

# Table Talk

VOLUME 4 // ISSUE 2

Disability is relentless. So is hope!

**FALL 2025** 







### Director's Note

When 2025 began, if you had told me Luke 14 Exchange, Inc. would be in an office outside of our home, I don't know that I would have agreed. But here we are. Joan and I have worked for other ministries. where our office was in our home. We thought we had a good handle on how to make that work. Over the last six years, we've talked about an outside office, but one of us didn't think the timing was right when the other did, and vice versa.

As we asked God for direction about the future of Luke 14 Exchange beyond our lifetime (no, we're not going anyplace now), we sensed the need to move the office. We have fabulous staff working with us, and their giftedness and skills

were being hampered by needing to work around our home life.

And we desperately wanted more volunteers and to offer a place for people with disabilities to come and serve. But adding another person who uses a wheelchair just couldn't happen at our home. But it can now!

You see, the office is not the center of the ministry, but it is the spot from which we plan, pray, and launch the next steps of ministry. And it is the place where people affected by disability who want a taste of the relentless hope Jesus offers can find a place to belong.

#### MISSION:

We coach Christian communities, mentor people affected by disability, and encourage their families until God's table is full.

#### **VISION:**

To exchange a life without God for a relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

To exchange a life of isolation for a life in community.

To exchange a life of low expectation for an abundant life with purpose.

www.luke14exchange.org



Come and see the blessing God has granted us at 1959 E Edgewood Dr, Suite 101, in Lakeland. We want to invite you to drop by our open house on Friday, October 9, between 3 and 7 pm. We'll have light refreshments, you'll see pictures that tell our story, and leave with a renewed sense of hope. If you are unable to make it that day, please stop by whenever you are in the area.

It's not too early to start thinking about

## **GI INGTUESDAY**

December 2, 2025 is the date. Be sure to watch our social media (see p 4) and email blasts about this year's plan and goal. There will be giveaways throughout the day, fun photos and videos, and stories that will instill hope!

### News of our Team



Kesie Cain's name may be familiar to you. Over the years, she has served in temporary roles on our team. We appreciate the perspective she brings with her own experience living with cerebral palsy and

graduating with a master's degree in teaching, focused on special education. We are thrilled that the time was right in June for her to join us once again. Kelsie is putting her education to work re-designing the mentoring program Jerry has used for the last several years. You can welcome her back by emailing Kelsie@Luke14Exchange.org

We marked two staff milestones recently. Anna Galbreath has completed two years with us as of September 6. Bethany Reynolds's first anniversary was September 3. These ladies are truly the backbone and detail people for the outreach of Luke 14 Exchange. Please congratulate them at Anna@Luke14Exchange.org or

Bethany@Luke14Exchange.org

You may recall that Bethany and her husband, Kenny, have 3 children. Their youngest, Oliver, was born with a rare condition called Lowe syndrome. Bethany enjoys writing and reflecting on their life. We hope you'll take a moment and read her post at https://luke14exchange.org/blog.

### Pastor Jerry, The Hazelnut

Have you ever considered what Jerry might look like if he were a hazelnut? Well, wonder no longer.

One of our Camp Celebrate friends, Julia Erman, has two children born with rare and life-threatening disabilities. Her daughter, is named Hazel. Julia has taken what is a hard reality and founded the Hazelnut Movement to educate kids about children with disabilities.

One of her recent projects was to partner with Camp Celebrate friend, Valerie Coker, to introduce several friends from camp to their readers. Jerry was honored to be one of those selected.

Besides having his story told, we are enjoying the picture of Pastor Jerry as a hazelnut. See the little microphone between his ear and mouth?



Books are available through our office.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We have a variety of volunteer positions available, each offering unique opportunities to contribute and grow. Find all the details at luke14exchange.org/volunteer





Website <u>Luke14Exchange.org</u>



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**Or call us:** 863-940-3816

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# 2025 Summer Camps

Breakaway Camp focused on The Kingdom. There was no lack of period costumes and decorations. But the real joy was becoming more familiar with the King who reigns forever. As we waited for fireworks across the lake, our King blessed us with the best "fire works" of all!



