



ATLAS for LIFE Newsletter

Mentoring & More!

JULY 2021

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

Recently I had a conversation with someone about God's forgiveness. She felt like she never could be forgiven for all she had done. She was living in shame and defeat. I was able to remind her of the scripture in 1 John 1:9: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." We talked about this verse for quite some time and finally the Holy Spirit revealed the truth to her, and she just wept. She now knew that she really could be forgiven and didn't have to live with all of that baggage hanging over her head. It made me wonder, how many other people believe that lie? How many people are "stuck" in that lie that keeps them from freedom in Christ? We have had the privilege of walking people through a short booklet called "The Steps to Freedom in Christ". This has been beneficial to many people and has brought truth and freedom. If you know of someone who struggles in this area, would you share with them that we would love to meet with them and walk them through this simple booklet? It can be life changing! (All conversation is held in confidence.)

Thank you everyone for your support through prayer, volunteering and finances. We are blessed and we thank you for being a part of this ministry.

Roxie Mulder, Director

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**Testimony of a Troubled Young Woman**

I was given Atlas' phone number by my children's Guardian ad Litem after returning to my home from 4 1/2 months inpatient treatment for drug and alcohol abuse. The situation at my home was flooded with poor memories and friction between my husband and I. The atmosphere was daunting and thoughts of the past were becoming more than I could bear. I didn't know where to turn but I knew I had to do something. In my time being in Deb's House, studying the Bible, reaching out to a mentor at Atlas with the Brave Beginnings Program, and having a new atmosphere to think clearly, I am in a new adventure.

I will never be able to find the right words to truly explain how deep my gratitude goes to everyone at ATLAS. My life is forever changed and the best part is, I feel my life is just beginning and my kids will get a mom they deserve. My heart is filled, my faith is deepening, and better yet, I know everything is completely in our Creator's hands and we are loved by him. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

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Financial Peace Class

Anyone that is interested in learning to budget and save money would be blessed by the financial peace class. Call the ATLAS office at 507-562-5777 for more information.



BOARD MEMBERS

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

DIRECTOR

Roxie Mulder

TreeHouse DIRECTOR

Merle Knobloch



WELCOME to Aundria Onken

~ Receptionist ~

Hello, my name is Aundria Onken, and I am the new receptionist at ATLAS. I was born in 1969, in Washington State, to parents who were Baptist missionaries in Brazil. I had an absolutely wonderful childhood climbing fruit trees, playing with friends, having a large variety of pets (bi-lingual parrot & three-toed sloth to name a couple), being homeschooled, going to church several times each week, and constantly visiting with many people in both their homes and ours. At the age of eight, before going on a walk one day,

I prayed and asked Jesus to be my Lord and Savior. I then know that if I got hit by a car on our walk and died, I would go to heaven for sure. I attended a Bible college in Arizona, and received my Master's degree in elementary education with a minor in Bible. After five years of teaching, marriage to Mark, and having three sons (Kyle, Carson, & Cole), we moved to Pipestone, Minnesota, where we currently live. I homeschooled our children and have more recently done some substitute teaching. We attend Cornerstone Church, and I have been helping out with the Brave Mom's Ministry here at ATLAS for the past several years. I am a missionary at heart and have had to come to terms with the fact that God can use me wherever I am—I don't have to be in a foreign country speaking a foreign language. When I saw ATLAS's need for a receptionist, I felt like God was prompting me to apply. I love being a part of a ministry that encourages people in a positive way with an eternal purpose.



CAR MINISTRY -- NEW PROGRAM AT ATLAS PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION TO PEOPLE IN NEED THROUGH DONATED VEHICLES

HOW DOES IT WORK?

A vehicle is donated rather than being used for a trade in, or is an unused vehicle, or one from an estate. The donated vehicle is inspected and repaired. People in need fill out an application. These are reviewed and a car is paired with an applicant. Applicants who are working with an ATLAS staff member, (or similar advocate,) for the last three months will have first priority. This applicant must be a Minnesota resident, over 18, and have a valid driver's license. Applicants must take a course on car maintenance and take on all repairs and maintenance costs. He/she will provide evidence of insurance before receiving the car, and will sign a one-year lien. He/she will continue meeting with their advocate for a full year, after which the lien will be removed.

HOW CAN I HELP?

We are in need of cars with potential, and donations to cover the cost of parts. Contact ATLAS for Life for more information, or call Mike at 507-562-5777.

SEEING THE LORD'S HAND WORKING IN THE CAR MINISTRY

We have a mechanic who has offered to repair the cars, (we could use another mechanic as well), a building has been secured to house the cars as they are made ready. Our first car is ready for a new home, and a second car is in the process of being donated. We are grateful for your prayers for those who are walking alongside our recipients, and especially for those whose lives will be improved by transportation to jobs, appointments etc. God is surely walking before us!

The Alpha Course

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, newcomers to the church, and those with questions.

Alpha has been put on in 169 countries in 112 languages at 127 different denominations. Over 23 million guests have participated.

These free classes and meals meet Thursdays at ATLAS Community Room, from 6:30 to 8:30, beginning: July 22, 2021. Child care will be available. Call 562-5777 for reservations and information. Please prayerfully consider bringing your friend or family member.

Discussions include the following:

- Is There More to Life Than This?*
- Who Is Jesus?*
- Why Did Jesus Die?*
- How Does God Guide Us?*
- How Can I Be Filled by the Holy Spirit?*
- How Can I Make the Most of the Rest of My Life?*
- How Can I Resist Evil?*
- Does God Heal Today?*
- Why Does God Allow Suffering?*
- What About Other Religions?*
- Is There a Conflict Between Science and Christianity?*

Walk Along Side Mentoring Workshop:

We all have a dear friend or family member who is dealing with hard choices or circumstances, and we struggle with 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, July 17, 2021, at ATLAS Community Room, from 1:00 to 4:30. Child care will be available. Call 562-5777 for reservations and 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*



TreeHouse Testimony

"Treehouse is like a family to me. It is a family that no matter how many times you fall down or make a bad life choice, they are there to lift you up and make you part of the family again. It is a place of grace and love like a family should be. It is my TreeHouse family!"

ATLAS Fundraiser

In order to help with the ongoing ministry of ATLAS, we always have a fundraiser in April. This year the Pizza Ranch is unable to hold such events due to COVID, so we have had to come up with an alternative method. The board has decided that we should share our fundraiser this year with one of our volunteer staff. Leon Hendriks has been a volunteer with ATLAS for over six years. He has driven countless clients to doctor visits and other needed appointments, and he has led Bible studies and mentored men. Leon has such a giving heart that he is happy to help people draw closer to God in any way possible! This past year was a rough year for Leon in regards to his health. He spent many months in both the hospital and nursing home, and he is currently undergoing dialysis three times weekly. The medical bills are extensive, and we would like to bless Leon by removing some of that burden. Galatians 6:2 states: "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." Since we are still unable to do the Pizza Ranch fundraiser, we decided to just have a "Blessing" fundraiser. This would involve you just sending a gift in, in which you may bless the work here at ATLAS by designating "Blessing ATLAS" or you may choose to bless Leon by designating "Blessing Leon". We are so grateful for your part in this ministry!



Recent Memorials

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

**Dennis Hazelton • Irene Terrell • Dana Clark
Jan Burkholder • Billy Kindt • Toddy Sturdevant**

We express our sincere sympathy to all these families and pray God's comfort be with you during this time.