

ATLAS OF THE LAKES AREA

NEWSLETTER UPDATE

AUG 2024

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WORD AGAIN!

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MINISTRY TEAM UPDATE

Hello, it's Kathy, "current" Office Manager. I want to share an update with you all.

After working at ATLAS since January 22, 2024, my husband Clay, who serves as the VP of ATLAS Board, and I have decided to move closer to our large family and grandkids.

However, I will continue to work with ATLAS remotely and Clay will attend board meetings remotely as well. I will do the books on a more limited hourly basis. I will send newsletters and do whatever Tonya needs me to do, from afar.

Tonya is currently in the process of hiring an in-person office assistant and mentor.

I have loved working at ATLAS! Meeting with clients, pouring into their lives, and seeing lasting change happen. I've also learned so much about the available resources in our area.

I have been blessed beyond measure in working with Tonya. I will miss our daily interactions so very much. We have become very close sisters in Christ.

Goodbye for now my friends, but not forever.

Numbers 6:24-26

ATLAS BOARD:

Roland Schmidt:

President

Clay Norris: Vice

President

Sandy Krout: Secretary

Greg Jorgensen

Stacey Ahrenstoff

ATLAS STAFF:

Tonya Kuranda: Director

Kathy Norris:

Upper Level

Coordination Specialist

Goodbye for now,
but not forever.

"May the Lord Bless you
and keep you. May the
Lord make His face to
shine upon you and be
gracious unto you. May
the Lord lift His face
upon you and give you
peace."

Numbers 6:24-26

-- Kathy Norris

TRUST...THERE'S THAT WORD AGAIN!

Transparency, so the saying goes, fosters trust. Last month, we mentioned in our newsletter that the ministry is still falling short on a monthly basis, despite all of our efforts. There were five different fundraisers that we participated in in July. "Happy Hour" at The Well was our most successful event! This fundraiser brought in just under \$3,000! You have our deepest gratitude for your kindness and encouragement. Seeing all the different churches united in purpose under one roof was the most amazing thing.

Sharing ATLAS at Down Town Church and accepting free-will donations was our second financial blessing. We received almost \$2,000. God Is Good! Sidenote: Please inform us if you are a member of a church and would like us to give a presentation about ATLAS. We get to tell people about what we "see" in our community and share how ATLAS is making an impact!

A \$750 Walmart "Good Spark" grant was also bestowed upon us! We were able to raise \$6,913.42 thanks to all of this and our incredible, loyal donors. The monthly & quarterly donors are so vital for financial sustainment!

We must have faith that God will keep our doors open. Taking everything into account, our monthly expenses come to about \$8,000. The amount can change slightly from one month to the next depending on benevolence.

Trusting in God is essential as we rejoice in His many blessings. No other way exists but to lean in and lay it all at His feet. Although our account has been steadily declining since January, we are determined to fulfill the calling and meet the need in this area. Please pray with us to trust God—in His timing, in His purpose, and in how He chooses to keep ATLAS of the Lakes going!

"Let the morning bring me word of Your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you." Psalm 143:8

CLIENT FEATURE: FROM FEAR TO PEACE

I still remember her first visit. The waves of financial struggles became her number one mental battle. Battling the loss of a job, unexpected medical issues, the deterioration of family relationships, and the weight of the world on her shoulders. You see, her job ended because the company closed down. It was unexpected. Her back...unexpected. Life often brings us to such a vulnerable state, a state of helplessness or hopelessness.

She was there.

As we listened and talked with her, we shared how ATLAS is a family. We pull each other up, help one another, and do what we can as God leads.

During her first visit, at one point she laughed out loud at something within our conversation, and all of a sudden, she stared at Kathy and me seriously. She said she could not remember the last time she laughed. Slowly, the Lord was breaking through her pain. Not taking a single bit of it away, but finding joy in the suffering, and meaning in the moment.

Here we are, weeks later and we are still working with this lovely client. God has worked miracles in her life through ATLAS. There's so much to share regarding this lady's walk back to the Lord.

I was able to capture a message she left on the machine for us, and well... I will let you experience the amazing work of our MIGHTY God who loves each of us so much. Please take a moment to listen to the attached audio file. Thank you!

Her testimony reminds us that, "The Lord is on our side. We will not fear." Psalm 118:6