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# MINUS40 REPORT

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*Missionaries to the indigenous people of the North*

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## January 2023

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the awesome gift boxes and special offerings! I don't remember ever being treated so special! We can't thank you enough!

We had good attendance through the holidays and saw some unexpected faithfulness by folks we've prayed about for a long time. Small victories are often of great value in God's economy.

Please keep praying for men to answer the call to the far north. The need is as great as ever. Certainly pioneer missionaries are needed to bring Light to dark places in the circumpolar arctic, but the need for men to replace missionaries who have left ministries for various reasons seems to be increasing. Ministries ready to open the doors on day one. Ministries with believers praying for a preacher. I know the idea of planting a ministry as a pioneer missionary is the passion of some, and glory to God for that. But remember, before I started the church plant here in the Yukon, I was what I called an Apollos. Not the planter, but the waterer. "I [Paul] have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase." (1 Corinthians 3:6) One is not lesser, Planter or waterer. In a sense, Gary planted, Steve watered and God gave the increase. As well, Paul writes in the epistles as to the value of those assisting him. Missionaries always need help. Please read that again. Missionaries always need help. In 2023, if the Lord has His hand on you to plant, water, or help, commit to pray about it and get confirmation of a call or clarity of a release.

We are still praying for Lois to get her hip replacement surgery in God's timing and not just according to a number in the orthopaedic surgeon's queue. Her condition is not improving nor stabilizing. As her difficulties increase she manages each downgrade with amazing grace and enviable strength. I am extremely thankful you are praying for her.

In my last newsletter, I asked you to pray about 3 new supporters. I'm sure you know why. Your expenses have been increasing at alarming rates, and so have every missionary on the field. You know the struggle you have, and the same struggle happens everywhere missionaries live. Satan probably thinks he has a perfect storm in the works that will eventually see modern missions collapse, but we know the Lord blesses faithfulness. I have a mission conference in May here in Canada, and when we were in the US this summer and fall, we visited a couple of churches that currently do not support us. Lord willing one or more of those churches will consider adding us to their mission family. In the mean time, we are doing what you're doing, exercising caution and being wise.

Thank you for having a personal connection with us. Some of you have never met us, but we are connected through prayers and that is a strong link. Some of you are old friend and some friendships were made more recently. Nonetheless, you are all our friends. We cherish that.

In His easy yoke,

Steve&Lois