

## *Porch de Salomon*

Panajachel, Guatemala  
porchdesalomon.org

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Tax-deductible donations to:  
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Fernandina Beach, FL  
32035-3105  
Or online at  
[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://www.porchdesalomon.org)

- \*Short-term service/mission teams in Guatemala
- \*Humanitarian relief for indigenous families and others
- \*Café Hotel California/Solomon's Porch ministry
- \*Self-sustainable micro-businesses
- \*Helping transform churches and individuals

# PorchTalk

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## COMPASSION IN ACTION

“Too often we underestimate the power of a small act of caring.”— *Leo Buscaglia*  
“Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.”— *Colossians 3:12 (ESV)*



Porch de Salomon has broken ground on a new home for the Coj Bocel family! A year ago, Petrona’s husband abandoned her and their children: Maria, Santa, Blanca, Carlos, Oscar, and Esmeralda, leaving them without support. Petrona and her daughters find occasional crop-cleaning jobs, while her mother Paula sells herbs in town—but together they earn very little. Soon, this family will receive a safe, dignified home providing a foundation of hope for their future.



“For the lost, the least, and the last”

**BRINGING HOPE, HOMES, AND JOY TO  
FAMILIES IN NEED**



We hosted excellent teams — Beachside, Dirty Feet, Friendcation, Northstar, and St. Benedict Catholic Church! Together, they helped to lay the foundations for new homes and new beginnings.



These teams aren't just building houses, but they're building relationships from working alongside families to sharing moments shopping, enjoying pedicures, and eating banana splits for the first time. Their compassion and joy make every moment meaningful.



We're deeply grateful to our volunteers and donors whose generosity makes hope possible. Your time, resources, and love help transform lives one home, one family, and one act of kindness at a time.



**Porch de Salomon is honored to begin building a new home for the Bixcul Quieju family. Juan has been sober for seven years, and together with Andrea's strength and faith, they continue to provide for their children: Sebastián, Juan, Jonathan, Dulce, Heidi, and Emilio, despite limited income and challenging living conditions. They dream of a safe home and a better future for their kids, and we're thrilled to walk alongside them in this new chapter. Thank you to everyone who helps make this hope possible!**



**Teams go above and beyond to provide new shoes, a true luxury in Guatemala. Their generosity brings not only comfort but also dignity and joy to the families we serve.**

## VOLUNTEER PORCHLIGHT

Since Porch de Salomon's inception in 2005, we have depended exclusively on stateside volunteers rather than paid folks for administrative tasks. Of course, that lowers Porch's overhead. We appreciate them very much!

Porch de Salomon highlights Calvin Stephens, a seasoned CPA who brings both skill and compassion to our mission.



Before starting his accounting career in 1985, Calvin spent seven and a half years teaching junior high. He and his wife Kay have been married since 1980 and have two grown daughters. Their journey together began at Memorial United Methodist Church in Fernandina Beach. After semi-retiring in 2017, Calvin followed Kay to Panajachel in 2023 for their first service trip with a Memorial UMC team. Our treasurer continues to serve through Porch both stateside and on site.



Porch staff organized a Community Safety Program for our school scholarship students. The session focused on safety and awareness, helping students learn how to protect themselves and make wise choices in their daily lives. We're proud to invest in our students' education, well-being, and confidence as they grow into leaders in their communities.

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