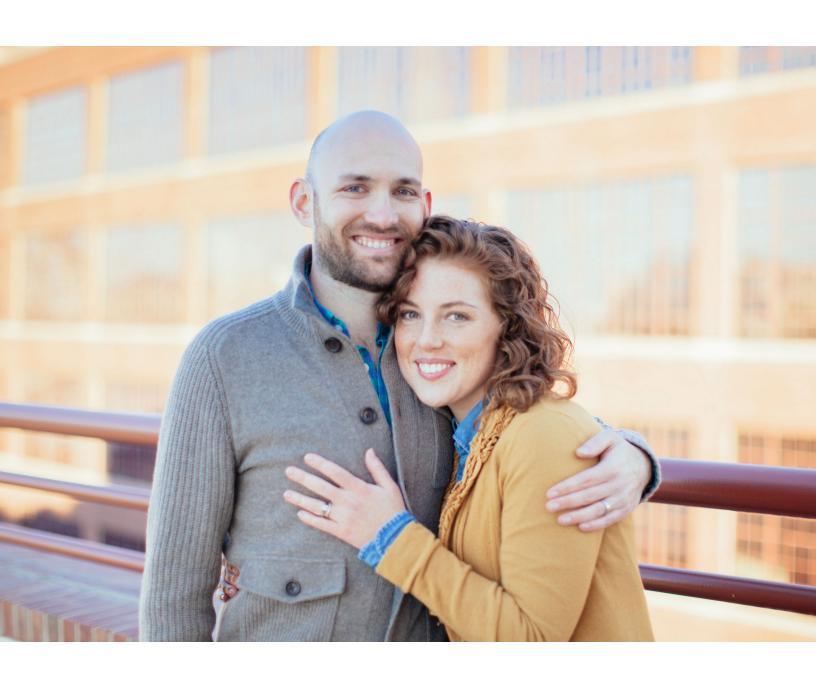
## KYLE and EMILY





## Hello!

We're Kyle and Emily. We've been joyfully married for ten years, and a decade of life together has led us through 4 states, 2 countries, and the deep desire to build community wherever we are—including in our own family.

In each place we've called home–Maryland, North Carolina, Congo, and Minnesota–we have loved ones who have shared with us the gift of family, even when we don't share DNA. We have been the ones welcomed into new cultures and new homes; we have received hospitality and welcome. Now, we can't wait to welcome a child into our family and offer them a home of love and belonging.

Here are a couple facts you should know about us:

- We love cooking and eating. We think great things happen around full tables.
- Our faith is central to our lives: it gives us hope and motivates us to serve.
- We love adventure and travel. Whether trying a new bike trail in the Twin Cities, or hiking a crater lake in Uganda, we're energized by exploring new places.

Thanks for taking to time to get to know us a bit more!













**IN KYLE'S WORDS:** No matter what she's doing or who she's with, Emily is caring, attentive, deep, and organized. She has a surprisingly funny side (including a number of accents and impersonations) but I also love that she's committed to taking care of herself well. Many early mornings I find her curled up on the couch drinking coffee and praying. I so admire the tremendous courage and compassion she's demonstrated over the last ten years. This, combined with her strong sense of loyalty and responsibility, will make her an excellent mother.

**OCCUPATION:** Pastor

**YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO KNOW:** Emily has mostly lost her Louisiana accent but not her taste for a good crawfish boil, gumbo, or king cake.

**INTERESTS:** collecting cookbooks, trying new recipes from all over the world, biking, learning guitar, spending time with nieces and nephews, rich conversations









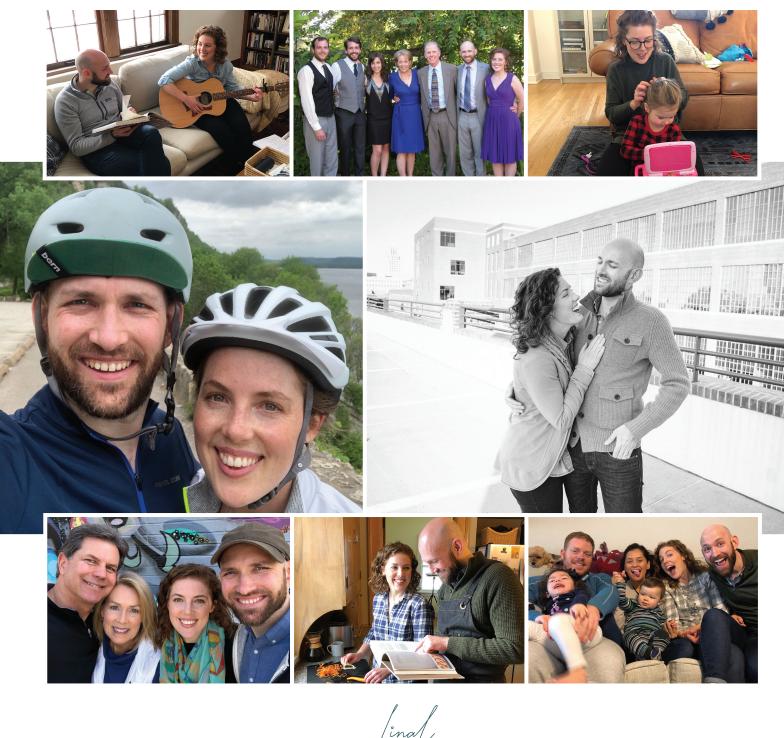
**IN EMILY'S WORDS:** Kyle has an insatiable curiosity to learn about the world and other people. He is a master researcher, sharp thinker, and a great mentor. I love his entrepreneurial spirit and the way he always asks me what I'm learning about. When I imagine him as a dad, I see him encouraging exploration and adventure in our children—whatever their interests may be. Kyle's patience, servant-heart, and encouraging presence is a daily gift to me and will be for our children as well.

**OCCUPATION:** Theological Education & International Development

**YOU MIGHT BE SURPRISED TO KNOW:** Kyle has an amazing Donald Duck impersonation.

**INTERESTS:** baking anything chocolate, discussing new ideas with friends, teaching at church, working on French, and exploring the Twin Cities by bike





## NOTE

When I (Emily) was first thinking about becoming a pastor, Kyle was the first person to tell me to go for it. He believed in me and was excited for how that journey might unfold for us. When I (Kyle) began exploring a move to Congo, Emily was always willing to take the next step of discovery, partnering with me in the risks and unknowns of an overseas move. Through ups and downs, dreams and disappointments, desires and adventures, our relationship has always been about giving each other wings. Now, as we dream about becoming parents, that is what we hope to do more than anything for a child. The greatest gift we could offer would be to instill in him or her that they are lovable, capable, and worthwhile—in short, to give them wings.