

# ATLAS for LIFE Newsletter

Mentoring & More!

October 2021

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## BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Cunningham, Pres.  
Ivan Vogel  
Lisa Hubers  
\*\*\*Looking for Another

## DIRECTOR

Roxie Mulder

## TREEHOUSE DIRECTOR & MEN'S MENTOR

Merle Knobloch

## MENTOR & DEB'S HOUSE COORDINATOR

Laurie Westerbur

## RECEPTIONIST

Aundria Onken

## "BREAD OF LIFE" MINISTRY

Jess Bosma

## MEN'S MENTOR

Leon Hendriks

## BRAVE MOM'S MINISTRY

Jessie VanderPoel

## ACCOUNTANT

Judy Steuck

**Tuesday** - 9-5- Mentoring, Community Prayer, Bible Studies and Classes

**Tuesday PM**- TreeHouse Support Group, Financial Peace Class, Alpha Class, Grief Share

**Wednesday**- 9-3- By appointment

**Wednesday** 6:30 PM- Brave Mom's Gathering (Child Care provided)

**First Wednesday** 6:30- Bread of Life at Nokomis

**Thursday**- 9-5- Mentoring, Community Prayer, Classes, Jail Ministry

**3rd Sunday** at 6:30- Bread of Life at Nokomis

(See attached flyer for list of additional ministries that take place at ATLAS)



## Celebrating the Life of Karen Larson

August 23, the Lord took home a dear friend of ATLAS. We learned so much from her. When I prayed about what I could write about her without boasting about her but instead boasting about what God did through her, I was reminded of the verse in Proverbs 31:30-31 " Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. Honor her for all that her hands had done and let her works bring her praise at the city gate." Please permit me to share what I loved about Karen's heart of service. Karen served on the Board for over 13 years. In fact only 3 weeks before going home to Jesus she was taking the minutes, praying and believing in God's provision for the ATLAS ministry. She had the ability to "light up the room" with her passion for others, her love for the Lord and her faith in knowing that nothing was impossible with the Lord. She loved rummages and organized several huge rummages as a fundraiser for ATLAS with her Bible Study friends. She loved rummages for more than the reason of raising money for ATLAS though. She never let anyone out the door without sharing what we did at ATLAS and that everyone was welcome. While they checked out the bargains she would ask if they had any prayer requests and then would have one of us go in the prayer room and lift their needs in prayer. She just loved talking about the Lord. She led countless Bible Studies with neighbors, ladies she met in town and new gals that moved into town. She was always that person that gifted food for a special occasion or when someone was going through a hard time. She loved to give gifts of devotion books or inspiring DVD's that would encourage one's walk with the Lord. She made hundreds of rosettes at Christmas time, gifting a ton of people throughout the community. She was such an encouragement in conversation, always steering the conversation to the truth of God's Word. She loved so well, no matter religion, nationality or political view. She had the gift of pointing them all to her Lord and Saviour. She loved to pray and so many would share requests with her and she would stop right away to pray, BELIEVING God for the answer. She had the ability to quote Scripture relating to so many conversations. She loved to spend early mornings in the Word and talking with her Lord and evenings filled with good Bible teaching on TV or DVD. Oh, how we loved her smile and her "look" that warmed our hearts. This is who Karen was. This is some of what Karen did. And that reminds me of 2 Corinthians 9:13-15; "Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"

Thank you God for giving us Karen! Thank you for working in her life to do and be what she was. We were loved by her and we loved her. We miss her so much but celebrate her life today and forever more. Thank you Lord for blessing us with her! May You be glorified and may many come to know the Lord and walk with Him through her example. In your precious name Jesus, Amen.

- Roxie Mulder, Director

## Recent Memorials

We want to that all those that have recently given memorials in memory of someone. Recently we have received memorials in memory of:

**Karen Larson**  
**Alvin (Red) Mulder**  
**Lester Landgren**

## House Donated to ATLAS for Life

The family of Karen Larson wanted to honor Karen's memory. After discussion and prayer, it was decided because their mom so believed in the work that God was doing at ATLAS, that they wanted to donate their mom's house to ATLAS. We were humbled and so grateful that they would consider donating their family home. As of this writing, we are praying how best to use this home for God's glory! Please join us in praying and if you would like to be a part of planning/implementing this project, please call Roxie ASAP. God is so faithful and we extend our thanks to the Larson family for this amazing gift!!





## Welcome to Jess Bosma!

My name is Jess Bosma. I am married to Ryan who works with a fuel company called BioAg Energy Services. We stay busy raising our three sons (Riley-16, Blake-11, and Kason-8). I love being a

boy mom! There is never a lack of sporting events to attend. As a family, we spend much of our time outdoors. We recently had the experience of catching lake trout on Lake Michigan! I enjoy reading and running and am currently trying to regain some of my lost piano skills which can be both fun and frustrating. My educational background is in nursing which I practiced for 15 years. Most of my time was spent in public health where I received the blessing of working with both individuals and families. I was able to build relationships with them and learn from them as they shared their stories. A deep desire to connect with and empower the beautiful people God placed before me was born, and it has continued to grow. I am humbled and in awe of the opportunity to be part of the amazing team here at ATLAS, and I pray that I heed to God's leading in each and every step of this journey. 2 Corinthians 5:7 - "We live by faith, not by sight."



