



Stephen & Joanna



Dear Momma,

We are Stephen & Joanna and we hope this album gives you a picture of who we are as a family and the desire we have to raise a child. As we prepare to welcome a little one into our home, we have been praying for you and your baby. Know that we admire the strength and courage it takes for you to choose adoption and we are praying that you find peace as you make this decision. We promise to take the responsibility of raising your child seriously and seek the Lord in all things.

We already can't wait to meet you and your baby!

Stephen & Joanna

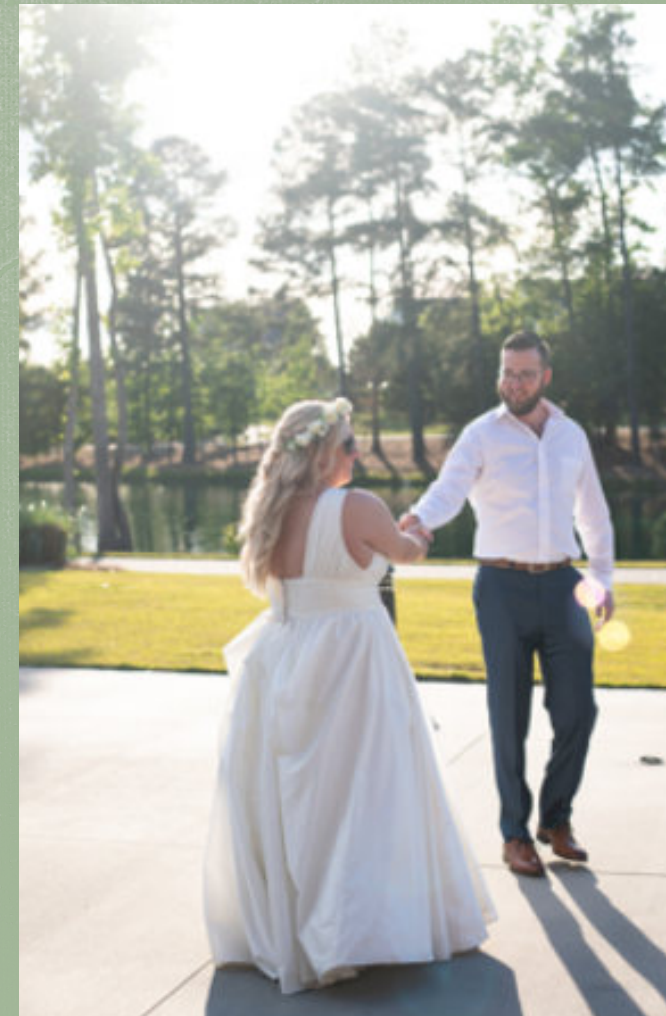
From the Start

We met online shortly after Joanna relocated to the area we now call home. We quickly hit it off and met for our first blind date. While it's not a traditional old-fashioned love story, we are so glad that technology brought us together and enabled our relationship to blossom. We immediately recognized our commonalities in our love for God and our dedication to the church. We also both have a passion for nature, animals, exploring, career growth, family, friends, and pets. We fell in love with each other's hearts and continue to grow in our bond each day.



Our Wedding Day

After 2 years of dating, we got engaged and began planning our wedding. The ceremony was intimate with close friends and family there. Even though we were in the middle of a pandemic, it did not stop us from celebrating and it was the most magical day. We were surrounded by support, love, and happiness. 1st Corinthians Chapter 13 was read by Stephen's uncle and we strive to live by that scripture every day. Throughout our marriage, we have built furniture, our home, and our future together. Stephen is incredibly handy and Joanna has an eye for décor, so together we are the local version of Chip and Joanna Gaines.



Our Heart For



Adoption

Early on in our relationship, we discussed our desire to grow a family. Adoption was always on the table for us. Stephen's mom is adopted and we have enjoyed learning about and understanding her non-traditional but wonderfully built family. Through struggles with infertility, we began to explore adoption. While attending church service, adoption was mentioned and we both felt pulled in that direction. Through conversation and prayer, we have never felt more at peace with what is in store for us. We know that all along, God has had bigger plans than we could have ever imagined.





