



Atlas: Lincoln

Attaining Truth, Love, And Self-control

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Mentor Coordinator

Board of Directors:

- Jeff Heerspink
- Carissa Martin
- Jen Hinrichs
- Brook Talsma
- Derek Effle

“If one falls down, their friend can help them up, but pity the one who falls and has no one to help them up!”

Ecclesiastes 4:10

“How are you today?”

“How are you?” “Good. How are you?” “Good.”

So often we have these interactions with people we know or meet. I don’t know how often I actually mean the words “how are you” when I talk with people. Sometimes I do, but not usually.

One of my friends, Ron, will always tell you how he’s doing, especially when he’s not good. You see, Ron’s wife passed away recently. Losing a partner is often the greatest struggle anyone will face in their life.

Whenever I asked Ron how he was doing, he would usually say, “Not very well” and then we’d talk about the struggles of grief he was experiencing that day. He’s always honest about the state of his heart.

A few weeks ago, Ron and I were out running some errands. Someone asked him how he was doing and he said, “Good.” What often tends to be a trivial exchange actually held a lot of meaning. Ron said, “Good” for the first time since I’ve gotten to know him. And he meant it.

Sometimes, we don’t get to see growth and healing in our folks. Other times, it amazingly comes all at once. But, most often I think, we get to see the healing power of the Holy Spirit in very small ways that can be overlooked by our human eyes. I think hearing “good” from Ron reminded me to always take heart in pain, be patient in healing, and serve God’s hurting people faithfully. How good is that?

-Brody



GET INVOLVED

Mentor Training Workshops

We are always in need of more mentors. If you would like to partner with Atlas in this way or are simply curious about mentorship, join us at a free workshop. Held at the Atlas office (745 D St.)

- Wednesday, October 30, 7pm
- Sunday, November 17, 3pm
- December (OFF)
- Wednesday, January 29, 6pm

Mentor Support Sessions

In an ongoing effort to support and equip trainees, we are offering mentor support sessions the **first Tuesday** of every month, held at our office from 6:30-8:00pm. Anyone is welcome.

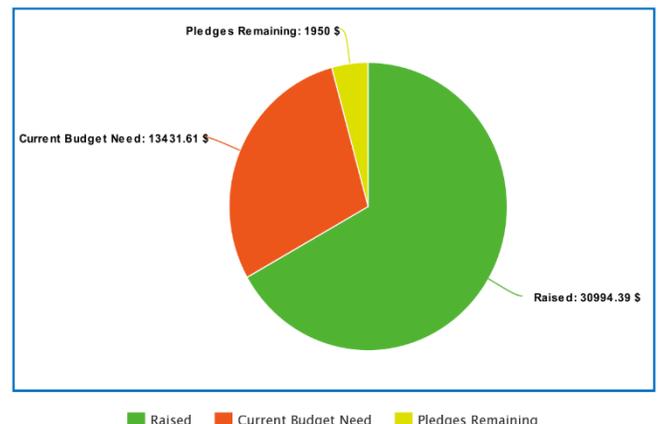
Nov. 5; Dec. 3; Jan. 7

Atlas: Lincoln 2019 Financial Report

This 2019 Fiscal Year has been incredibly blessed. Churches, businesses, and individuals who believe in the work and mission of Atlas: Lincoln have come together to help support us financially.

As we have begun the final quarter of the year, we are only 28% away from meeting out '19 budget needs. We have also started looking into the next year. There is a great harvest and need for new workers. With plans to expand staff in 2020 and increase our capacity to serve those dear hurting people in our community, we’re also looking for additional financial support.

As we reach the holiday season, we ask that you prayerfully consider making a year-end, tax-deductible gift to support the work God is doing through Atlas. Your support means the world to us.



Board Spotlight – Derek Effle *Who am I?* I am native to Lincoln and a graduate of the University of Nebraska. I have extensive training in community planning, community organizing, strength-based approaches to addressing community problems and strategic planning facilitation with diverse community stakeholders using the Federal Strategic Prevention Framework. I also have a wealth of training and knowledge in the area of youth training and development. I am a team builder and I am adept at leading teams from diverse areas to move through conflict to adoption and working towards a shared mission. I have worked with a wide array of individuals from government officials, volunteers, and people who work in ministry to business leaders.

How did I get involved with Atlas? Brody! It's an interesting story. I was at a community meeting where we are looking at how we address drug/alcohol prevention and mental health promotion and Brody was there. I thought the Atlas ministry sounded like a worthwhile effort. The next morning, Brody showed up at my networking meeting. It had to be a God thing. Brody and I started meeting and now I am a board member.

Why do I want to be involved in Atlas? Atlas works with a population of people that often get overlooked in Lincoln. I have lived here my whole life and I feel like we need to take care of our own. Atlas is one way that I can be involved in taking care of people that call Lincoln their home.

How does Atlas help pursue our call to make disciples and build the Kingdom? I think it is pretty evident when you read the Gospels that Jesus came to the earth to be with and minister to the sick and the hurting. In Second Corinthians, Paul writes about God the Father "who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God" 2 Corinthians 1:4. It is hard to become a disciple if all you know is pain and hurt. Atlas is an avenue to do life with those who are hurting and to share the wonderful power of Jesus!



Mini-Golf Outing Review

In August, Atlas: Lincoln celebrated our first anniversary. To commemorate this milestone and to set off on the right foot financially in year-2, we hosted a mini-golf outing.

Nearly 70 people showed up to play and 13 generous businesses in the Lincoln community supported our event through sponsorships.

We had a great time and are so appreciative of everyone who helped make it a great event. Already excited for next year!

Welcome Savannah!

In September, Savannah Clapper joined Atlas for a yearlong internship as our new Mentor Coordinator. Read the story of how God brought Savannah to Lincoln below:



"In January of this year, I knew God was stirring the pot and opening my eyes to new passions and people that I wanted to love and walk beside. I asked one mentor about this stirring and he said, 'Savannah, what does it look like to leave your job?' I knew that the question was about to rock my little world in California and I didn't know if I was ready. I loved my job as an assistant youth pastor, and I really loved the community that I was privileged to live beside in Compton. However, I pressed in and started to pray about where God might be taking me.

"At the end of February another mentor surprised me by saying, 'Savannah, I see you working at Atlas in Lincoln, do you have any connections there?' I was stunned. I did not think I would ever move back to Nebraska. I thought I was moving jobs, not states. I leaned into her wisdom and started reaching out. It was soon evident that Atlas' mission and God's stirring in my heart were incredibly related. It didn't take much convincing, just a whole lot of God moving that brought me here.

"My job as the Mentor Coordinator will consist of finding, training, and walking beside the mentors here in Lincoln. I am excited to engage and equip the Body to have an active role in the Kingdom work that is already being done in this city. The harvest is plentiful, my goal is to add one more worker in the pursuit of the Kingdom."

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