HALSETH HAPPENINGS
SEPTEMBER 2026

THE LONG HAUL

Timber Bay
MENTORS FOR LIFE

This summer, G and K joined our group of Timber Bay students and leaders for a camping trip to South Dakota. We drove hundreds of miles, explored the Badlands, camped in the Black Hills, laughed a lot, and made memories together.

But as I look at this picture, I realize that our South Dakota road trip is only a small part of a much longer journey.

G and K have been part of Timber Bay since they were 13. Today, G is a senior and K is a freshman.

I've had the privilege of walking alongside G for the past five years, through middle school and now into his final year of high school.

K is just beginning his high school journey, and I'm grateful that we get to continue walking alongside him.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."
— Galatians 6:9

There have been plenty of great memories along the way, but there have also been difficult seasons. G has faced challenges that no teenager should have to navigate alone.

Through those struggles, one thing has remained consistent: **he keeps showing up.** Week after week, he comes back to Timber Bay. And over the years, we've watched him grow in his faith and relationship with God.

That's what **"The Long Haul"** means to us.

Timber Bay isn't about simply getting students to an event or filling a seat at a weekly group. It's about building relationships that last.

It's about being there when life is going well—and continuing to be there when it isn't. It's about earning trust over time and reminding students that they are loved by God, valued, and never alone.

A road trip to South Dakota can be measured in miles. **But the journey we take with a student is measured in years.**

And we're committed to the long haul.

Thank you for helping make these relationships possible. Your prayers, and financial support allow us to keep showing up—**week after week, year after year—for students like G and K.**

MATT & JENNI HALSETH
TIMBER BAY | AREA DIRECTOR | NORTH BRANCH

FAMILY UPDATE

We've had an exciting summer, and we wanted to share a few family updates. Our biggest news is **we're grandparents!**

On July 31, our daughter **Abi** gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, **Isabella Rose**. We are loving being grandparents, and as you can imagine, we are all pretty smitten with her!

Nathan graduated from Crown College in May with a bachelor's degree in Business Marketing and Sales. He recently started a new job with UnitedHealth Group in Eden Prairie, MN.

Josh graduated high school in June. In August, we dropped him off for college in Wahpeton, North Dakota. He is studying Electrical Technology at North Dakota State College of Science.

Rachel participated at the state track meet in June. She is now a sophomore in high school and continues to be involved in track, volleyball, FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes), and youth group.

Thank you for your prayers for each of our children—and now our grandchild—as they begin these new seasons of life. Through all the changes, we are reminded of God's faithfulness and are thankful that we can trust Him with each new season.

PRAISE

One thing I've been especially thankful for this season is the faithfulness of God and His promises. As I've been reading through the Old Testament, that theme continues to stand out:

"Not one word of all the good promises that the Lord had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass."
— Joshua 23:14

The same God who kept His promises then continues to keep them today. That gives me great confidence as we look toward another school year of ministry.

PRAYER

Please pray for our students —both to come to faith and/ or to grow in faith. Pray also for our fall camps, that God would use them to draw students closer to Him, and help them discover the hope and purpose found in Jesus.

Finally, please pray for our staff and volunteer mentors for wisdom, strength, patience, and opportunities to build trusting relationships and demonstrate Christ's love.