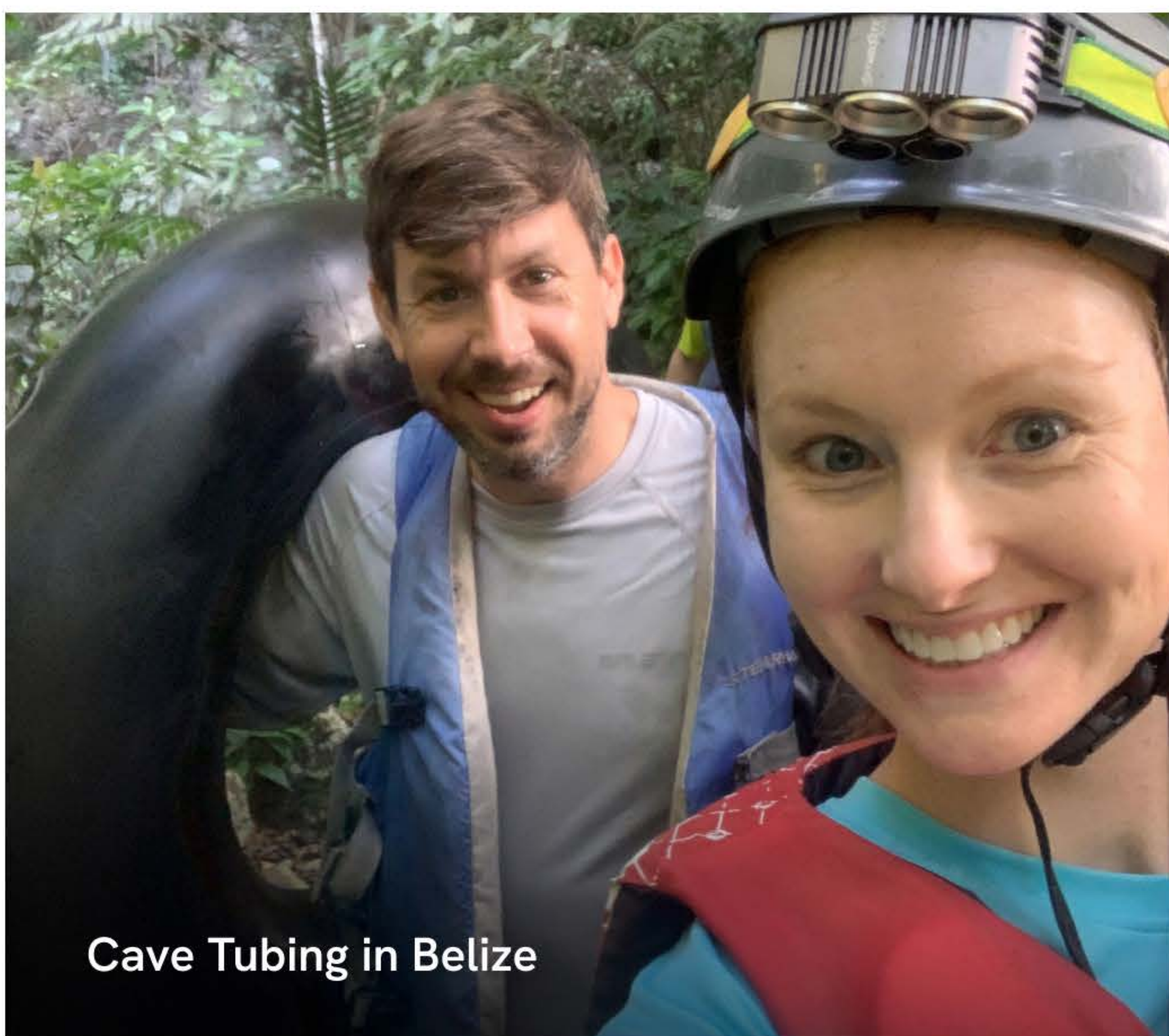
Kayaking through the Mangroves



July 5, 2008 - Best day!



Catching a plane to DC



Cave Tubing in Belize



My Covid barber!

MEET BRITTANY

My Wife

I'm the luckiest guy in the world to be married to Brittany. She's **hardworking, caring, kind**, and the **best mom ever**.

She takes care of the family from the moment she gets up in the morning. Throughout the day she makes lunches, teaches school and then generously attends to the countless tasks and demands that go with raising a big family – all with a smile on her face.

Since the pandemic she's also taken on the role of teacher – a challenging job, but one that's been so rewarding for our family, **all thanks to her**. It has been really amazing to see the kids' growth through her teaching, and provided us with so much quality time together.



Every day she carves out **intentional, special time with each of our children** – countless crafts, one-on-one shopping trips (always with treats) helping with homework, baking together, reading, playing with toys, or just swinging in the backyard.

She's a planner and a dreamer, and most of our adventures start as her ideas. She thinks of awesome dates, loves going to concerts, and is a great listener.

She loves big celebrations. She thinks of the most unique and fun birthday parties for each of the kids. Christmas and Easter are always magical because of her planning, decorations, and truly thoughtful gifts.

Her love, and attention is the rock of our family and we're so thankful she's ours.

– Daniel

IN HER OWN WORDS

Hi! I'm Brittany. I grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, where I lived until I moved away for college. I graduated Magna Cum Laude from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Recording Industry Management and a minor in Entrepreneurship. I had many amazing experiences in college, including hosting my own radio show, traveling to London to study punk rock and reggae for a summer, and was 1 of 12 students selected to serve on an advisory board with Kanye West and Kelly Clarkson. I also attended the Grammys twice where I interviewed artists on the red carpet!

I've always had an entrepreneurial spirit, even from the time I was a little girl. I would make bracelets and sell them door to door with my friends. I am now living vicariously through my children as they set up their little gift shop on the island each summer.



While in college, I also worked part-time at a teen clothing store called Plato's Closet. When I graduated, my boss recognized my drive and asked me to step into a leadership role. Although it wasn't what I had planned, I saw it as an opportunity to learn more about business. I am the type of person to "give my all" no matter the job or task. That next year, the store went from underperforming to one of the country's fastest-growing stores. Because of my dedication and success, I had the opportunity to buy into the business, and I became a store owner at 25! I absolutely loved running those stores, but once I became a mother, I turned my focus to home and stepped away from those roles.

I've always had a **heart for kids**, and even before I had kids of my own, I was a big sister through Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. I am still in contact with my little sister today.

I have always loved learning new arts and crafts, and most of our children also share that passion. This past summer, our entire family started learning to watercolor paint together. It was fun to watch as each of us painted the same picture with such different outcomes.



I also love knitting, and I have made hundreds of hats for friends and family, NICU babies, and fundraisers. Elliott and Ezra also enjoy knitting with me.



MEET DANIEL

My Husband

Daniel is my best friend, and is a true partner in parenting. He has been working as a web designer and creative director at the same digital design agency for 21 years. His job allows him to work from home, so he is able to spend a lot of time with us, and that has allowed us to go on many adventures together.

Daniel always **puts family first**, and he is there for all of the important moments with our children. Whether it's cheering on our kids at their games, or helping to teach a math lesson, he loves to be a part of it all.

