

Porch de Salomon
Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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Tax-deductible Donations:
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Or on-line
www.porchdesalomon.org

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

PorchTalk

Volume 122

September 2015

TEN YEARS IN

by Lloyd and Melanie

*Praise the Lord with the harp; make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.
Sing to him a new song. Psalm 33*

11 years ago, God clearly confirmed our "crazy" call to Guatemala in a mission church on the outskirts of Guatemala City with this scripture: "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you. ... I will bless you; and you will be a blessing." *Genesis 12:1-2*. Ten years ago, we left much of what was familiar and moved, in obedience, to Panajachel to begin God's work through Porch de Salomon.

We've been blessed, true to God's promise. We praise Him for allowing us to serve and be a blessing in the ways we envisioned, as well as in other ways we didn't expect. We strive to depend on God's divine power, more than our own, in our lives and in the ministry of Porch de Salomon.

We are thankful for our volunteers Lindsey, Laura, Joe, Fred, Rich, Rex, Kathie, and Brian as well as Noe, Mirna, Nik, Jeydi, and our other Guatemalan workers' year-round work. We thank God for health, safety, provision and resourcing. We also thank you for your love, prayers, encouragement, visits, and financial support; most times, ministry costs money.

Here are some ministry highlights from our tenth year in-country, remembering; "*Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.*" *II Corinthians 10:17*:

- * Hosting 30 short-term mission teams which provided:
 - 11 new, furnished houses for indigenous families (and local jobs for Guatemalans)
 - The Chuaxic Community Center and Xecotoj Library buildings (with *terazzas*!)
 - 26 free medical, dental, audiology, and vision clinics for indigenous people; including five long-distance clinics in the grossly underserved *Boca Costa* region
 - Bible schools, children's church, and fun for native children
- * Expanded humanitarian relief; weekly food, clothing/shoes, SESAN malnourished children milk/food, medicine, medical care, and more for indigenous and street people, physical therapy and care for special needs kids, nutrition and surgery for cleft-palate children

(Continued on page three)



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



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TEN YEARS IN *(continued from page one)*

- * Over 80 “Beca” school scholarships provided to indigenous children, youth, and adults
 - * 25 more *Utz Jay* clean water, home purification systems emplaced
 - * 20 more efficient *Ecoplancha* family woodstoves installed
 - * Beginning sustainability training events for indigenous women
- * Operating our Solomon’s Porch Café/Hotel California facility for daily service, community events, entertainment, and a venue for the Way to be lived out in the #4 hippie travel destination worldwide (toptenz.com)
- * Weekly worship gatherings at Solomon’s Porch; lives changed and hope offered
- * Being “salt and light” in places of despair and spiritual darkness through service, relationships, school support, and live music outreach-- in bars, local benefits, and music festivals
 - * Acquiring a new Toyota van (*The Becky Bus*)-- look for the upcoming story!
 - * Alcohol/drug treatment, rehabilitation, and support—including hosting AA chapters, in-house treatment, teaching, food, jobs, detoxification, encouragement and continued partnership with the *Casa Tat Loy* rehab center
 - * Hosting and deploying interns and individual volunteers for mission work and global service experience.
- * Continued partnership with stateside congregations to encourage *transformation* and effective local, national, cross-cultural, and global mission

This would not have happened without folks like you, our “senders” and supporters -- again, *GRACIAS!* If you feel led to move from observer to supporter or participant, [please get on board](#) and get in touch with us!





Melanie and Lloyd's summer furlough/promo "tour" continues through October 15:

- September 6: St. Teresa Beach Community Church
 - Sept. 8: Northstar Church and Trinity UMC (FL) Missions
 - September 13: Hughson UMC (California!)
 - September 15: Amador County UMC churches (CA)
 - September 20: Centenary UMC (CA)
 - September 22: Killearn UMC Mission Committee (FL)
 - September 27: The Village Church at World Golf Village (FL)
 - October 4: Element3 Church (FL)
- Come out and join us (or just contact us) if you wish!

WE INVITE YOU TO help us advance Porch's high-impact work, in our second decade, with monthly, tax-deductible auto-donations in whatever multiple of "10" you choose. \$30, \$40, \$50, or \$60 monthly can help us make a difference in the lives of many. Of course, we welcome \$100 and \$1000 (or whatever!) lump-sum donations as well! Don't delay—please contact me now and we'll discuss and work through any questions you may have. Thanks, *Lloyd*



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