



ATLAS Group

Attaining Truth, Love And Self-control

Connecting on the Road of Life *May 2006*

The Junction



**Serving,
Connect-
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and Equip-
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Communities to**

Contents

- *How Busy Are You?*
- *Pit Stop*
- *Orange City Hires*
- *Intern's Experience*
- *ATLAS of Winnebago*
- *Summer Music Festivals*
- *ATLAS of Sioux Falls*
- *Website Under Construction*
- *New Board Member*
- *Personal Development*
- *"Safe" Place*
- *All Boards Rest Stop*
- *Prayer Concerns*
- *Calendar*

"To prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

~ Ephesians 4:12-

How Busy Are You?

Are you putting your "Small Rocks" ahead of your "Big Rocks"? Are you so busy that your spouse needs to call your secretary to schedule an appointment just to talk to you? See if any of the following apply to you:

Top Ten Ways to Tell if You're Too Busy

10. You eat your breakfast in the shower
9. You request an unlisted phone number at work
8. You pay someone to catch up on your reading
7. Your potluck dishes come with ketchup packets
6. You lose patience with instant messaging
5. You hire a personal shopper to spend your gift cards
4. You try to buy your gas online
3. You add a half second hand to your watch
2. You're still looking for a drive-thru doctor
1. You undercook your instant oatmeal

If any of these have happened to you read on...

Pit Stop

Hey to all of you reading the junction. As many of you know I have been doing a lot of traveling lately and ATLAS going global is quickly becoming a reality. Another present reality for me, and I am sure for each of you as well, is the busyness of life. Staying true to the ATLAS model of helping the hurting, equipping the saints and unifying the community can be an overwhelming task at times.

In his book, “The Way of the Heart,” Henri Nouwen states, “that if we are proficient leaders within our communities as we should be, then those in our community will seek after us to help them. Good leadership seems to bring with it the opportunity to do more good leadership. A cycle which repeats itself over and over and can eventually leave us spinning round and round. Combined with our internal motivation to produce and achieve we end up being chased by a mixed bag of expectations.”

Understanding and recognizing this leadership cycle is important at ATLAS. As many of you already know we as Christians have an antidote for this potential hazard... Sabbath. Studying this word more carefully we see that it simply and truly means “to stop,” that’s it!

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Stopping or having Sabbath reminds us that we are made for something bigger than working ourselves to death, worrying ourselves to death or running ourselves to death. This rest is an invitation to stop and remember who it is we serve. As leaders for ATLAS let’s not self-destruct by running ourselves down. I encourage each of you to make the effort to have regular times of Sabbath during your work day to stay healthy in working for our Lord. Let’s hold each other accountable in this area.

God bless each of you.

In His Grip ~ Jerry Kieft

What’s Going On at Your ATLAS?

If you have any great quotes or stories that you would like to share with our ATLAS Family, let us know and we’ll try to get ’em in our next newsletter.

ATLAS of Orange City Hires Office Manager

It's official! April 3 was Renee Noteboom's first day as Office Manager! Renee comes to ATLAS from the banking field and has a heart and passion for the ministry of ATLAS. Renee's husband owns and operates Noteboom Electric in Orange City and they have 2 grown children. The Noteboom's like to ride their Harley and fly their plane in their free time.



College Intern's Experience

My experience as an intern at ATLAS of Orange City has been a good learning experience. Coming to ATLAS in the beginning I didn't understand what it was all about. I learned a lot about the mentoring of different individuals that walk through the doors of ATLAS and how ATLAS focuses each discussion, which is always based from Jesus and how He would act. Like one of the sayings of ATLAS goes, "be Jesus with skin on". I feel I have grown both in skills and in my faith by being an intern at ATLAS of Orange City. ~ Kayla Bylsma



ATLAS of Winnebago Under Construction

Winnebago recently completed renovation of a space in the basement of the Winnebago Reformed Church. Two separate work groups, one from Sioux Center and one from Pastor/Director Darrell Dalman's home church in Michigan came in to help with the projects which included demolition, framing in new walls, sheet rocking,



patching holes in the existing floor and walls, taping and texturing the new walls, painting, and carpeting. God provided in every way for the completion of this project as materials and all the labor was donated! This new office space coupled with obtaining their 501(c)(3) means that they will be helping the hurting in Winnebago shortly.

Summer Music Festivals Approaching

ATLAS of Sioux Falls will have a booth at the LifeLight music festival in Sioux Falls on Labor Day Weekend, September 1, 2, & 3, and the ATLAS Group will have a



booth at SonShine Music festival in Willmar, MN. July 13, 14, & 15. If you are interested in

volunteering your time to represent ATLAS at either one of these events please contact Ron DeWit for LifeLight info at 605-743-2345 or ATLAS Group for SonShine info at 877-722-4911.

ATLAS of Sioux Falls is up for the Challenge!

Recently, the ATLAS of Sioux Falls board and staff were challenged with the goal of raising \$50,000 by March 31... and if they met their goal they would be awarded a matching gift of stock. To help raise the funds for this challenge the staff and board decided to have a phone-a-thon. Close to 300 contacts were made during the three hour event to raise the awareness of ATLAS in Sioux Falls as well as to raise funds for the ministry. They used DM (Dawson McAllister) Live's call center to make the evening a success. Congratulations on meeting the challenge!!



