
MINUS40 REPORT

Missionaries to the indigenous people of the Far North

September 2021

Dear praying friends,

Northern Light Baptist Church celebrated its one year anniversary in July. We continue to meet in a hotel meeting room, and have enjoyed much freedom with that situation as we navigated through the Covid restrictions. We have seen fluctuations in attendance, but I feel confident that overall we have solidified and strengthened our walk with the Lord. I want to be crystal clear. The Lord has led me to start a church that has a focus on Inuit, First nations and Métis. I am endeavouring to plant a church, not start a ministry. My focus, passion and heartbeat is toward Whitehorse's First Peoples. Anyone is welcome, but my energy is spent on those to whom the Lord has called me. In reality, there are some folks who are not Inuit, First Nations, or Métis that attend. Again, everyone is welcome but I have been deputized by my supporting churches as a missionary to a specific people group. Just like missionaries you support are sent to Jews, Spanish speaking people groups, Québécois, Chinese, Filipinos, Gypsies, Mormons, Mennonites, and other specialty focuses, I go forth as your missionary to reach whom you sent me to reach. As politically incorrect as this might sound, I need to say it in unmistakable language; I'm not trying to build a white church in the suburbs. By design, I meet downtown trying to reach a people group in the area with the highest concentration of indigenous souls. The results will be slow, just like it was slow in the far north. I get that and am not afraid of the long haul. I am narrow minded on my calling, focused and determined to share Christ's love with Whitehorse's First Peoples.

This month NLBC agreed to support 2 missionary families in the far north. What a joy it was to write them and announce our commitment to pray for them and contribute to them financially. When a church born of missions continues that heritage by supporting missionaries, the blessings travel back a line of succession, and that means you, the supporters of The Donley's, are honouring God in multiple and exponential ways. On behalf of each link in the chain, "Thank you!"

This summer was a time for our family back home to have health issues. My dad suffered a heart attack and is recovering at home, and our siblings have had various challenges. With that as a motivator, we want to get back to Ohio for a visit this fall. As of this writing, there will be challenges to navigate as the rules for border crossings are as clear as mud. We are planning with caution by booking refundable and a changeable itinerary.

Thank you for your love and support through the years. We truly are partners in ministry.

Steve and Lois Donley

Did you know?

- Steve plays an autoharp and leads the congregational music with it. (He can't read music)
- Lois plays the piano a little bit (for herself and family) and learned "chording" while living in North Carolina.
- Steve and Lois lived in the church auditorium with 3 kids for 1 1/2 years on the mission field. (money was tight)
- Steve and Lois have 8 grandchildren, soon to be 9.
- Steve has harvested, Moose, Caribou, Black bear and a wolf, but has never harvested a Whitetail Deer. <sad face>
- Lois was the salutatorian of her High School graduating class and is a member of the National Honour Society.
- Lois is an excellent cook using natural sweeteners, non wheat flours and has excelled in diabetic and low carb meal prep.
- Steve has worked in a machine shop, assembly line, an office equipment repair tech, pole barn construction, farm equipment renovation guy, passenger van driver, and as a firearms safety instructor.
- Lois has a beautiful alto voice.
- Lois is 1 day older than Steve. <wink>
- Steve wrote a book titled, Northwest Adventures.
- Lois is an avid reader. Her favourite genre is historical novels with Biblical applications.
- Steve has a problem referred to as, Dyscalculia. <face palm>
- Lois can remember numbers with excellence.
- Steve was the principal at his mother's high school graduation.
- Steve often invests a cumulative of 8 hours on his prayer letters.
- Lois is the youngest of her 3 siblings. 2 brothers and a sister.
- Steve has a brother 6 years his elder.
- Steve and Lois have lived in Ohio, North Carolina, Alaska, NWT and The Yukon.
- Lois is often called "Daunice" by people who knew her mom and says she's the spitting image of her mother.
- Steve and Lois are dual citizens of the USA and Canada. (their children have CAN & USA dual citizenship as well)
- Steve and Lois are Bible Camp sweethearts having met at 14 years old. They celebrate their 43rd anniversary September 1st. <heart>