



# PorchTalk

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## Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

[porchdesalomon.org](http://porchdesalomon.org)

and on 

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### Tax-deductible Donations:

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[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://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  
and individuals

## THE LEAST OF THESE

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...."*

*[Jesus] will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25: 35 and 40.*

Guatemala suffers from the world's fourth (or fifth) worst chronic malnutrition rate (per UNICEF). For years, Porch de Salomon has helped combat this with over 25 families receiving monthly protein supplement (eggs, milk, and beans) as well as with income development (when feasible).

Recently, a governmental agency, SESAN, approached us about partnering with them to help severely malnourished babies and children. Early childhood malnutrition inflicts life-long, permanent damage (both physical and mental) and cannot be remedied later in life. Sadly, while these dedicated workers have the resources to find the worst cases, they have no food, money, medicine, or resources to give these babies.

Porch de Salomon has reached out, in faith, and accepted 18 of these young, vulnerable "least of these." We have begun feeding these children (and, when necessary, their mothers) and providing medicine. This issue features three of these children.

PLEASE consider funding one of these 18 cases; a \$60 monthly, tax-deductible donation will do that. Of course, we'll gladly accept a lump-sum, annual \$720 donation. Please contact Lloyd ([dlloydmonroe@gmail.com](mailto:dlloydmonroe@gmail.com)) or Rex 850.933.0344 with your "Yes!" or if you have questions or ideas. *Gracias!*

*(At right)* SESAN brought Wilson Alfredo Tun Xep (4) to Porch, from Caserio Paluam Nahuala, three hours from Panajachel. He suffers from chronic malnutrition. His parents died from AIDS; he and his 13 year-old sister live with their deaf/mute uncle.

Wilson also has kidney problems. We are providing food, medicine and transportation to the doctor for Wilson.



*(At left)* Josue Danilo Morales Tax (1) suffers from severe malnutrition. His mother, Maria (18), has mental issues and became pregnant with Josue as the result of a sexual assault. They are from the indigenous village of San Gabriel.



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



**OUR FIFTH HOUSE BUILDING** project of 2014 will be for Rosario and her family in Jucanya. Abandoned by her husband, Rosario works as a domestic. Sadly, hernias and surgery limit her ability to work. Her hardships continued when she was raped while recuperating from one of her surgeries.

Her daughter Jasmin is afflicted with arthritis.

Porch de Salomon is partnering with another not-for-profit, Aldea Maya, which focuses on work across Lake Atitlan, on this project (they introduced us to this opportunity). Our incoming June teams will complete the funding, and supply building labor, to help give this family a shot of help and hope.

## CUBA! *by Lloyd*

After a 10-year hiatus, Melanie and I returned to visit our sister church in Cifuentes, Cuba for a week with an UMVIM team.

Our primary "mission" was to deliver \$10,000 (from designated donations to Porch de Salomon) for the purchase of a house-church building in Sagua La Grande, Cuba. This town, larger than Cifuentes, has no Protestant church. It was amazing that the Methodist conference was able to purchase a classy 99 year-old building (shown below) which will accommodate the house church and a pastor's family right away.



In addition to four suitcases jammed with provisions, and two guitars, we also delivered money for a keyboard (from Waukeena UMC) and other money which provided for things like a concrete floor for Dulce and David's humble house, which serves as a small house-church mission. The Cubans' faith inspires us!



The general situation in Cuba remains sad; little freedom and opportunity, a sick economy, not enough food/medicine/clothing, and a sense of always waiting for real change, which the dictatorship blocks.

Disturbing though it be, this is fertile ground for the Way to take hold (and it has, God be praised). We invite you to join us in praying for Cuba and welcome your questions.



**MAY BEGAN** with Team Memorial UMC (Fernandina Beach, FL) joining us for construction and four days of free village medical clinics. This fun and lively group was a blessing to us and to many. Their team leader wrote:

*We give thanks to God for blessing our team with good health and strength. We hope He is pleased with our efforts to let his love shine through us. Every day we experienced his grace and saw his face in each of the 545 patients we served as well as the members of the family who will receive a new home or services at the community center that MUMC has helped to fund.*

*It was an honor to work beside the Porch de Salomon team as they care for "the least of these". Linda Twiggs*



(Above) Teamers Kay and Ellen joined our local building team.

(Left, far right) Linda Twiggs, R.N., along with the clinic pharmacy staff.

(Right): Candelaria (71) has lost her left eye, leaving only the open socket, due to cancer. Our clinic team treated the socket .



**PORCH'S SIXTH HOUSE**

**BUILDING** project for this year is for Liandra's family in Barrio San Bartolo, Solola. This indigenous family of seven lives in a humid, crumbling, adobe (mud brick) and tin shack with a dirt floor. They have rough board beds, a toilet which does not work, and a "kitchen" in terrible condition.

Liandra (47) has been a widow for six years; her husband drank himself to death. She suffers from asthma, as does her oldest daughter. The dirt floor (which turn to damp mud in the rainy season) aggravates both her and her daughter's asthma.

Our incoming June teams will fund and help build this family a life-changing new house. We thank God, these teams, and their supporters!

## PRAYERS and PRAISES

Our short-term teams:

- \* May 31—June 7: New Providence Pres. Ch (TN); construction and Bible school
- \* June 7-14: Faith Pres. Ch (FL); medical clinics, Bible school and construction
- \* June 14-21: Good Samaritan UMC (FL); construction

\*June 21-28: Waukeelah UMC/John Wesley/Providence CC: construction, medical clinics, and Bible school

\*June 28-July 5: Trinity UMC (Gainesville FL); construction

\*Healing for Melanie's broken right hand; she has serious pain, seven weeks later

\*For our faithful and generous mission partners and donors who resource Porch's service to "the least of these"



*(Left): Ana Melisa Cosigua Sicajau (2) was brought to Porch by SESAN (see story on page one) as a severely malnourished child.*

*She is shown with her hard-working mother Alejandra; she has three other children. Their father is an alcoholic who abandoned this sweet and appreciative indigeneous family from El Tablon.*

*Ana is one of the 18 new child "cases" we have taken on; we are providing her milk, vitamins, and food. As per page one, your tax-deductible of \$60 per month will fund this life-changing relief. Please consider this!*

**IN MEMORIAM, Luisa (95) who died this month. Last year's teams fulfilled her two dreams: to have a real bed and a radio.**

*Decanse en paz, hermana.*



## *Porch de Salomon*

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