When he is not building websites, he is making breakfast for the kids, playing with them in the backyard, teaching them to code or play chess, or creating things like the awesome tree house he made for our boys in the backyard.



Daniel loves to be outdoors – whether it's taking hikes in Maine, hanging out in our backyard in Nashville, playing wiffle ball at the town field, or riding bikes on the greenway, he loves to be active!

He makes friends of all ages easily, is a peacemaker, is generous, and is **always thinking of others first**.

– Brittany

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Hey! I'm Daniel. I grew up in Nashville with a close-knit family. We sang together, went to church together, picked green beans together, and played countless hours of basketball together. (I was always the "little guy" in sports but I made up for it with determination.)

Art has always been a passion for me since childhood. In middle and high school I would spend hours drawing on the computer. My dad would always walk through the room and say, "you should find a way to make money doing that." He constantly told us that we could do anything we put our minds to, and we believed it!

Not long after his comment, while still in high school, I got a job doing illustration and design for an early "dot-com" startup.

I continued working all through college when I helped start the company that I still work for today – where I've been fortunate to work on hundreds of great projects over years ranging from the Beatles to Star Wars.

Now it's come full circle and some of our boys have taken an interest in design and coding. And I tell them, **they can do anything they put their minds to!**

For fun I've always enjoyed sports like beach volleyball and ultimate frisbee, which I played competitively in college and a few years after.

I love traveling, nature, good jokes, bad jokes, hugs, high-fives, minimalism, the occasional mustache, sugar cookies, symmetry, carpentry, architecture, and most of all my family and getting to be a dad.



MEET

Our Boys

Gideon is patient and nurturing with his little brothers. He has always had a connection to animals, is known as the “chicken whisperer,” and can often be found with a lizard or snake he found in the yard—which Mommy makes him keep in the yard! He often has big ideas—from harvesting pumpkin seeds after Halloween, and then growing them in the kitchen window all winter, to convincing his school to buy and raise baby chickens, he sees things through from start to finish. He has an incredible memory and can tell you all kinds of interesting facts.

Ezra is a tender-hearted boy and lives up to the meaning of his name, “helper.” He is very creative and loves to code and make crafts. Ezra is ambitious and determined and this summer he set up a corner business on the island and sold enough bracelets and sand dollars to buy his own laptop! He is a loyal friend, a loving brother, and he can’t wait to have a little sister.

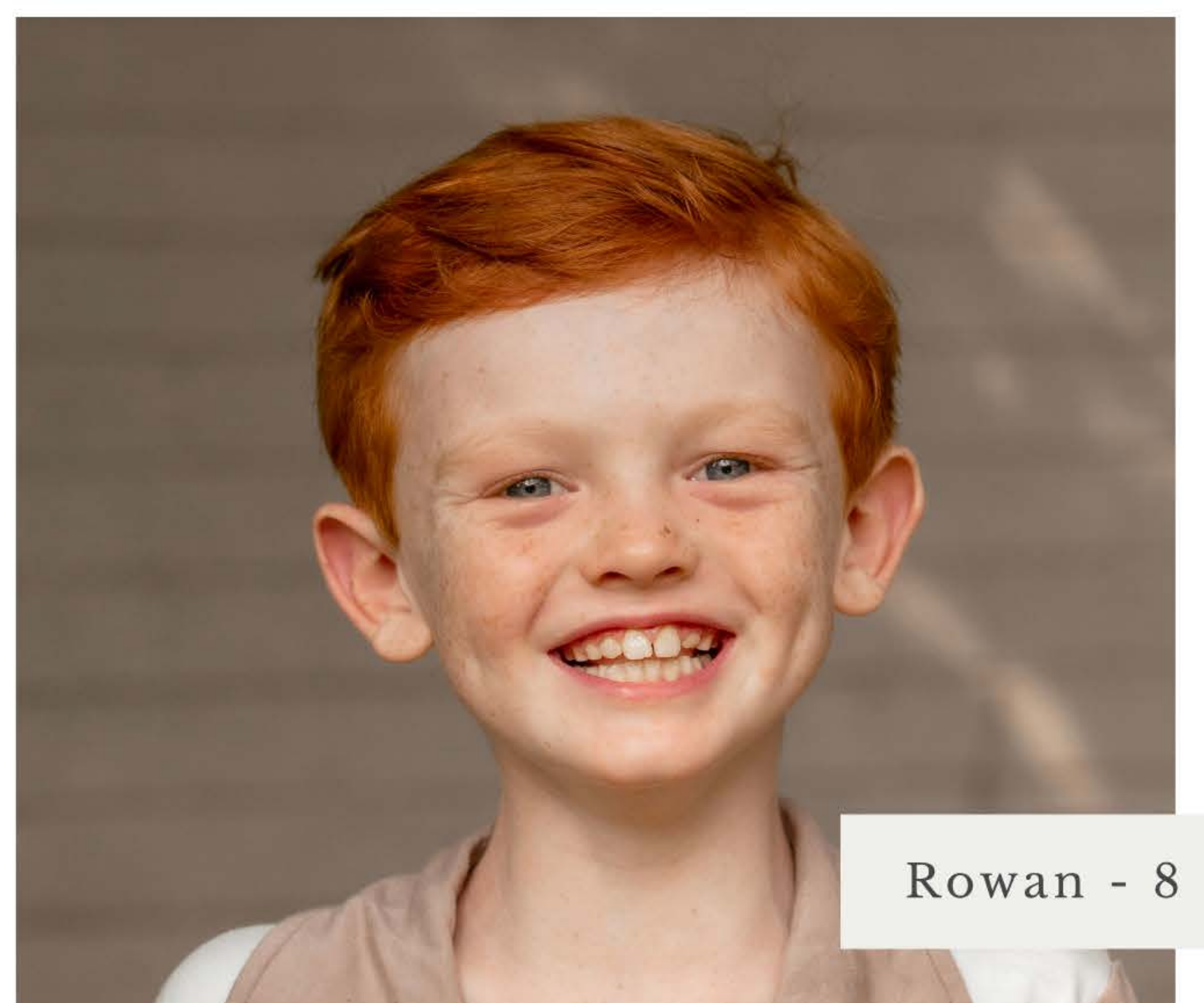
Rowan is a tiny guy, with a huge personality. He is a natural born performer and loves to be silly and make everyone laugh. He makes friends of all ages very easily. He likes singing, learning to play guitar, playing baseball, riding his bike, and being independent. Rowan is very excited to have a little sister.



Gideon - 12



Ezra - 10



Rowan - 8



Elliott - 6

Elliott loves to be active. He's a homebody who likes to be outside, ride his bike, climb, sail, and dig. He is gifted in math and reading and is doing second grade work as a Kindergartner. He loves to play card games, and he can beat anyone in a game of UNO. Elliott is independent and sensitive. He is so excited to have a new baby sister.



Solomon - 4

Solomon is cuddly and sweet. He likes for the whole family to be together, and he always wants to do exactly what his big brothers are doing. He really enjoyed learning to row this summer in Maine. He is funny and a joy to be around.

Audric is our youngest son. Although he was a preemie, you would never know it. He is a big boy and is such a happy guy. He likes exploring new things, and he gets lots of attention from his older brothers. He is such a joy and we know he will be such a good big brother.



