

# Table Talk

VOLUME 4 // ISSUE 1

Disability is relentless. So is hope!

SPRING 2025

# Annual Report Edition

## Director's Note

2024 was the year of health issues. I spent about three months recovering from two broken femurs. In the fall, Joan and I each had a potential cancer diagnosis. My test came back clear, Joan's test came back positive for cancer. She had surgery in December, which showed the cancer was more aggressive than expected. She will start radiation in February.

Thank you to everyone who prayed and is praying. The prayers are being answered. Please don't stop.

During this process, I had to recruit guys to come in and do my care, so that Joan can concentrate on healing. I would like to give a shout out to the men of Legacy Christian Church here in Lakeland and to the many friends who have traveled in from other parts of the country, including one province of Canada. We are truly grateful for all the help we have received, which has also included people providing meals and helping with chores around the house. It's been truly amazing and reminded us we are loved.

Even while Joan and I needed to take some time off to heal, the ministry has continued. In this issue, you will see the results of your giving to Luke 14 Exchange. Each number throughout this report translates into a person or family affected by disability being ministered to and brought to the great banquet table.

Bethany Reynolds, our newest team member, shares her thoughts on her first 6 months with us. It has been a pleasure ministering with her and to her.

We are ready to serve if you know of someone with a disability who needs our support. When you give to Luke 14 Exchange, you are helping someone who God wants at his eternal banquet table.

### 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.



Website Luke14Exchange.org



Facebook @Luke14Exchange, Inc



Instagram @Luke14Exchange



LinkedIn luke 14 exchange, inc



YouTube Luke14Exchange



# What Luke14 Exchange Means to Me

Being a parent of a special needs child comes with challenges that a large segment of society will never have to deal with or understand. I can't tell you how many times my husband and I have heard, "I don't know how you do it." To be honest, some days we don't either. When we get to the end of the day, and everyone is alive and has eaten, we count it as a win! On those days, we are keenly aware, it's our faith that carries us through. Knowing this is for a purpose that we don't completely understand, motivates us to get out of bed some mornings.

One of the lesser recognized challenges of having a special needs child is the flexibility of work hours needed, often with little to no notice. Working with an organization that understands this has been a blessing. Not long after starting, Oliver had a seizure in school, and I had to call Jerry to tell him I was on the way to the ER and couldn't come to work.

Oliver

This wasn't something new for me, but it was one of the first times since staring work at Luke 14

Exchange. I felt horrible calling out that day. I instantly said I will work from the ER. Jerry told me it was unnecessary and to focus on my son right now.

To my surprise, Joan came to the hospital and sat with me and prayed over Oliver. It meant the world to me. Even though our journeys with family with disabilities are in different stages, I felt she understood what I was going through. This was the moment that I knew Luke 14 Exchange was where I wanted to be.

Since beginning to work with Luke 14 Exchange, I have gained an invaluable perspective. I've seen what it may be like for my son as he gets older. I now know that there are people active in our community, quietly doing selfless work to ensure everyone is being

that there are people active in our community, quietly doing selfless work to ensure everyone is being taken care of. It has been a weight off our shoulders and one less thing we worry about for Oliver.



Left to right: Joan Borton, Jerry Borton, Bethany Reynolds, Anna Galbreath

We know that there is a place at God's banquet table for Oliver. I know that those of us on staff at Luke 14 Exchange, strive to take the same kind of care for each of the families we serve. It may look different for each family, but the purpose is to bring every family affected by disability to God's table.

Gratefully,

L14E Administrative Assistant

# Our Year In Numbers

- We shared 55 coaching sessions with 18 individuals.
- Page 42's five members have written and critiqued 15,659 words.
- At Noah's Landing/ROAR 29 residents have attended Bible study throughout the year, with 6 support staff.
- Though we were not able to attend either week of camp this summer, we've had 16 follow up contacts with families from camp.
- We posted more than 162 times on social media.
  We are liked or followed by 685 people over three platforms.
- Our new and improved website went live. It includes state of the art disability inclusion options.
- We benefited from 50 volunteer hours.
- We shared 16 pieces of equipment with those in need. We received equipment and medical supplies from 8 people.
- We responded to 52 contacts for resources including equipment needs, church search, disability specific questions, relationships, curriculum, vehicles and more.
- Jerry and Joan individually or together spoke in person or on podcasts 19 times. Records from host sites indicate listening audience in total was approximately 3038 people.
- We partnered or supported 7 other disability ministries or outreaches.

## Financial Report

Total Expense	\$135,679.45
Net Revenue	\$8,629.09

Luke 14 Exchange is in need of office space! We'd love to hear from you if you know of good office space for rent. Email us at info@luke14exchange.org.

## Where to Find Us

2nd & 4th Mondays Teaching at ROAR

**February 22** Career Fair at Parkway Christian, Lakeland, FL

March 14 Senior Health Fair, Lakeland, FL

**April 29-May 1** Disability and the Church Conference at McClean Bible Church in Vienna, VA.

**June 13-15** Family Café, Orlando, FL https://familycafe.net/annual-family-cafe/

**July 1- 5** Breakaway Camp, Leesburg, FL https://liftdisability.net/breakaway/

July 21-25 Camp Celebrate wk 1, Newport, TN

July 28-August 1 Camp Celebrate wk 2 https://luke14ministries.net/camp-celebrate

## Joan teaching Bible Study at ROAR



# WAYS TO GIVE

#### Online:

www.luke14exchange.org/donate/



#### By Mail:

3616 Harden Blvd #163 Lakeland FL 33803

Or call us:

863-940-3816

## MEMORIAL GIFT

Given in memory of Jerry Fenner by Jan Fenner

#### WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

**Board Members** (we meet every other month via Zoom) to help set the course and promote the ministry.

Check out our wish list on Amazon https://a.co/cBhxoeE or search for Luke 14 Exchange Wish List.

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. **REGISTRATION NUMBER: CH60299** 

We love hearing from you via email! It means so much to us that so many of you look forward to our updates and newsletters.

To maximize efficiency and to be the best stewards we can be of our resources, we will now share our newsletters with you via email. Keep an eye out for us! Email us at info@luke14exchange.org if you'd like to update your email address or if you'd like to opt out of email to receive a paper copy instead.

## Thanks to your partnership...

- We mentor people affected by disabilities
- We are a resource to other ministries, reaching out to people with disabilities
- We connect people with resources

check your

email!

- We facilitate a critique group for writers with disabilities
- We teach a local Bible study for people with disabilities
- We serve on the leadership teams for three weeks of camp for families with disabilities
- We speak and write on disability issues
- We encourage families affected by disability
- We promote strong marriages through our book, MarriageAbility: Embracing the Richness of a Marraige Affected by Disability

## **WELCOME!**

L14E welcomes Paul Hunter as the newest member of the **Board of Directors!** 



Left to right: Paul Hunter (board president), Dave Shoemaker (member), Jerry Borton (member), John Stancil (treasurer)