

Porch de Salomon
Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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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

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WAITING FOR JESUS

On the other side of the lake the crowds welcomed Jesus, because they had been waiting for him. Luke 8:40 NLT

What I have to come realize is that Jesus doesn't want us to wait for Him to return. He wants us to get busy being the light of the world and the salt of the earth. He wants us to be His ambassadors of His Kingdom in our community. He wants us to "be Christ" to people around us who have never seen Him, or heard His voice. He wants us to be His hands and His feet to show compassion to people who don't deserve it, but so desperately need it anyway – just like us. Keith Giles, author



March was an exciting and impactful month for Porch de Salomon's service and outreach in Guatemala. This issue contains examples of us and our teams doing the things Mr. Giles references above.

We thank you, our mission partners, for your prayers, your interest, and your financial support, which undergird all we do to bring and "be" Jesus now.

(Left) A street on the other side of Lake Atitlan is decorated with beautiful colored sawdust. The crowd waits for the hand-carried Jesus float to pass by during this *Viernes Santo* (Good Friday) ritual.

Samuel Par waits for "his Jesus" from inside our confinement house in *El Tablon*. Luis Castellanos, Samuel's caretaker, feeds him, gives him his anti-psychotic medicine, cleans up behind him, and bathes him five times per week.

Many of our readers will remember Samuel as the indigenous father whose schizophrenia resulted in him being chained to a light pole, in the elements, for six years.

Let us know if you'd like to help fund Porch's care of Samuel, including Luis's modest wages and transportation expenses.



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

JESUS SHOWED UP!

Teams Killearn UMC/John Wesley UMC (FL) and Crossroads UMC (VA) brought house construction skill and brawn to bear last month. They also provided and funded four days of free village medical clinics, seeing almost 600 patients. Many of these indigenous patients had never seen a health care provider before.



Barbara Williams, M.D.,
in clinic

Our team had a really valuable time at Porch; it was an awesome experience. Thanks for all you do to serve Christ in Guatemala. We are privileged to be a part of the Porch mission! Team leader Linda Bianco, PA (shown above).



These intrepid college students, Julia Chodyla and Alex Dobek, gave up their spring break to help build an indigenous family house. *Bravo chicos!*



Melanie and I will be stateside April 18 – May 30. We'll speak before partner churches, new and old, in Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. Join us or let us know if you'd like to get together for a chat. We welcome your ideas and input. Thanks! Lloyd
dlloydmonroe@gmail.com or 850.688.2076.

Porch de Salomon is pleased to have commenced our next house construction project, for Juana Sicajau and Mario, in Xibalbay (*right*). This humble indigenous family lives in a crumbling adobe, one-room house with a dirt floor and a leaky roof. They drape plastic sheeting inside to mitigate the leaks and drafts.

The family has no running water or electricity. They cook on an open fire which coats the walls in creosote. Their latrine/outhouse is shown below.

With Mario suffering the effects of a broken back, Juana's work hand-washing clothes yields a family income of less than \$40 each month.

As our short-term teams labor to build the house, our staff will explore micro-business options so that the family can have a brighter future.



Nicolasa and her sons are but a few of the beneficiaries of the vitamins, clothes, shoes, toothbrushes, and more our teams bring down. *Gracias a todos!*

Nicolas (36) suffers from kidney failure; his wife Tomasa (34) supports their indigenous family, in Panimache, hand-washing clothes. She earns \$8 weekly.

Porch provides, each month:
 *\$120 for semi-weekly dialysis
 *\$60 for foodstuffs for the family.

Please contact me if you'd like to fund either of these "Jesus arrived" expenses for a month, a quarter, or a year. *Gracias! Lloyd*





WAITING FOR JESUS *by Lloyd*

...in the form of groceries.

Noe, Lonny, and I were privileged to accompany Casa Tat Loy principal Bill Peebles and his friend Mike to the humble CTL drug/alcohol rehab center on Maundy Thursday. I had not visited in a while and was, once again, struck by the devastating effect of addiction, the humble dorm rooms (as many as 18 men per room, in bunks), and the facility's efforts to restore men and their families.

A faithful Porch partner donated \$250 for groceries each month, for years. (*Thank you SW!*) Now in retirement, she is reducing her donation to \$50 per month.

Please contact me to help Porch continue with the \$250 monthly grocery contribution so that these men (63 at our visit) can eat well.



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