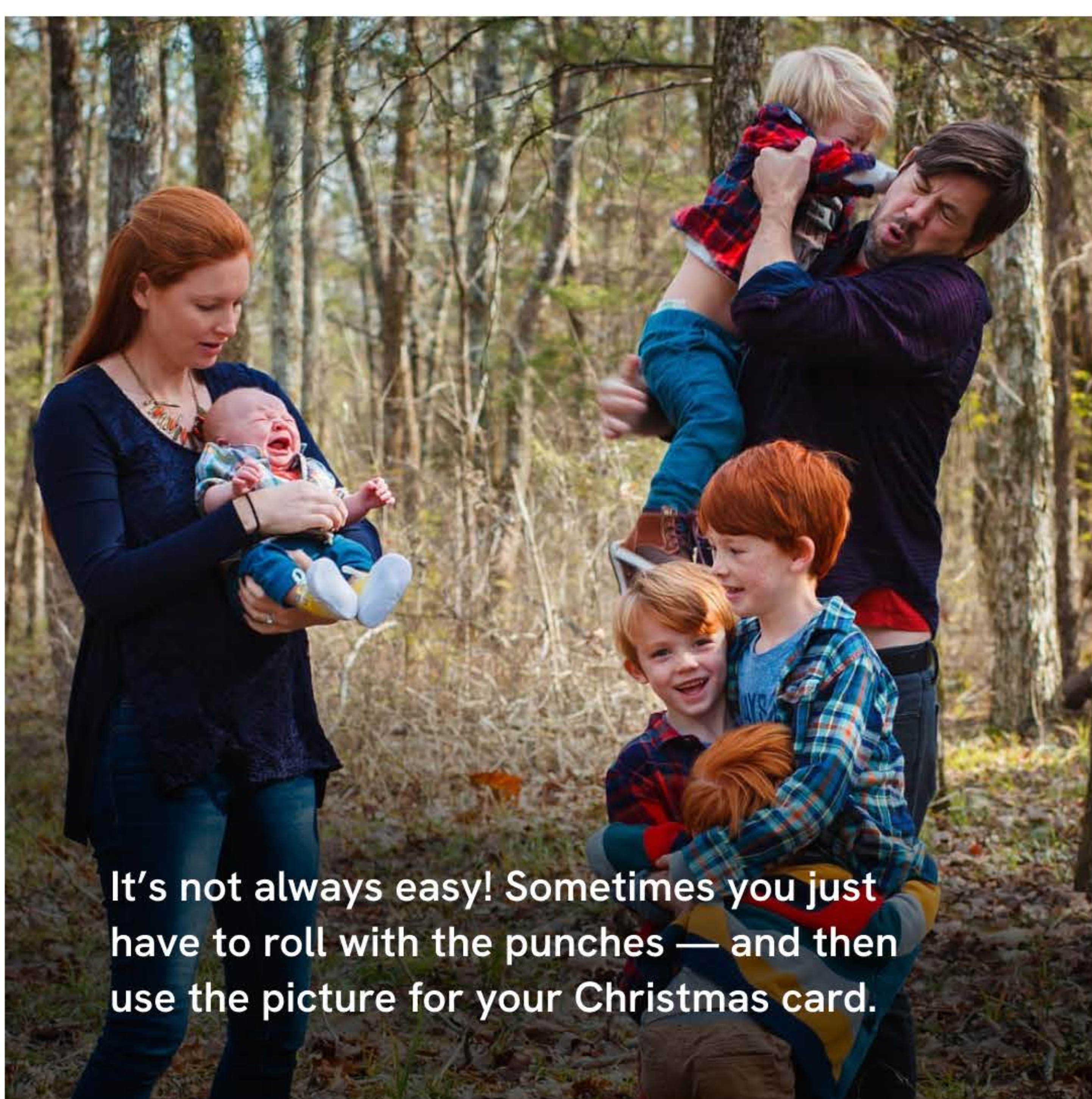
Audric - 1

They can't wait
for a sister!



Our parenting style

After twelve years of parenting 6 boys with very different personalities, we approach parenting with a very open mind. We have learned that what works for one child, may not work for the next. **We see our children as individuals** worthy of the same respect as any adult. We like to give them space to make their own choices and mistakes, while being there to **help guide them through life's challenges**.



It's not always easy! Sometimes you just have to roll with the punches — and then use the picture for your Christmas card.

When we started having children, people would tell us, "The days are long, but the years are short." We knew this would be true, and **we have tried to seize every moment with our children**. We like to be intentional with the things that we do. If it isn't contributing to the well-being of our family or children, we don't do it. While we do like to give our children opportunities to play sports and participate in activities, you won't find us rushing around here and there all day, like what is often celebrated in today's culture. We see the value in slow Saturday mornings with our family, a drive to the country for a picnic and a splash in the creek, or a day of just nothing – it's **amazing to see what the kids come up with in unscheduled moments**.



We recite with our kids every day:

- Whatever you do, do it your best.
- Have fun.
- Play peacefully.
- You can do hard things.
- Treat others the way you want to be treated.
- If you see someone sad, try to cheer them up.
- And remember, Mommy and Papa love you very much, no matter what. And don't you forget it!

