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# MINUS40 REPORT

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Newsletter of Steve and Lois Donley

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Missionaries to the indigenous people of the Arctic

## March 2019

Dear Praying friends,

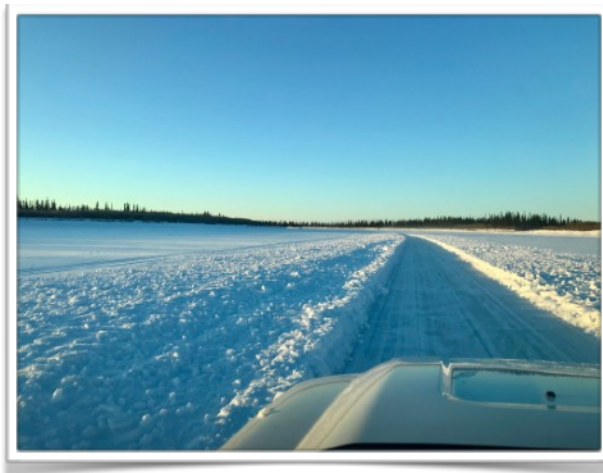
Our journeys totalled 21,839 kilometres. We left our family in the US and arrived home to the Arctic in January and hit the ground running! We resumed the responsibility of the Tuk Baptist Church and jumped back into the work with excitement. Our hopes are soaring due to a meeting with the Stelzigs which we planned for their arrival in the Arctic this summer. However, along with the exciting spiritual things, goes the routine, mundane responsibilities. I shovelled a lot of snow that had accumulated in our absence, sorted an inordinate amount of mail, and generally caught up on correspondence. One week after we arrived home I went to Yellowknife for a medical followup on my heart. I had an echocardiogram and stress test. The results showed I do have a heart in spite of popular opinion, and it is not diseased either. In February I was sent to Edmonton for an MRI on my kidneys. Those results have not returned yet. The good news just keeps rolling in, as Lois is in the process of scheduling a hip replacement most likely this fall! (Did I ever say that getting old ain't for sissies?)

Through it all we are still amazed that the Lord has used us for His glory. Our 30th anniversary in missions is approaching in June, and we are striving to finish well in Tuk. Lois and I are asking God for one more assignment after Tuk as we transition to a subarctic climate to serve in a place with less isolation for health reasons. Would you pray with us about that? I want to earn my support and not coast in my last divine assignment. Lois and I want to finish strong.

You may remember quite a few years ago I was raising funds for a sawmill. The plan was to harvest driftwood from the Mackenzie River, cut the wood into rough sawn lumber and build a Bible camp in the Mackenzie River Delta. Well, it's been a long time, but the funds came in for the sawmill, we harvested logs, eventually cut them into dimensional lumber, and stockpiled material for transportation to the Bible camp build site. Just this week, a decade long dream took a huge jump toward reality. The picture following this paragraph is one of something like 13 loads that went to the Bible camp site on a 60 plus kilometre, single lane ice road. I probably won't see the Bible camp completed, because I've passed the torch to Pastor Featherstone. But your sacrificial giving so long ago is not forgotten. Someday God's man will direct a Bible youth camp in the Mackenzie River Delta, it won't be me or you, but we all can say we had a part in advancing the cause of Christ in the Arctic.



The picture is my vehicle pulling a flatbed trailer loaded with 2 inch lumber of 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 inches in width. These boards were mostly 12 feet in length and some of the wider boards would probably cost over \$100 each if bought at a local lumber yard. It is sitting on the Government maintained ice road, ready to turn onto the church's private, single lane ice road, built by the men of the First Bible Baptist Church of Inuvik.



This is the single lane ice road that leads to the Delta Bible camp.

Thank you for your support, prayers, friendship, love and understanding as we press on in the Arctic.

Steve and Lois Donley