Meet Stephen

Stephen is an engineer by trade and is always thinking of ways to improve efficiency and understand the how and why behind things. He is a man with a pure heart who is fully devoted to God and his family. He is always willing to lend a helping hand to a neighbor or anyone in need. He has been deemed the grill master and will never turn down the opportunity to host a BBQ. A fun fact about Stephen is that he taught himself how to tune up cars. This includes changing out spark plugs, oil changes, and brake jobs. He helps out local folks on the weekend who need this done but can't afford auto shops. He was born to be a dad and will be such a great role model.

Husband, Son, Brother & Friend

Meet Joanna

Joanna's family, friends, and coworkers describe her as tenacious and persistent paired with a heart of gold. She is a woman who leads with integrity and values, is incredibly loyal, and protective, and never gives up. Joanna has always put love, family, and Christ at the center of everything she does. She is most definitely a hard worker and values her career and relationships as well as her free time. When not driving improvement in the healthcare industry, you can find Joanna spending time with Stephen and their dogs, entertaining guests, or making valuable memories with family and friends. There isn't a craft, baking recipe, or project that she will turn down. Joanna is thrilled to extend her "Mom" title past her fur babies and can't wait to open her heart further.



Wife, Sister, Daughter & Best Friend

Hazel Grace + Georgie

Meet the celebrities of our family, Hazel Grace and Georgie! Our dogs are very important pieces of our family puzzle. These fur babies keep us on our toes and they constantly make us laugh. They give us our share of cardio through frisbee, fetch, and hide-and-go “treats”. We are the definition of “dog people” and truly consider them our furry children. We love (and they love) trips to the beach, and the mountains, and visiting their grandparents. Hazel and Georgie have both been around our best friend’s children their entire lives.



"Be the person *your dog* thinks you are."



Family is Everything ♡ ♡ ♡ ♡ ♡ ♡



We are so blessed to have both of our families within driving distance. We talk almost daily and both of our parents will be staples in helping us care for your baby. Joanna and her dad have a Wednesday night bible study phone call, where they break down various scriptures. Stephen's dad is newly retired and is eager to have a little one around to spoil.



Holidays & Celebrations

We are all about the holidays! Our favorite is Christmas because it's a magical season knowing our savior was born. We have a tradition that we cannot wait to start with our child where instead of cookies for Santa, we have a birthday cake and sing Happy Birthday to Jesus. We attend Christmas Eve service with our families each year and love singing silent night with candles. And of course, we wear matching jingle jammies for our Christmas sleep.

We love to celebrate many holidays, such as Easter, Thanksgiving, birthdays, and New Year's. Every weekend, every bit of free time is a celebration. We do not take any time for granted and are so excited to one day celebrate these days with a family of our own.



Friends that Became Family

Our friends are our extended family. We have so many local friends and have so enjoyed watching our friends grow their own families. There is no joy better than getting to know and watch our friend's children grow. We are known as Aunt JoJo and Uncle Stephen and have so much fun with all the littles and adults. We have grown to take up an entire row at our large church- God is good! We know that everyone was carefully placed in our lives and we are eternally thankful for the traditions, vacations, and memories we can share with our "family."