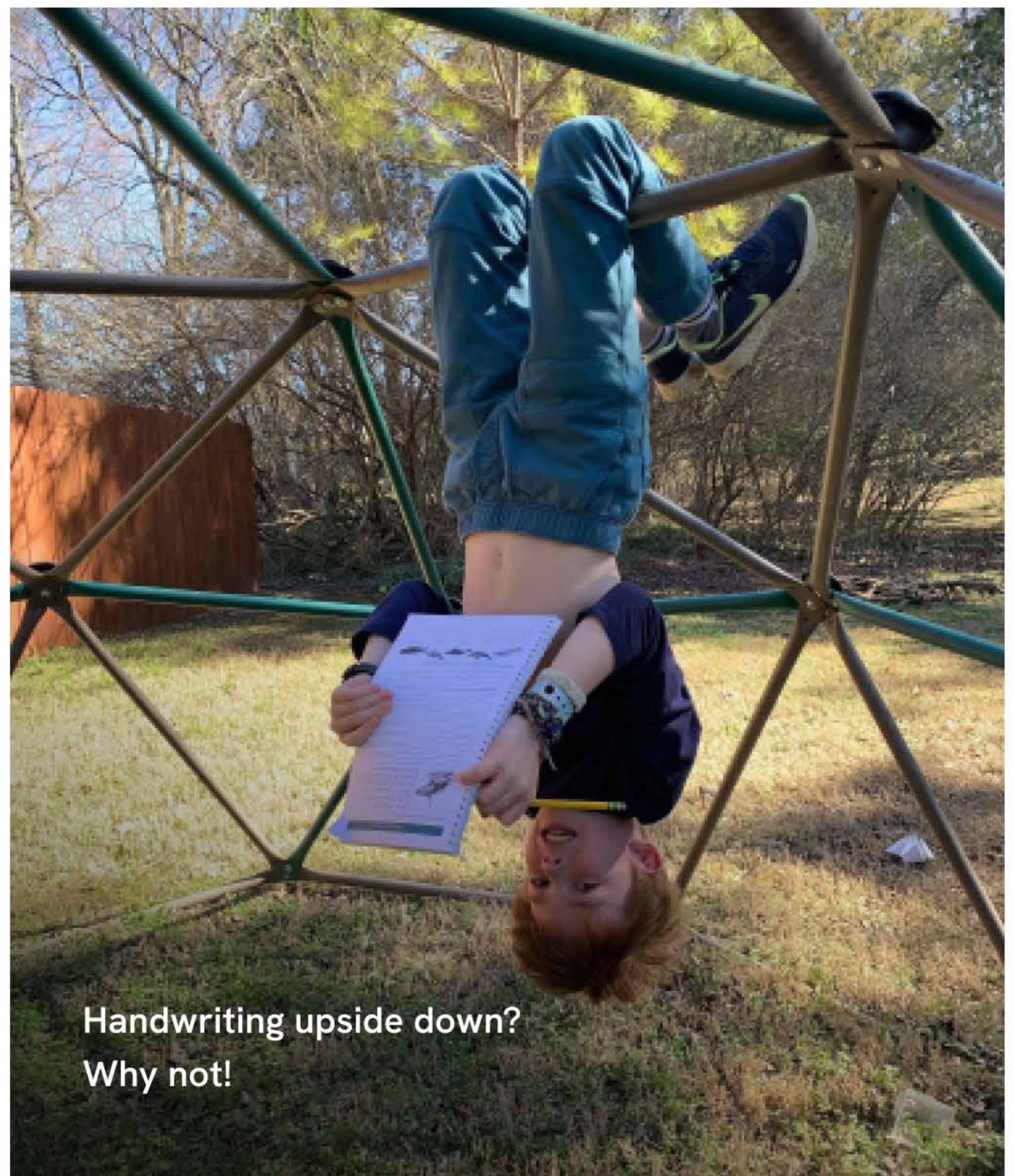


Education

We take an individualized approach to educating our children. Almost all of our children are currently homeschooled. Brittany uses a mix of curriculum and hands-on experiences to teach the children. Rowan and Elliott spend a couple of days out of the week in a nature school program with other homeschooled children.

We feel strongly that **children learn best from experiences** and we try to give them lots of opportunities for new ones. Our oldest son, Gideon, attends a private Montessori school. He loves animals and agriculture and the school has a great program for that.

In addition to school our boys participate in a range of extra activities that interest them. We have boys in baseball, speech team, guitar lessons, art classes, and chess club. When we are in Maine they all sail.



Handwriting upside down?
Why not!



Visiting Gideon at school



Rowan with his new guitar!



We like to take school outside when we can.



Brothers and teammates!



Making bracelets for the shop



Our boys love teaching their younger siblings.



We have a celebration every time one of the kids moves up a grade.

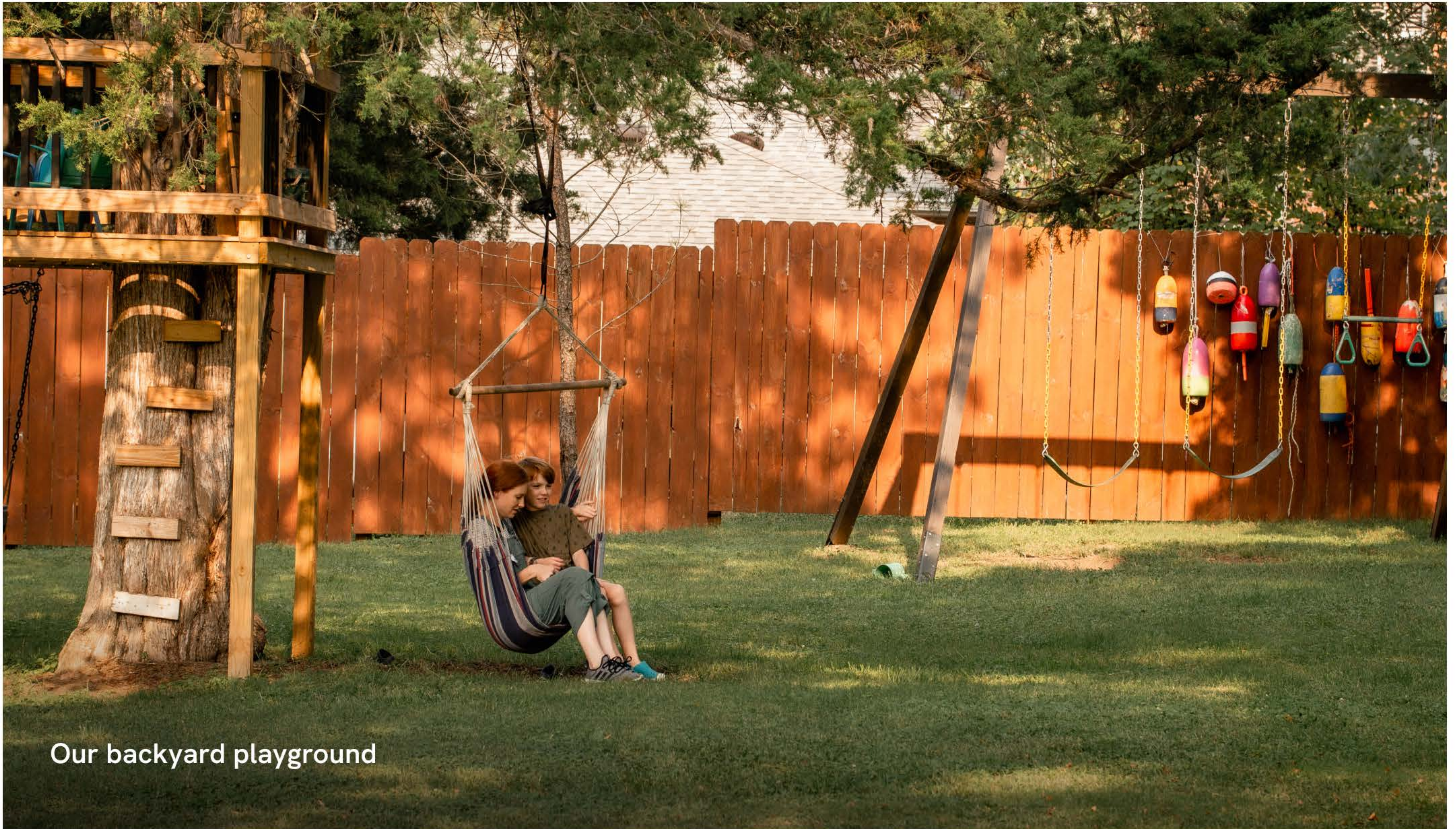
NASHVILLE

A glimpse into our home

We live in a quiet and safe neighborhood, just 10 minutes from the heart of Nashville. We have all of the benefits of a bigger city such as excellent healthcare, great job opportunities, good shopping, fun parks, delicious restaurants, and cultural diversity. Our neighborhood is one of the only ones in town with huge yards, full of shade trees, so we have privacy and space for the kids to run around.

There are 5 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms in our home. You can find us gathered around the farm table for meals together or for our morning read aloud. We have a big front porch with rocking chairs and you can often see deer running through the yard. Out back there is a tree house, swing set, circle net wing, ninja slackline, full court basketball, and a playhouse with a sand box. Our kids love riding their bikes in circles in the backyard and eating meals together on the patio. Brittany's mom and dad live on the same street and we can walk or ride bikes down to their house.