Website Under Construction

ATLAS Group is in the process of updating the website and hope to have it completed very soon! Look for some of the following improvements at: www.atlasgrouppltd.org



- ~ Evalucheck - online donations. People will be able to log onto the website and make a donation for their specific ATLAS community.
- ~ A message board - where all ATLAS staff can post questions and ideas to share with the other ATLAS offices.
- ~ Easier navigation and greater accuracy in describing ATLAS and ATLAS Group.
- ~ Each community will have their own homepage where staff will be pictured and they can put their specific community information.

ATLAS for Life Welcomes New Board Member

ATLAS for Life is pleased to announce the addition of a new board member, Paul Cunningham. Paul and his wife Toni have been married for 26 years and have 3 daughters, all who are attending the University of Sioux Falls. Kelly and Mindy are 21 year old twins and Christy is 19. Paul owns and operates Cunningham Telephone and Toni is in education. Paul's passion to live for Christ as well as his connections within the community of Pipestone will be a great asset. Welcome Paul, thanks for giving of your time and talents in Pipestone!



Personal Development Gains Momentum

Jerry has been busy working with several local businesses in the area of personal development and growth. In light of the challenge of living for Christ, Jerry helps members of these organizations function better in their specific roles and in their relationship to each other. One of the tools that is useful in this process is the "7 Habits of Highly Effective People" class that each management team works through together. If your ATLAS team, or a business within your community is interested in learning more about this please contact Jerry at 877-722-4911.



New Office Truly a "Safe" Place

ATLAS of Sioux Center has had it's share of changes in the last year! Amy stepping into the Director position, hiring Melanie Pottebaum as DSP, Barb Dykshorn becoming Office Manager as Lynn moves with ATLAS Group - but they don't stop there! Work



Moving things out

has begun to transform the old safe into an office. During the process it took 10 men to carry (more like drag) the safe door out of the building... and that was after the door was divided into two halves!! They hope to have it completed in a couple weeks.

ATLAS Group Hosts All-Board Rest Stop

Over 35 board members and directors gathered for our first annual ATLAS Board Rest Stop. The evening featured Greg Alderman and Jan Schuiteman leading purposeful conversation on 5 board principles of Ownership, Consensus, Big Rocks, Board/Director Relationships and Authentic Relationships. We taped the evening and now have a DVD available for those board members who were unable to attend, for new board members coming on, or for your entire board to view/review and discuss together. Contact ATLAS Group at 877-722-4911 if you would like a copy.

ATLAS Prayer Updates

Pella, Eagle Grove, Sheldon, Sibley, and Spirit Lake, IA are among the latest to inquire about bringing the ministry of ATLAS to their communities. Please continue to pray with these communities about starting an ATLAS there.

In April Jerry flew to Los Angeles, CA to meet with the CRWRC (Christian Reformed World Relief Committee) to see if we would want to become a team member with them as they work in communities. Please join us in praying about this potential partnership.

The following week Jerry flew to Greensboro, GA for their open house. The end of April Jerry went to Zeeland, MI to meet with John & Carol Ornee to see if ATLAS is a possibility there. Then in May he hopes to fly to Delevan, WI where there is a group of Pastors that are interested in the ATLAS model for their county.

Please continue to keep each of these places and endeavors in your prayers as we seek to do God will. Also remember the other members of the ATLAS family in your prayers and the needs that they have:

ATLAS of Winnebago: 501(c)(3) processing, office opening, finances

ATLAS of Greensboro: Community awareness and acceptance

ATLAS for Life: Searching for an Office Manager

ATLAS of Lyon County: For people to seek their services

ATLAS of Sioux Falls: Finances, searching for a location within city limits

ATLAS of Orange City: Searching for a Director, office space

ATLAS of Sioux Center: Wisdom in working with and reaching out to the Hispanic community



Calendar of Events

MAY

- 3-5 - FranklinCovey Training for Directors
- 4 - Harp & Bowl Service - Sioux Center
7-9 p.m. Christ Community Church



Birthdays

- 7 - Ryan Mulder - Board - Sioux Falls
- 17 - Pastor Carl Bruxvoort - Board - Sioux Falls
- 24 - Mae De Gooyer - Receptionist - Sioux Center
- 27 - Mike Spronk - Board - ATLAS for Life

JUNE

- 1- Harp & Bowl Service - Sioux Center
7-9 p.m. Christ Community Church
- 2- Directors Rest Stop
- 9-11 - YA-TEC at New Life Ref. Church - Sioux Center
- 26 - Golf Tournament - Sioux Center



Birthdays

- 1 - Brent Witte - Board - Sioux Falls
- 6 - Ed Grotenhuis - Board - Orange City
- 9 - Bev Schut - Prayer Coordinator - Sioux Center
- 17 - Carol Kramer - Mentor Coordinator - Sioux Center
- 22 - Harlan Van Voorst - DSA - Sioux Center

JULY

- 6- Harp & Bowl Service - Sioux Center
7-9 p.m. Christ Community Church

Birthdays

- 9 - Arnie Ver Hoef - Board - Sioux Center
- 13 - Gordon Kuik - DSP - Sioux Falls
- 15 - Bob Menning - Co-Director/DSP - ATLAS for Life

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~ Ephesians 4:12-13



Jerry Kieft, Lynn Schelling, Justin Vandewater

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