



ATLAS for LIFE Newsletter

Mentoring & More! DECEMBER 2019

OFFICE ➔ 101 2nd St NE • Pipestone, MN 56164 • (507) 562-5777 • Tuesday & Thursday 9 to 5 (Other times by appointment)
Website: www.atlasforlife.org • Email: office@atlasforlife.org

It comes with grateful hearts that we share with you this Christmas Season! What a year it has been! We have been **Celebrating 15 years of ministry** all year and continue to give God Praise for all He has done and is doing! We **celebrate** clients that have come to know the Lord for the very first time!! We **celebrate** those that have become free from addictions and stinkin' thinkin' (Instead believing what God says about them!) We **celebrate** those that have become debt free through learning how to budget and save money. We **celebrate** Brave Moms that have done well in school and jobs all the while parenting as a single mom. We **celebrate** restored relationships! We **celebrate** all the Bible Studies going on and the men and women growing in their walk with the Lord. We **celebrate** the Bread of Life Ministry going on at Nokomis and all those who attend! We **celebrate** our clients that are choosing to come in and be mentored and making good choices in their life. We **celebrate** the purchase of Deb's House that will house 2 single moms and their children. We **celebrate** those that have received comfort through the Grief Share Program and the Comfort Care program. We **celebrate** in being able to go into the jail and do Bible Study with the men and women and seeing lives transformed. We **celebrate** our Prayer Warriors!! We **celebrate** volunteers and donors for ATLAS for Life! We **celebrate** our Teen Program, TreeHouse, that is making a difference in teens lives. We **celebrate** all the teachers of the classes we offer! We **celebrate** God's leading, God's provision and God's answering prayers! He has done so much the last 15 years and we give Him all glory and praise. If you feel led to be part of this continuing ministry and **celebrate** with us, we would so appreciate that. We can't do this ministry without the support of people like you! Would you join us? You will be encouraged in seeing God work in amazing ways! From all of us at ATLAS, Thank you and We pray you have a Blessed Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Cunningham, Pres.
Karen Larson, Sec.
Ivan Vogel
Lisa Hubers

DIRECTOR

Roxie Mulder

TreeHouse DIRECTOR

Merle Knobloch

NEEDS

Gas Cards
Grocery Vouchers
Recovery Study Bibles
Bottles of Water
Drivers for TreeHouse
2 - Windows 7 or better computers

DEB'S HOUSE *(In conjunction with Brave Moms)*

It was the dream of our special friend and staff member, Deb Spronk, to provide a home for people in crisis in our area. After her tragic death, moneys in her honor have been set aside toward the fulfillment of this dream.

After much prayer, research, discussion and planning, we have purchased a property, and are developing a process/program for guests to adhere to. Meetings with the city, lawyers, other managers of such houses, and county and state social programs are in the works.

We plan to renovate our house into two apartment units.

The ATLAS board has focused this house to minister to single moms. It is our plan to select two of the single moms who are already underway in our mentoring process with Brave Moms to take residency in our home. Each would be subject to specific responsibilities. Along with the individual, goals would be set up with an ATLAS staff member. These may include attending mentoring sessions, budgeting classes, or random house checks.

Money that would otherwise be spent for rent would be set aside in a nest egg for the guest, allowing her at some future date to leave with a bank account that would pay for unexpected but inevitable car, health, or other bills which otherwise would have derailed her entire life. According to plan, after her year or so stay, she will have her life stabilized. She will be safe, have found herself an appropriate home to move to, have gainful employment, transportation and childcare. She will have gained a healthy self respect and have restored relationships with family and friends to give her a support system. She will have become connected to a church of her choice and given the opportunity to understand the joy of knowing Jesus.

If you are able to help with renovations, call 507-562-5777, for scheduling. Watch our website: AtlasforLife.org to see what is going on each week.

Donations for ATLAS earmarked for Deb's House will go toward purchase of the property, materials for renovation, furnishings, maintenance, taxes and utilities.

Please join us in prayer for the young women and their children who will reside here. Pray we can take each on a step by step personal healing of the pain of their past; give them a practical plan for the present; and a confident walk into a hopeful future.