Our backyard playground



Our house



Movie night!



Treehouse that Daniel built



Baby's room

LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE

We like to **get out and explore** with our kids and there is always something going on in our hometown. From concerts in the park with food trucks, to arts and craft festivals, there's something for the whole family. We have a family membership to the zoo, science museum and art museum and we are always looking for cool programs for the kids to enjoy.



There are lots of great city parks and greenways just minutes from our house, and we visit them often so the kids can ride their scooters or stomp in a creek. We also enjoy taking weekend trips to nearby cities such as Chattanooga, Louisville, or Huntsville to take advantage of all they have to offer.

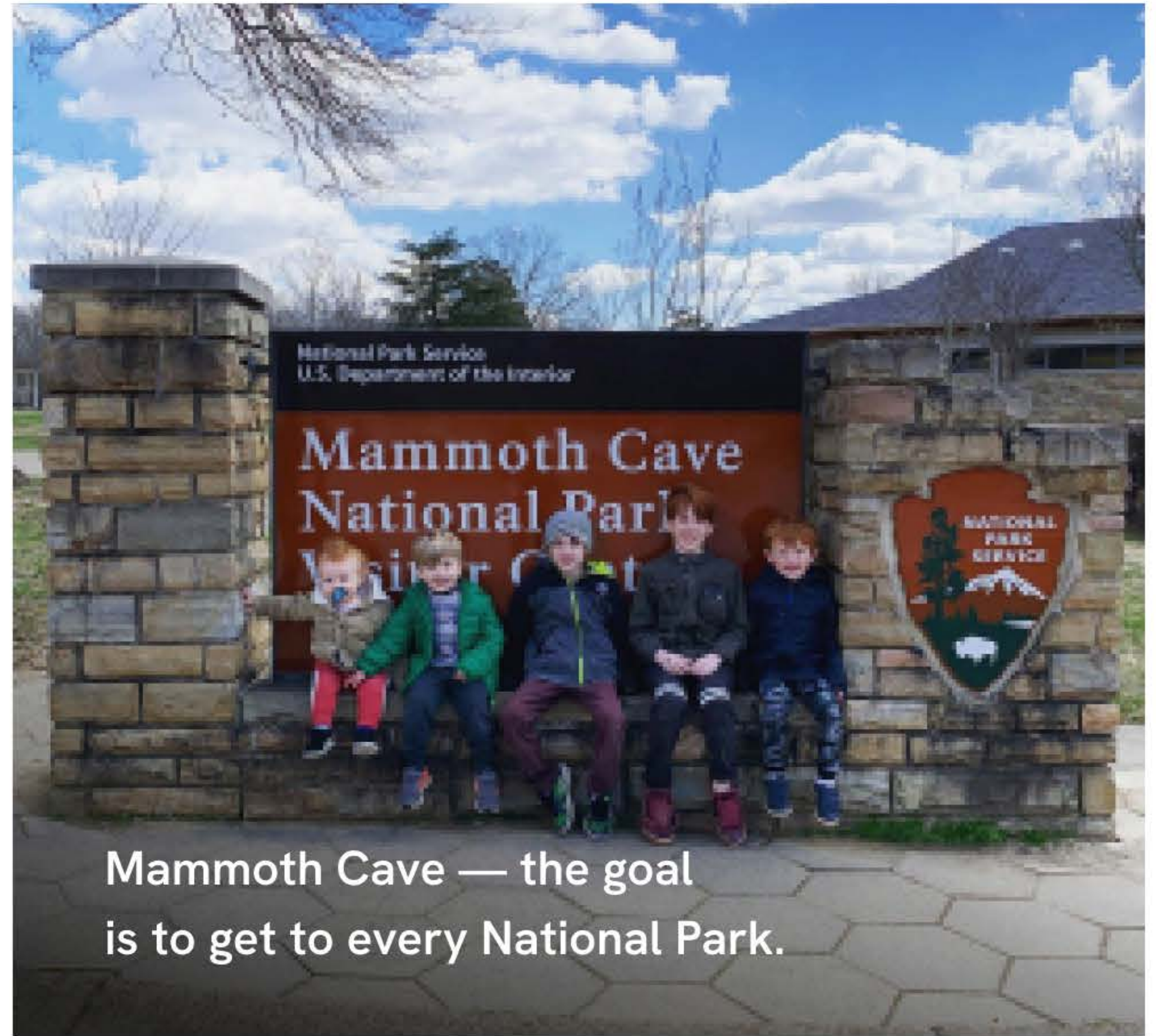


When we're ready to hit the road we all pile in our 15 passenger van, which has enough seats for everyone plus friends and family.

