

Porch de Salomon

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www.porchdesalomon.org

- *Short-term mission teams in Guatemala
- *Humanitarian relief for indigenous families
- *Solomon's Porch café ministry
- *Live music outreach
- * Helping transform churches



PorchTalk

Volume 99

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INTEGRATED

Integrated: having different parts working together as a unit. *Webster's*

Recently, a visiting team member commented, "I love the way the different parts of Porch de Salomon compliment each other." Soon thereafter, Noe had the great idea to invite two of our recovering friends, from Casa Tat Loy rehab center, to translate for Team Killearn United Methodist Church's village medical clinics. The translators, Hanzel and Harvey, were thrilled and the team was very pleased with the way they (and five other translators) helped treat over 450 patients. Hanzel and Harvey used half their earnings to buy food for the patients at CTL. These parts worked well together!

In addition to Team KUMC, we hosted a team from Sharon Church (GA) who helped fund and build a house for Isabel Leja Leja's now-happy family.

We invite you to see, in this issue, some examples of how the different parts of Porch de Salomon work together to serve and glorify God by serving his people. Thank you for your part in helping us do that with your donations, support, and prayers.



(Above): Hanzel and Harvey painting at Casa Tat Loy (thanks Bill Lange!)

(Left): Hanzel translates for Dr. Barbara Williams



"The Texas gals" Riley, Scotta and Stephanie (from left) were super!



KUMC teamer Josh R (below, digging a septic tank for Santa's family) posted: "Thanks for the best week of my life."

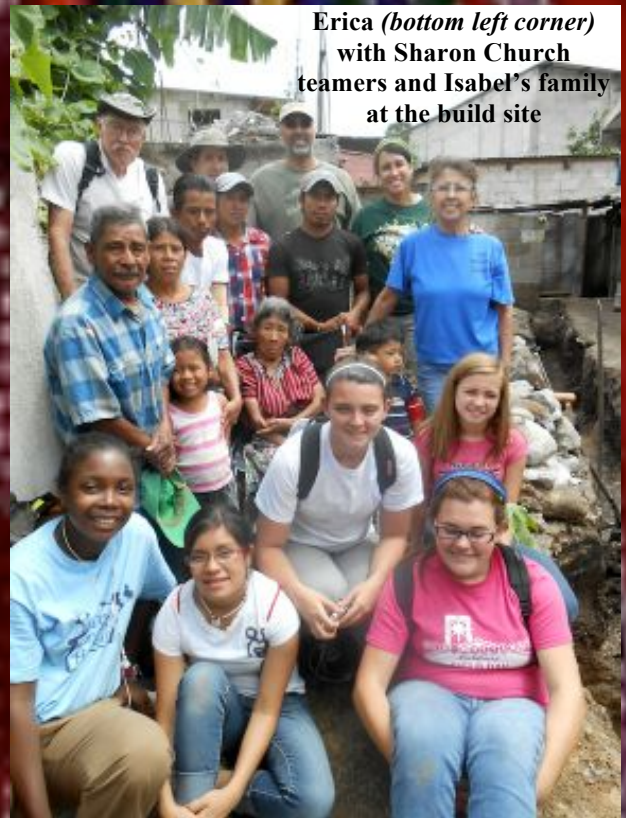
"For the lost, the least, and the last"

INTERN'S INTEGRATION *by Erica K. Smith*

I learned a lot about myself in my seven weeks. I learned that I love to see people who are not so concerned with the tangible structure of the church, but who are actually living out what Christ meant the church to be. I truly saw that in the Porch de Salomon staff; they loved and served others, regardless of who they were or what they've done. I'm striving to be more like the Jesus of the Bible, not the Jesus who is grossly misrepresented by many people in this world, because I don't really like that Jesus.

School starts soon, and I'll be looking for jobs out west shortly after that. Life goes on, but I now have a renewed energy to go on with it. I'm reminded how beautiful life is, and how important it is to do something meaningful with the little time we have on this complicated planet. I plan to organize a volunteer/missions trip to work with Porch next spring. I love that organization, their hearts, and the work they do...or I'll just go back by myself. The point is – I'm going back!

Erica is pursuing her Master's degree in Social Work at NCSU. She was an adaptable, willing, fun intern who worked so well with our local folks and visiting teams. We will gladly welcome her back!



