

September 2023

Steve & Lois Donley

Steve and Lois Donley began serving The Lord in the Arctic in 1989. They have lived in the Alaskan and Canadian Arctic. Currently they serve in the Yukon Territory.



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

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- ✦ **Northern Light Baptist Church**

“Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, **I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**” (Hebrews 13:5)

“And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?” (Mark 4:40)

Can I be honest with you? Sometimes I have lapses of faith and absolutely deserve the Lord’s rebuke of Mark 4:40. The financial rollercoaster associated with Lois’ dual hip replacement surgeries has had me in tears and then into praise mode in less than 30 seconds. I’ve seen a \$52,000.00 invoice floor me and then see almost \$30,000.00 deducted in a few days time. I’ve seen a \$10,000.00 potential shortage staring me in the face and the next morning receive text announcing a \$10,000.00 donation erase the potential deficit. We’ve scratched our heads as to how is such and such expense going to be met back in The Yukon and then open an email announcing \$750.00 deposited into our Canadian accounts in the Yukon.

Yet I still, even in moments of solid faith, have a nagging propensity to fear. I’m the “ye” of “oh ye of little faith.”

Why would God use a guy like me?

“For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.” (1Co 1:26-29)

Every success we see has nothing to do with us, it is all God. Praise the Lord, as of right now, financially we stand at \$0 outstanding balance after the right hip replacement surgery.

On August 30th some 10 weeks post op, the left hip replacement surgery commenced and at the time of this writing we are 5 days into her recovery. And it’s going like most major surgery recoveries go. Good days, setbacks, leaps forward and plateaus. Time is our friend and needless to say, Lois is an excellent patient. We are not sure when she will be released to travel, but as soon as that happens we will return to The Yukon and continue serving the Lord there.

Through this ordeal I have leaned heavily upon my sending pastor. His support and encouragement has been priceless to Lois and I. I asked him to please share what was on his heart and I’d put it in my newsletter. Please look on the back of hard copies of this newsletter or just keep scrolling if this is an e-version of the Minus40 Report.

A word from my Pastor, Dr Jeff Jamieson.

Matthew 14:22 - And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side... (24) But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary... (27) But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid... (34) And when they were gone over...

A few months ago, the Lord led Bro. Steve and Mrs. Lois to climb aboard the S.S. Hip Surgery and take their trip to the other side. By faith, the Donleys embarked on this unknown voyage, carrying with them nothing but a sincere trust of God and suitcases of fervent prayers. They had no idea the storms that they would face along the way. Trailer problems, financial needs, timeline changes, billing errors, therapy difficulties, and a myriad of other unforeseen issues rocked the boat, sending waves of doubt and fear crashing into the vessel. But God said, "Go", so they kept going. God said, "Be of good cheer", so they kept smiling. God said, "Be not afraid", so they kept trusting. And over and over, on perfect time every time, God kept providing blessing upon blessing, miracle upon miracle. What a God! And, my goodness, how the Donleys have continued to be a faithful, encouraging example of trusting God in troubled times.

As of this moment, both surgeries are complete and successful. Praise the Lord! However, the trip is not quite finished. There are still some storms to face before they disembark on the other side. But God!! He remains faithful and He alone is enough to bring them safely through the storms ahead. The outcome lies solely in the hands of the One who remains the object of their faith. The healing will come. The bills will be paid. The recovery will be complete. The travels will be safe. All because the Lord is not just the Pilot of their ship, but the Master of the sea. Could I encourage you, dear reader, to partner with the Donleys in continued fervent prayer? Would you take a moment to reach out to them and encourage them that smooth sailing and safe harbor await? Most of all, could I encourage you to keep the faith until we reach the other side? God bless you exceedingly, friends.

All for Christ,

Pastor Jeff Jamieson

Steve&Lois again:

We want to than each of you that have donated to the expenses surrounding such a massive undertaking. Please feel free to contact our Pastor for details of how it is going. Our sending Church and Pastor Jamieson are handling the financial end of things for accountability purposes. The church will oversee the distribution of funds. If a church or individual donor wants to contribute to the expenses related to the surgeries, post surgery rehab, travel, accommodations, and other incidental costs, you may do so through Columbiana Baptist Church <https://www.columbianabaptist.com/> and designate the financial gift as, "DONLEY SURGERY". As well, All Points Baptist Mission can process financial gifts designated as: "DONLEY SURGERY" and are collaborating with CBC about financial issues.

Those in Canada may prefer to give through Points North Baptist Mission, PO Box 20060 Edward RO, St Thomas ON N5P4H4. pnbm.international@gmail.com (for e-transfers) Please designate the gift as: "DONLEY SURGERY."