

completing our  
**FAMILY**

**MALU + EZRA**





## our STORY

Malu is an excellent spouse, mother and friend. She is a chaplain educator and the chaplain endorser for our denomination. Malu is a lover of art, good books, the outdoors, and neo-soul music. Ezra is also an excellent spouse, father, and friend. He is a manager at a marketing agency. Ezra is a lover of music and sports, typically watching multiple games at once. Our daughter loves spending time with her family, including her similar-aged cousins, playing soccer, and learning with PBS Kids. As a family, we enjoy creating memories as we spend time playing outside, exploring new parks, and eating good food. The central mantra in our family is “We are a team.” We navigate our lives by centering the wellbeing of our “team” both collectively and individually. Because of that, we celebrate every accomplishment, practice direct communication, and prioritize therapy!

## our home

We live in a home in a cul-de-sac. Our home is two stories with a basement apartment for Malu’s mother. Our home has a large yard that backs up to a small forest. We have a rotation of local parks we take our daughter to on a weekly basis in addition to family trips to a nearby lake. We also have memberships to a local farm geared toward children and with a recreational center with a kids’ pool area that we enjoy visiting. While we previously discussed moving to a new state to experience something new together, we ultimately determined that our first priority was continuing to intentionally raise our children in community with our local family, both blood and chosen.



## what led us to adoption

Adoption has never been a second option for us. When we were dating, Malu told Ezra she dreamed about adopting from the time she was a small child. Ezra was excited as he already had experience with adoption through his younger brother’s adoption. In 2021 we began our adoption journey when Malu’s cousin called asking us to adopt his 13-month-old niece to keep her from going into the foster care system. We jumped at the opportunity and have had the joy of parenting her for the past two years! We expect her adoption to be finalized in the next few months. We deeply want our daughter to grow up with siblings, so we’re extremely excited to have the opportunity to share our love with another child!





*our life*  
**TOGETHER**







get to  
KNOW...

# MALU

**OCCUPATION:** Endorser/chaplain educator

**EDUCATION:** B.A. in psychology, Master of Divinity

**RACE:** Black

**RELIGION:** Affirming and welcoming Christian

**SPORT:** Prefer HGTV :)

**FOOD:** Asian, Mexican

**HOBBY:** Folk art

**FAMILY TRADITION:** Kids birthday parties

**MUSICAL GROUP:** Neo-soul music

**MOVIE:** Sci-fi movies

**DREAM VACATION:** Zanzibar

**HOLIDAY:** Christmas

**TV SHOW:** *Station 19*

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** Physics

**BOOK:** Anything by Octavia Butler

# EZRA

**OCCUPATION:** Marketing manager

**EDUCATION:** B.S. in environmental science, Master of Divinity

**RACE:** Black

**RELIGION:** Affirming and welcoming Christian

**SPORT:** Basketball, football

**FOOD:** Italian

**HOBBY:** Video games

**FAMILY TRADITION:** Thanksgiving

**MUSICAL GROUP:** Neo-soul music

**MOVIE:** Rom-com movies

**DREAM VACATION:** Australia

**HOLIDAY:** Thanksgiving

**TV SHOW:** *Grey's Anatomy*

**SUBJECT IN SCHOOL:** Environmental Science

**BOOK:** Prefer movies over books





*our families +*

# TRADITIONS

Malu is very close with her family, so much so that her mom lives in a walk-out basement apartment in our home. We get a chance to spend time regularly with some of Malu's extended family who live nearby. The rest of Malu's family, including her siblings, live about two hours away. While we don't get to see them as often as we'd like, Malu talks with her siblings regularly. We enjoy gathering with Malu's family for the Black Rodeo and for celebrations like birthdays, graduations, and church recognitions.

Ezra is also very close with his family. After his dad's passing in late 2022, Ezra's mom and brother are in the process of moving to be closer to us. Ezra also has extended family nearby as we live in Ezra's mom's hometown. He also has extended family about six hours away that we try to visit once or twice a year. We enjoy gathering with Ezra's family for special occasions and holidays, especially for Christmas and Thanksgiving.

We enjoy our annual joint-family beach trip. Between us, there are seven young cousins for our children to grow up with whom we frequently spend time with!



DEAR

*expectant mother,*

There are no words to express our gratitude. Simply put, thank you. We're so incredibly grateful you are considering gifting our family the privilege of caring for, raising, and loving this baby. We can never put ourselves in your shoes, and we will never try to sympathize with your experience. What we will do is empathize deeply and respect your bravery in choosing the best family for your child.

We were both raised in homes where children are not only loved and cared for but deeply respected and seen as an integral part of the family. We have made the choice to parent in the same way. Because of this, we make an effort to learn who our child is in order to parent her in the way she needs to flourish. We are excited to parent this baby in the same way!

In addition to our excitement for this baby, we are equally as excited to see our daughter as an older sister. Without prompting, our always active kiddo naturally takes a calm and gentle presence when she interacts with babies. Because she is a natural caretaker, we already expect that we're going to have to remind her that we also get to take care of the baby!

Last but not least, we've begun to learn and experience the world through the eyes of our daughter, and we can't wait to learn and experience the world with the new child who joins our family!

*With love,  
Malu + Ezra*



[www.lifelongadoptions.com](http://www.lifelongadoptions.com)