Erica (bottom left corner) with Sharon Church teamers and Isabel's family at the build site



Noe (left) and Sharon Church teamer Scott Pierce assemble beds in Panimache.

Top 10 Reasons To Go on a Porch de Salomon Mission Trip:

By Katherine and Paul Schutes (CTS Youth)

- #10: Fabulous & Plentiful Guacamole
- #9: Terrific Shopping for Handmade Weavings
- #8: Excellent Food
- #7: Dave's Coffee at Casablanca
- #6: Marco Trio Electric's music
- #5: Melanie's Cobbler
- #4: Quick Way to Lose 10 pounds
- #3: Clowning with Guatemala Joe
- #2: Experiencing Life with Wonderful Christian People
- #1: Opportunity to personally answer God's call to serve "the Lost, the Least, and the Last."

WORKING UNITS

Edwin (26, at right with his mother) is our cerebral palsy-challenged friend. His mother and aunt provide his round-the-clock care. He received a new orthopedic bed and TV last month, courtesy of several Porch partners' donations (*Gracias!*) He spends much of his time watching soccer; he is now learning to read via a TV program! He told Noe that, sometimes "I wanted to die, but not now; I have too many blessings!"

Please keep him and his family in your prayers.



We each used to independently call our own shots, but then we entered into a large and **integrated** life in which *he* has the final say in everything...Each of us is now a part of his resurrection body, refreshed and sustained at one fountain—his Spirit—where we all come to drink. The old labels we once used ... are no longer useful. We need something larger, more comprehensive.

Paul, at 1 Corinthians 12:11-13 (MSJ)



TEAM KILLEARN UMC helped us dedicate Inocenta's family house on the mountainside in Santa Catarina. Thanks, Team CTS Youth, for funding and for carrying the building material up!
(At left, L-R) individual volunteer Erin, Dr. David Jones and teamer Lynne haul mattresses up.
(Below): Isabel, her daughters (who will begin to learn to read soon) and her sons at the house dedication with KUMC leader Linda Bianco and others.



HOPE FOR JAVIER 2
 A MUSICAL BENEFIT

Allen and Margarita's 25 year-old son Javier has been diagnosed with an aggressive form of brain cancer and, again, needs your help

Featuring music by:
 *Sonidos de Mi Tierra
 *Kike & Friends

*Hermis Locos
 *MarcoTrio Electric

SOLOMON'S PORCH en el centro Pana 7762.0793 *food and cash bar

SATURDAY JULY 27 6-10 PM Q40 Donation Children under 12 free

100% of all proceeds go towards Javier Stern's medical bills

TWO BENEFIT CONCERTS we hosted at Solomon's Porch Café raised over \$4200 for Javier's (brain cancer) medical treatment. Local hippie leader Roberto Luz commented about the beauty of "the Tribe" coming together for a great cause. *Integrated!*

Your tax-deductible gifts and donations are an integral and essential part of Porch de Salomon. Please consider donating now. *Thank you!*



"Extra" power tools, wasting away in a Tallahassee storage room, now become part of Casa Tat Loy's humble woodshop. *Gracias Bill P!*

Pedro (front right) is receiving alcohol rehabilitation at the tender age of 13....



"Flower Nancy" DiGisi integrates fun for a great cause on the benefit dance floor!

PRAISES and PRAYERS

- > Javier (brain cancer) and everyone mentioned in this issue
- > Melanie and Lloyd's furlough/promo July 30-Oct. 4. We would love to connect with you (850.688.2076)! Or, join us:
 - * Aug. 18—Pisgah UMC (Tallahassee)
 - * Aug. 21—CTS (Alpharetta GA)
 - * Aug. 25- New Providence Presb. Church (Maryville TN)
 - * Sept. 1—St. Teresa Beach Community Church

- > A time of rest and refreshing for our Guatemalan team: Noe, Mirna, Nik, Sindy, Birma, Carmen, Joe, Betty and all
- > Our AA and Al-Anon groups as they move to our annex
 - > Continued provision, through our faithful and generous mission partners/donors, for our multi-faceted work
 - > Our thriving Sunday afternoon worship gathering
 - > That our integrated mission "parts" continue to work well



(Above) KUMC teamer Vicki fits glasses in a clinic
(Left) Painter Leonardo (his real name!) outside our annex; office, storage, dorm room and AA meeting space

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