## Bread of Life is Back!

During the time of not being able to meet in person, God allowed a space for on-line devotions and then the blessing to getting to deliver food door to door. Since May of 2021, Bread of Life was "on hold" with the purpose of seeking and searching the Lord for next steps. I am excited to

share that God has made clear the path to be taken for resuming Bread of Life!

Although we have encountered many changes, God remains the same as does the mission behind this ministry:

"Bread of Life Ministry began with a simple word, 'yes.' This yes was to God in December of 2017 and since then He has graciously led each step of the way in making the vision of this ministry a reality. The heart of this ministry stems from a deep desire to make all feel welcome, loved, worthy, and capable. God has led us to go forth with a spirit of intentionality in seeking out and going to those who may be lost, hurting, and in need of God's love and grace in abundance. We desire to gather together as friends to share in food, fellowship, worship, prayer, music, and Scripture. We hold tight to a vision of bringing together a community of people despite differences such as gender, age, race, denomination, socioeconomic status, capabilities, or background. Instead of letting these differences divide us, let us embrace them and learn from and encourage one another. The blessings we bestow by serving God through serving others is considered great joy. This is a joy that can only be found in Jesus, and that is burning inside of us to be shared with all people."

Praise God for our first gathering that took place on Wednesday, October 6th! We plan to continue to meet on the 1st Wednesday and the 3rd Sunday of each month. While it is held at Nokomis, anyone in the community is welcome and encouraged to attend. This time of gathering will include food, fellowship, music, prayer, and a devotion. Bibles are always available to those desiring one. We have gifted over 40! It has been a blessing to have the privilege of being a part of what God has done in the past, and I am eager to see what He has in store going forward.

Although not yet in place, in God's timing, the hope is to have an extension of Bread of Life, "Bread of Life Bridges" that aims to meet one-on-one with individuals or families that are isolated, in need of support, or where a gap is identified. From there, the intent would be to point them towards community resources and their own strengths to bridge those gaps and encourage them to be their best self/family, hopefully empowering and supporting them along the way. Most importantly the goal will be to allow the Holy Spirit to work and that throughout these visits, the bridge to Jesus will be formed or strengthened, something each one of us desperately need.

There are many ways to get involved. These include: prayer, music, food, childcare, sharing your heart through testimony, simply attending and being a friend to someone, and donations. Items always needed: cases of bottled water, disposable coffee cups with lids, Crystal Lite packets, hot chocolate packets, apple cider packets, & paper plates. Monetary contributions to put towards Bibles, these items, and various other expenses are always appreciated. Checks can be made to "ATLAS for Life" with "Bread of Life" in the memo line.

Please feel free to reach out or stop by the ATLAS office to inquire more. If you would like to spend time in prayer, I would gladly welcome that!

As we all hunger, let us be nourished with the only thing that will ever satisfy, the Bread of Life. John 6:35 "I am the bread of life," Jesus told them. "No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again."

In His Name,  
Jess Bosma - bosma.jessica@yahoo.com

### "Walk Alongside" Mentoring Workshop:

We all have a dear friend or family member who is dealing with hard choices or circumstances, and we struggle how best to help. During this workshop we will discuss how to deal 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.

**This free workshop will meet Saturday, November 6, 2021, at ATLAS Community Room, from 1:00 to 4:30. Call 562-5777 for more information.**

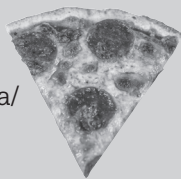
#### Some Topics We Will Discuss:

- How to Walk Alongside Another
- How to Build Bridges in Relationships
- How to Set Boundaries and Confidentiality
- How to Deal with Difficulties
- Letting Your Friend/Family Member Do All He Can Do Himself
- How to Listen, Encourage, Challenge and Care Without Being Controlling

## Pizza Ranch Fundraiser

Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2021,  
5pm-8:00 pm

Come and enjoy a delicious Pizza/Chicken Buffet while supporting ATLAS!



We receive a percentage of the evenings pizza/chicken sales and all of the money given in the Tip Jar. We have a pledge of up to \$1000 matching funds.

*With adding more ministry/staff, our expenses have gone up. Will you help us meet our expenses? Thank you!!*

## GriefShare

With GriefShare you will learn how to walk the journey of grief and be supported along the way. It is a place where grieving people find healing and hope.

**Meets Tuesdays at ATLAS for Life, (101 2nd St NE) from 7:00 to 9:00, beginning November 2.**

This nationally acclaimed course includes video seminars featuring insights from Christian experts and personal stories of people grieving a death, group discussions, and exercises in a personal workbook. Sessions describe what participants should expect to experience as they move along the journey of grief, hear answers to the "why" questions and sound advice on how to handle the circumstances and emotions that complicate grief as well as practical ways to avoid getting stuck in grief. We offer hope in moving forward without leaving behind the memory of our loved ones.

Call 562-5777 for reservations and information.