
MINUS40 REPORT

Newsletter of Steve and Lois Donley

Missionaries to the indigenous people of the Arctic

Health Concerns

The results of Lois' heart tests

They have all come back and there are no concerns at all. No further testing is needed. Thank you for lifting Lois up in prayer.

The camper is in Tuk

March 14th I took the camper to Tuk

It took 4 hours of travel on the ice road to Tuk, but it arrived relatively unscathed. The ice road is just under 190km and is on the Arctic Ocean the last 30km or so. I discovered a broken suspension leaf spring when I unhitched it, but other than that it seems to have handled the trip well. Only time will tell. We plan on staying in it this summer while we work on the church foundation and apartment renovation.

-In the Good old Summertime-

Our busy summer season is here. Just as soon as the weather breaks we begin projects that must be completed before it gets cold again. Therefore, as usual, this will be the last prayer letter until September. You may follow our ministry via the social media opportunities listed on page two or communicate with us directly. That being said, we will be busy in three areas. First in Tuktoyaktuk. Secondly in Inuvik with a few projects at FBBC. Lastly there are several home maintenance projects that are long overdue.

The camper is placed in Tuk (see the picture on page two) and getting set up as our summer housing while I focus on the church building foundation work.

And the big job on the home front is painting my house. Grab a brush and come on up!

Of course the preaching and other ministry duties are ever present and they remain our top priority.

The response to the gospel has been encouraging

Not in a typical way, but in a definite way. What I mean is there may not be a huge response at the altar during the invitation song, but in other subtle, yet solid ways. For instance, as one adult man communicates with me, I see his "faith beginning to show."

In some folks I see conviction where there had not been any before and some who were pretty hard against the gospel are softer and are even becoming regular church attendees. There are still enemies of the gospel that rear up on occasion, but overall, I'm encouraged.



Steve & Lois Donley

Steve and Lois Donley began serving The Lord in the Arctic in 1989. Their grown children are all serving The Lord. The Donley's ministry has been mainly in the Western Canadian Arctic with considerable time in Alaska.

Psalm 147:17 He casteth forth his
ice like morsels: who can stand
before his cold?

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We may have been the first RV to travel the ice road, and I'm pretty sure we are the ONLY RV in Tuk!

We replaced our vehicle in April

We hoped to get another two years out of our old truck, but after 301,000 km of gravel highways, ice roads and harsh arctic winters, the annual maintenance costs were way too high and it was becoming untrustworthy. So we retired 'old blue' and obtained another heavy duty pickup truck. Missionary work in the western arctic with its ice roads and gravel highways require a substantial and reliable vehicle. Our "new" truck is a 2011 with low mileage.

The forgotten parts of missionary life

Taxes. If you don't like them in your country you wouldn't like them in mine either. I file in two countries and pay in one. This year, I just settled my 2012 tax issues with Revenue Canada while dealing with the tax preparer for my 2013 return! It took a whole year to meet all the requirements for receipts and certain documents of proof and patiently wait for a response from the Canadian Feds.

Sending church. Our sending church is going through another pastoral change. While a few friends remain in our sending church that know us, the congregation is changing and we are strangers to some. And eventually we will have another new sending pastor that doesn't know us either.

Communication. One pastor recently confirmed a suspicion I've had for a long time. He wrote, "Prayer letters and emails, just don't do it." Several missionaries I know send their prayer letters via an email service called 'mail chimp'. A report is provided that details if the email was even opened. They all say the report is very discouraging. A letter mailed in Canada to the US costs \$1.20. Email is free, but if they aren't opened...? So for now we will continue to snail and email our prayer letters.

Thank you so much for your love and faithful support,

Steve and Lois Donley