Alpha Course: (Sharing the Good News) <http://www.alphausa.org>

What is Alpha?

Alpha is a series of sessions exploring the Christian faith, typically run over eleven weeks. Each talk looks at a different question around faith and is designed to create conversation. Alpha is run all around the globe, and everyone is welcome.

The Alpha Film Series is engaging and epic in scale and scope. Nicky Gumbel walks through the basics of the Christian faith in a way that everyone can relate to. The episodes feature inspiring stories and interviews from all around the world, as well as visual illustrations and motion graphics.

The Alpha course is a practical introduction to the Christian faith and is open to anyone. It runs as a series of meetings which each involve an informal meal, a talk, and small group discussion. It is relaxed, nonthreatening, low-key, friendly, and fun. Alpha is for everyone, especially those wanting to investigate Christianity, new Christians, and those wanting to brush upon the basics.

These free classes with meals will meet at Christ The King Lutheran Church, from 6:00 to 8:00. Child care will be available.

Classes begin Sunday, January 5th.

Walk Along Side - Support Group for those who Mentor

As one walks along side a family member, co-worker, neighbor or friend who is dealing with hard choices or circumstances, one comes across various struggles in how best to help. In this support group, let's talk about how to tackle these inevitable issues together. We can brainstorm, pray and encourage one another. We will meet at 12:30 each 2nd Sunday of the month at ATLAS for Life. (Some of us will eat before hand, others will bring a sandwich or sack lunch to eat during our group.) We will discuss setting boundaries, keeping confidences, dealing with issues such as anger, shame, guilt, addictions and the like. We will learn how to encourage, pray with, and bolster those we seek to help. Looking forward to hearing from you.



HUGE THANKS TO:

Edgerton First Reformed Church Women's Ministry generous gift.

Edgerton Christian Elementary Students who generously donated paper products and water for us for their Thanksgiving gift. See the picture at left for all the amazing gifts they provided!!

Fey Industries and Employees that have purchased Christmas gifts for many of our clients and their children. This is a huge help to us at this time of the year!!

Thanks all for your generosity!!



The Gathering Place

The GATHERING PLACE is a low key, social, interest driven discussion time which meets the second Thursday each month at 2:00 pm. Join other ladies for coffee and great conversation at ATLAS. Questions? 507-562-5777



Finacial Budgeting Class

We invite anyone that would like some pointers on budgeting and living debt free to come to this class. Many that have attended have testified that they are free from financial stress after learning some of these basic skills. Come join us this fall, call to register at 507-562-5777. Time and date will be set according to participants schedules.



The Gift of Giving

Some ask how they can give to ATLAS:

- *Monthly donations utilizing direct withdrawal
- * Sponsor a week (\$1200)
- * In Memory of or in Honor of
- * Amazon Smile: Log onto www.smile.amazon.com....choose ATLAS for Life ministry
- *Thrivent Financial
- * End of Year Giving
- *Estate Planning Giving
- *Check or cash anytime!



We Appreciate any way you choose to give!! We could not do what we do without people like you!! Thank you!!

Bread Of Life Ministry

We are just giving praise for what God is doing through the Bread of Life Ministry. Attendance continues to grow and best of all, relationships are being formed and people are sharing life and prayer requests. Please keep this on your prayer list. We meet on the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Sunday at 6:30 pm of each month on the 12th floor of Nokomis apartments. Feel free to join us, all are welcome! Schedule as follows:



**January 1st, 19th, Feb. 5th & 16th,
March 4th & 15th, April 1st & 19th,
May 6th & 17th, June 3rd & 21st,
July 1st & 19th, August 5th & 16th,
September 2nd & 20th, Oct. 7th & 18th,
Nov. 4th & 15th and Dec. 2nd & 20th.**

In Memory of:

Wilma Van Dyke
Grace Wassenaar
Joanne Talsma
Penny Cammack
Harland Bjogan
Joel Christ
Greg Christ
Gladys Johnson
Kathy Hubers