

MEET THE PADENS



FUN FACTS

ABOUT MARK

- From Franklin, PA
- One of 3 brothers
- Pittsburgh Sports Fan
- Has gone sky diving
- Loves movies and traveling
- Got baptized in the Jordan River
- Favorite Places: Israel, Ireland, and Disney World
- Favorite Scripture: John 15

ABOUT CRISTINA

- From the Bronx, NY
- One of 4 sisters
- Fluent in Spanish
- Proudly Dominican
- Loves reading, delicious foods, playing games, and traveling
- Favorite Places: Beach, Ireland, and Paris
- Favorite Scripture: Colossians 1



Serving Jesus together since 2018.

MARK'S STORY

Mark grew up in Franklin, Pennsylvania, about halfway between Pittsburgh and Erie. He came to know Christ at the age of 13 while attending a summer Bible camp. Through the investment of faithful leaders and a vibrant youth ministry, God strengthened his faith and began calling him into pastoral ministry. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Business from Edinboro University and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministries from Liberty Baptist Seminary. He has more than ten years of ministry experience serving students, young adults, and adults. His passion is preaching God's Word, equipping leaders, and helping people take their next step in following Jesus. Outside of ministry, Mark treasures time with his family. He and Cristina are enjoying the exciting season of becoming first-time parents to Benjamin. Whether traveling, sharing meals with friends, or simply spending time together at home, Mark is grateful for God's faithfulness and excited to see how He continues to lead their family and ministry.



CRISTINA'S STORY

Cristina was born and raised in the Bronx, New York, in a Christian Dominican family. Although she trusted Christ as a young child, it was at the age of 14 that she fully surrendered her life to following Jesus. After moving to Pennsylvania, Cristina spent eight years serving in youth ministry before becoming a campus minister at Alvernia University, where she discipled students and organized domestic and international mission trips. She later served as Executive Director of RAISE28 Youth Center in Mount Joy. Today, she serves as a mental health therapist, caring for individuals and families while continuing to live out her passion for introducing people to Jesus and walking alongside them in their faith. Cristina earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Alvernia University and a Master's degree in Counseling from West Chester University. She loves meaningful conversations, gathering people around the table, and creating spaces where others feel welcomed, known, and loved. In this new season of life, she is especially grateful for the joy and privilege of being Benjamin's mom.