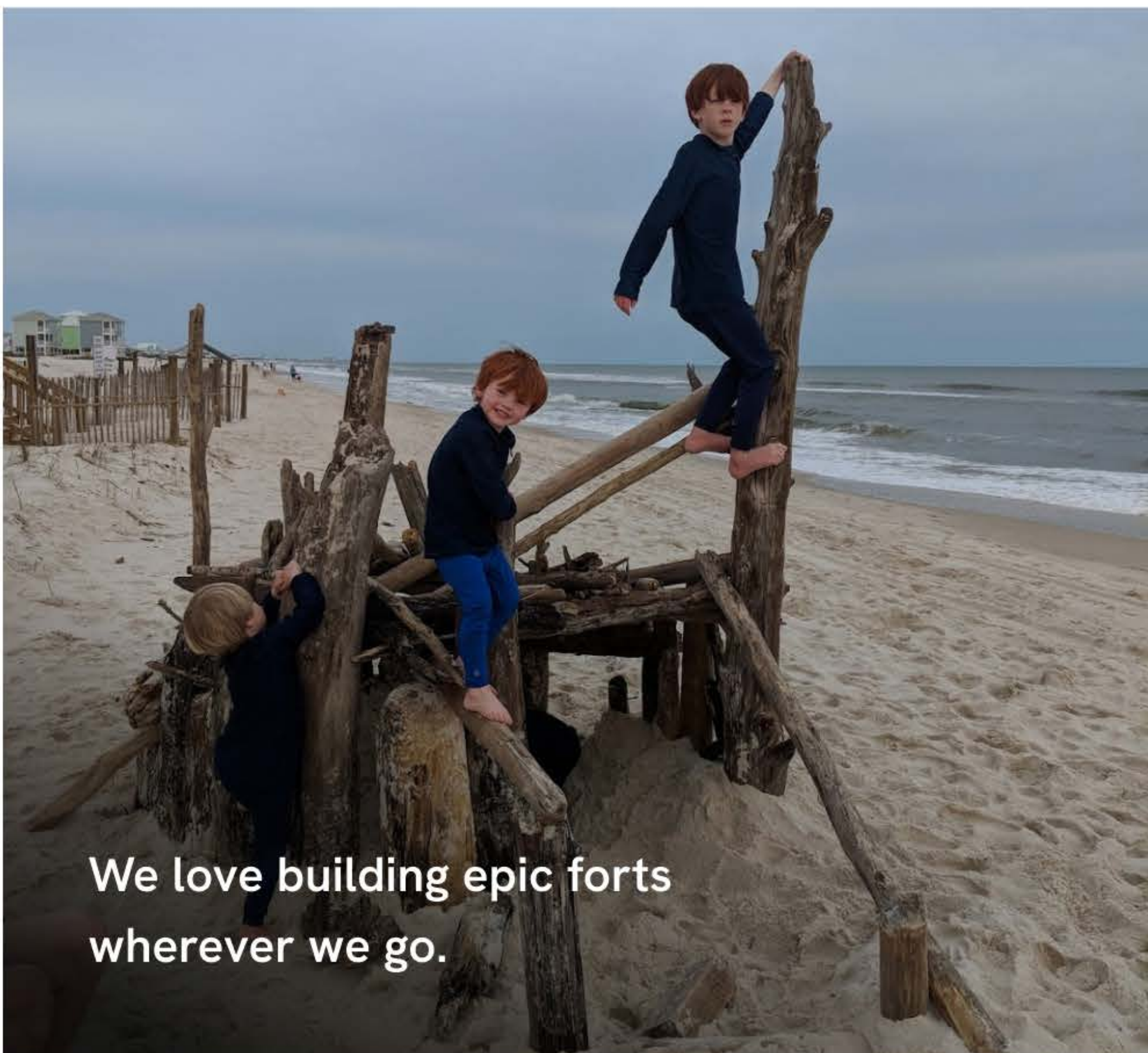
Then it's time to travel



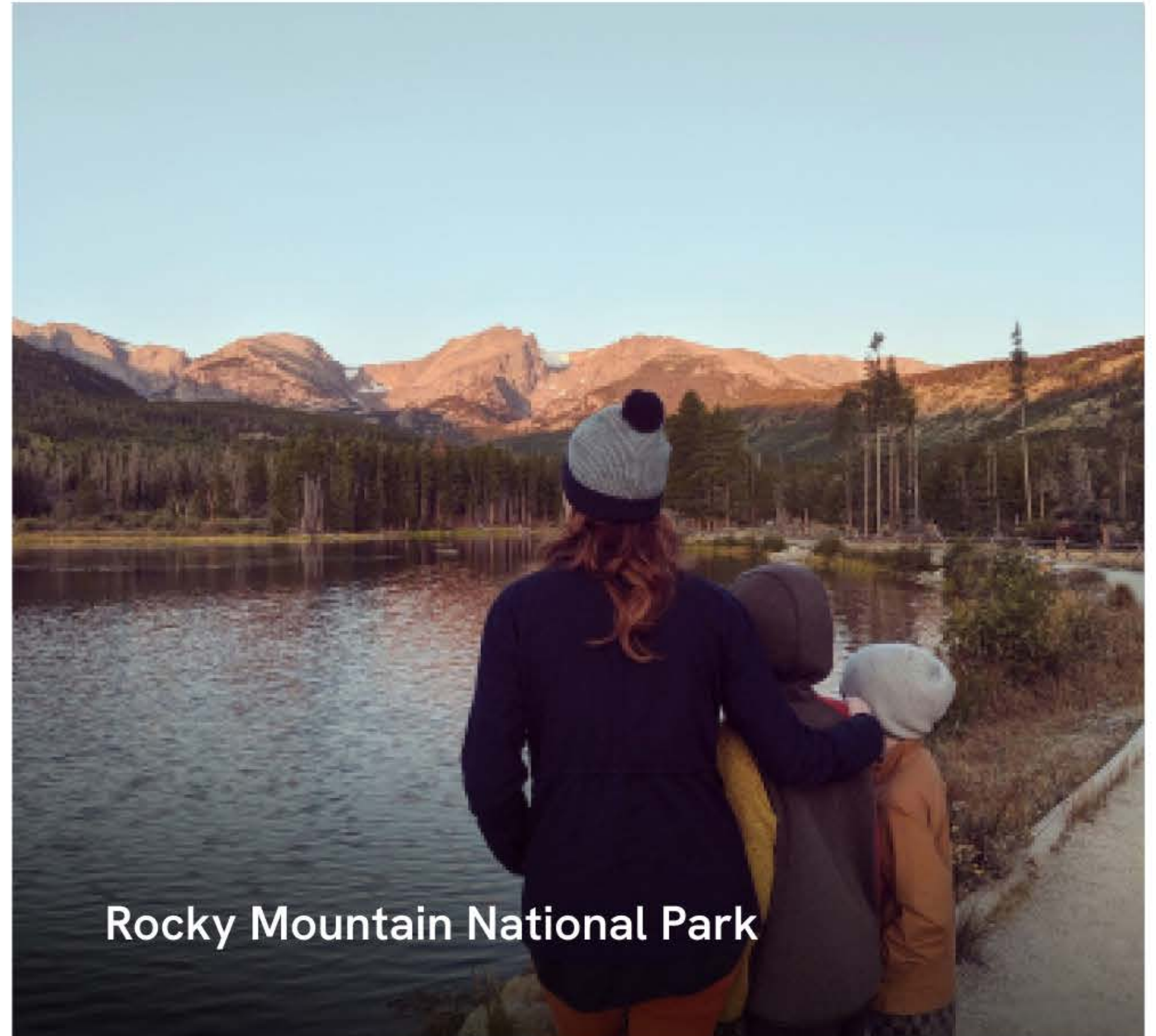
The redwoods of Northern California.



Mammoth Cave — the goal is to get to every National Park.



We love building epic forts wherever we go.



Rocky Mountain National Park



Niagara Falls



Gideon got to start the plane on the way to San Francisco!



MAINE



We love showing our kids new places! In 2018 we took a 60 day road trip with our kids up the eastern US & Canadian coast, and we stopped in many cities along the way. On that trip, we spent 3 weeks in Maine, and fell in love with it. The next year we decided to take a chance on a tiny Maine island off the coast of Acadia National Park, only accessible by boat, and we have been returning there every year since.

We now spend several months out of the year in a community where our kids can safely and freely ride their bikes to their friends houses or to the playground. There are beautiful rocky beaches just a five-minute walk in any direction.

Our children attend sailing and boat building camps and perform in the town play each summer. They even set up their own business on the corner where they sell handmade jewelry and beach finds to the tourists that come over for the day. We love that they get to be independent within a safe community.



