

Porch de Salomon
Panajachel, Guatemala

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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 133

September 2016

11 YEARS OF LEAVEN *by Lloyd and Melanie*

[Jesus] said, "To what shall I liken the kingdom of God? It is like leaven, which a woman took and hid in three measures of meal till it was all leavened.

Luke 13 (NKJV)

leaven/'le-vən\ : a substance that makes dough rise and become light
: something that makes a situation less serious (*Merriam/Webster*)

12 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*. 11 years ago, we left much of what was familiar and moved, in obedience, to Panajachel to be and bring leaven there, 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 are thankful for our volunteers Lindsey, Laura, Joe, Fred, Rich, Rex, Robin, Jayne, Kathie, and Brian as well as Noe, Mirna, Jeydi, Jose, Eugenia, 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 eleventh year in-country, remembering;
"Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." II Corinthians 10:17:

- * Hosting 30 short-term mission teams which helped provide:
 - 10 new, furnished houses for indigenous families (and local jobs for Guatemalans)
 - 27 free medical, dental, audiology, and vision clinics for indigenous people; including four long-distance clinics in the grossly underserved *Boca Costa* region
 - Bible schools, children's church, and fun for native children

(Continued on page three)



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





11 YEARS OF LEAVEN *(continued from page one)*

- * **Ever-expanding humanitarian relief**; weekly food, clothing/shoes, malnourished children milk/food, medicine, medical care, beds, and more for indigenous and street people, physical therapy and care for special needs kids, nutrition and surgery for cleft-palate children
 - * Hiring a full-time, indigenous social worker to enhance our effectiveness
 - * Over 100 “Beca” school scholarships provided to indigenous children and youth, including two 13 year-old baby mothers
 - * 26 more *Utz Jay* clean water, home purification systems emplaced
 - * 18 more *Ecoplancha* family woodstoves installed
 - * Sustainability training events for indigenous women
 - * Four single-mother family sustainability business projects launched
 - * 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
 - * Purchasing property to allow modest expansion of our café and hotel (for team hosting), and to use the property’s house as our humanitarian relief office/center/storage
 - * 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
 - * 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
- All this “leavening” 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:

- September 6 (luncheon): Trinity UMC Tallahassee, FL
- September 11: Providence Christian Church (Nicholasville, KY)
- September 12: New Providence Presbyterian Church (Maryville, TN)
- September 17-18: St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church (Harrods Creek, KY)
- * September 18: Maxwell Street Presbyterian Church (Lexington, KY)
- September 25: Miccosukee UMC (FL)

Join us if you can! We'd love to see you.

WE INVITE YOU, on our 11th anniversary, to help advance Porch's high-impact *leavening* work with monthly tax-deductible auto-donations in whatever multiple of "11" you choose. \$33, \$44, \$55, or \$66 monthly can help us make a difference in the lives of many. Of course, we welcome \$110 and \$1100 (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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