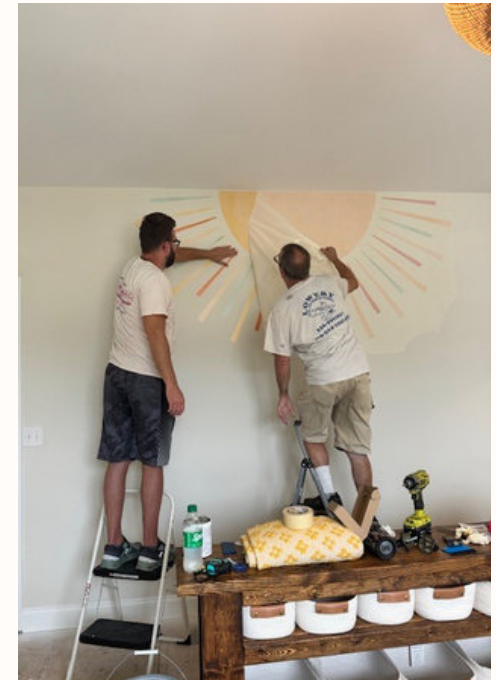
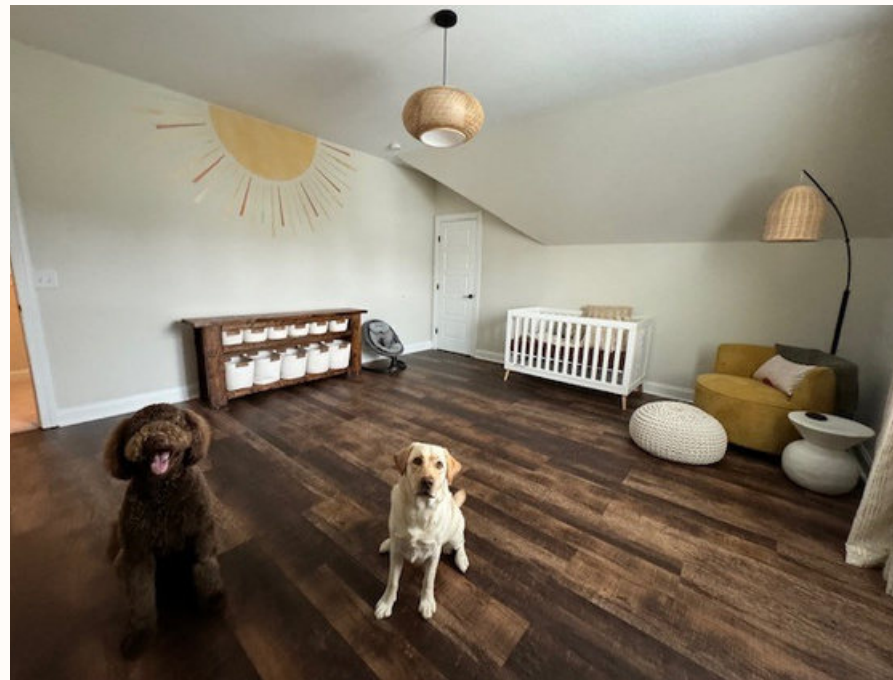
Our Home



We began building our home shortly after we were married. We chose this neighborhood and layout with family growth in mind. We have wonderful amenities including restaurants and grocery stores that are within walking distance or just a quick golf cart ride away. We have 2 beautiful swimming pools and multiple parks. We are also within walking distance of daycares and schools. Our neighborhood is safe, our neighbors are friendly, and we are so lucky to be surrounded by so many growing families and little ones to embrace us.



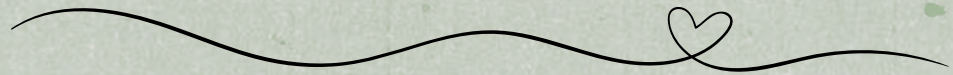
The Nursery



The baby's nursery was designed with a sunshine theme. It all started with a print that states "You are loved beyond measure." We had so much fun putting this room together and will forever cherish the memories made building the crib, putting down the flooring, and installing all the small touches to make this room perfect for our future little one.

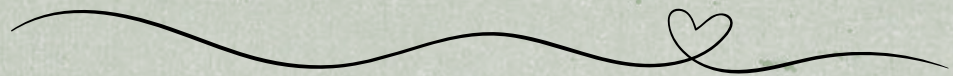
In This Family...

Our Values



We lead with our hearts and strive to be outstanding family members, friends, and neighbors. We are truly blessed and grateful for the beautiful life we have been given and hope to spread God's love through our kindness and compassion towards others.

Our Promise



We promise to always put God first in everything we do, including our marriage and growing our family. We know through His grace we will be continually blessed with wisdom and opportunity.

Our Sentiments

Thank you so much for considering us to love your child unconditionally. We know that God has a plan for you and your baby. We admire your strength and decision to choose life for your child. We would be honored to provide a lifetime of memories, lessons, bedtime stories, adventures, and all the love that we can share.

Much love,

Stephen & Joanna



Thank you for
considering our
family!

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