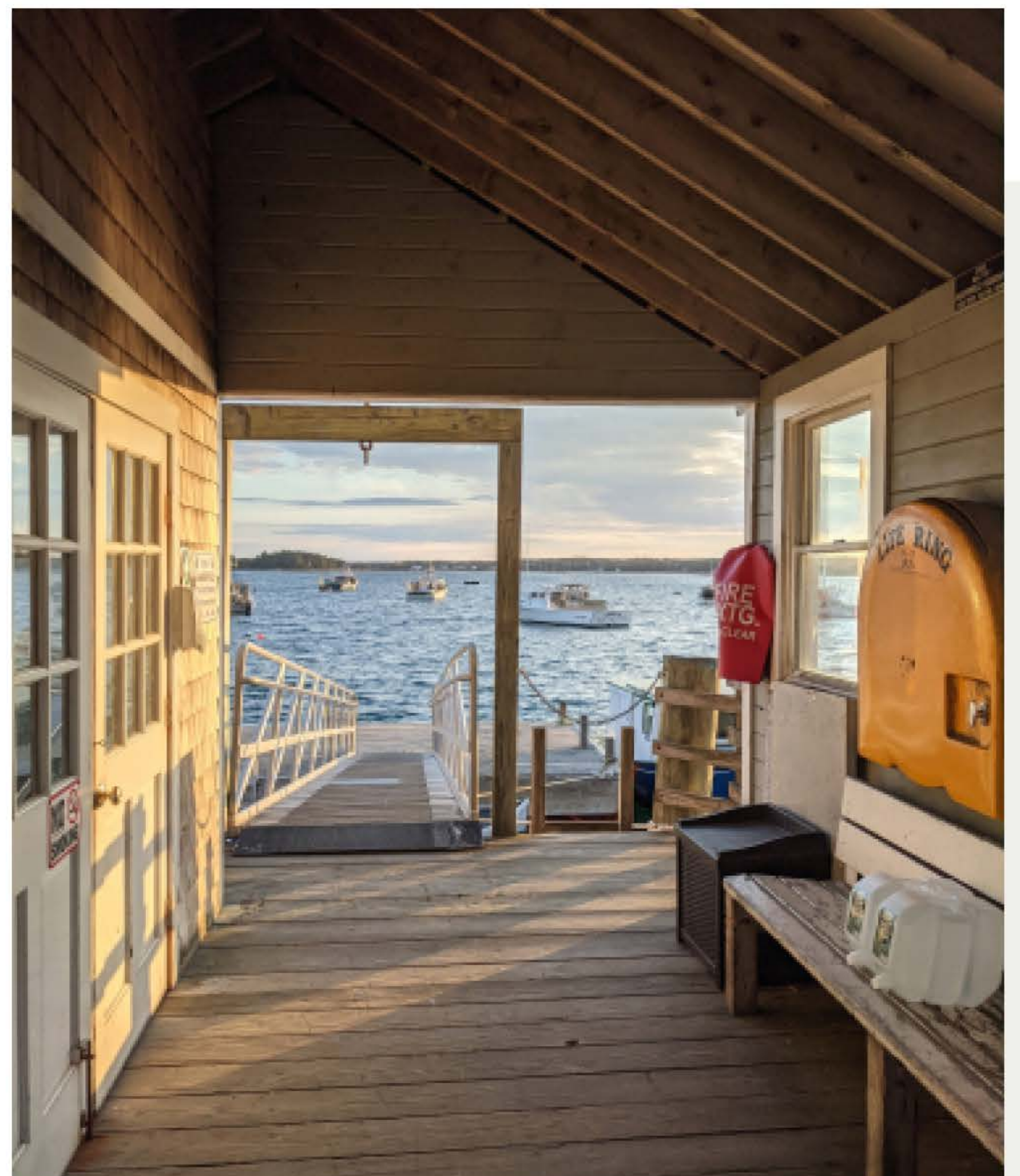
The island is only a mile by a 1.5 miles so we can walk, bike or scoot everywhere.



Rowing around the harbor on a boat that the kids helped to build.

A DREAM COME TRUE

We recently bought a historic home in the middle of the island. We love that it has a guest house out back so all of our friends and family can visit. It has a large yard and is located right across the street from the school playground. There is a strong loving community on the island that has welcomed our family with open arms. The kids have many friends to play with, and they enjoy the freedom they have to ride around the island on their bikes, exploring and just being kids.



Mail on the island comes by boat and is delivered to this shed on the dock. Most of the people on the island make a living lobster fishing.

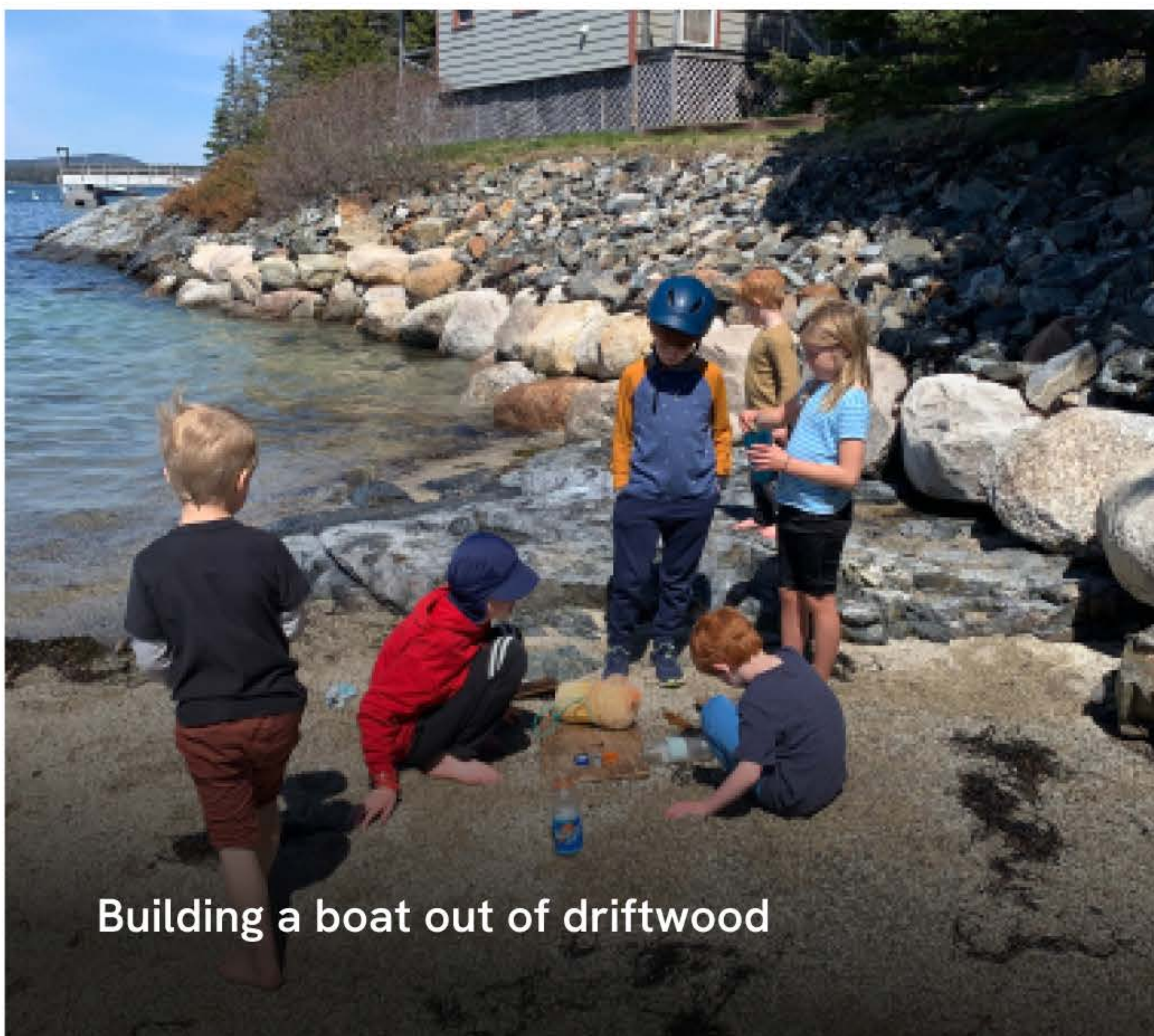
Around the island



The church we attend on the island.



Visiting the chickens at the post office



Building a boat out of driftwood



The "6 Brother's Gift Shop" where the boys sell handmade items to tourists who visit the island for the day.



Ezra won a big award at sailing camp!



The playground is located right across the street from our house.

OUR TRADITIONS & CELEBRATIONS

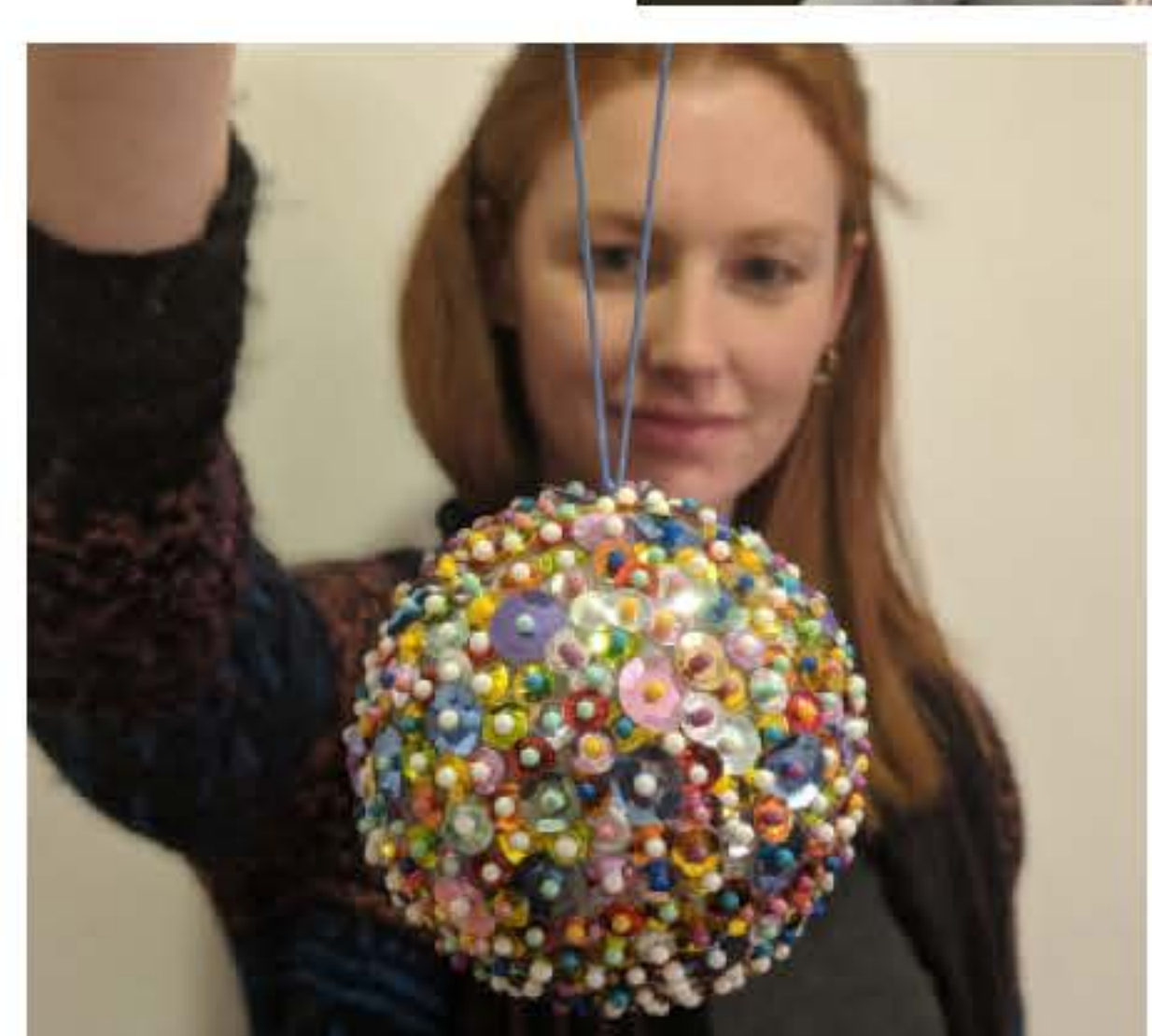
We love celebrating holidays together, and we make a big deal about birthdays. The kids get to decide what kind of party they want to have. Sometimes they keep it small and have a couple of friends over, and other times we rent a bounce house and invite the whole neighborhood. We follow their lead and celebrate them for the whole week!



Elliott chose to have a tie-dye party for this 5th birthday.



In the fall we always take the kids to a pumpkin farm, decorate the house for Halloween and often make our own costumes. We also have a tradition of "going treating," where instead of gathering candy for ourselves door to door, we drop treats off for friends and show off our costumes.



Christmas decorating starts after Halloween in our house, and we celebrate for two whole months. We love making our own ornaments and cookies. Our favorite tradition is when the kids draw names and exchange gifts with each other. They get so excited to buy gifts for their siblings. Brittany loves matching pjs, so everyone has matching pjs at Christmas.



For Easter the kids get big baskets full of treats and toys, and we do an egg hunt in the yard. We love a good reason to gather with family and have fun with our kids.

Our extended family



DANIEL'S FAMILY

Daniel's parents live close by. His younger sister, older brother, and their families are also located in Nashville. We love to get together with them for all birthdays and holidays.

Many weekends we will visit Daniel's parents, "Dee Dee" and "Pop Pop," where the kids have a blast playing in their backyard oasis. It is filled with tee-pees, forts and rock gardens that Pop Pop built by hand.

Daniel's family is very musical. His mom and sister sing Barbershop harmony, and most of his family members play instruments. At family gatherings everyone will pull out guitars, banjos and harmonicas while **everyone joins in playing, singing and dancing.**

Our kids have five cousins that they love to play with. They are also homeschooled, so we get together with them once a week to do nature study at Dee Dee and Pop Pop's house.



BRITTANY'S FAMILY



Brittany's parents, "Nana," and "Pappy," live only a few houses down. We see them almost every day. When Nana and Pappy are not at our house, the boys love spending time at their house. They've built a large play area in their backyard just for the kids, with swings and a tree fort. They also have a fun playroom with bunks for the kids to have sleepovers.

Pappy loves science and building things with the kids. He always has a new project to work on with them. **Nana is very nurturing and hands-on** with the kids and is always there to help when we need her.



Brittany's sister lives in town with her husband. They love the boys and often come over to play basketball, baseball, or board games with them. The boys lovingly refer to them as "Sis," and "The Man."

Our Hope for the Future

Our hope for the future is to continue raising our family in a slow and intentional way. To enjoy our time together and to not get too caught up in the busyness of the world.

We hope to continue to take our kids to many cool new places around the globe, so they can see there is so much more beyond the walls of their home, city, state and country.

We believe that **these are the good old days**, and there's **no better time than now**.

We hope to raise **kind, thoughtful, generous children**, and to continue to be a family that **leans on each other through the good times and bad**. We tell our children we love them every day and cover them with hugs and kisses.

We look forward to our family growing and we would love for you to be a part of it.

–Daniel & Brittany



Thank you.