

## Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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### Tax-deductible Donations:

Porch de Salomon  
PO Box 10509

Tallahassee FL 32302-2509

Or on-line

[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://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 136

December 2016

## WHAT HAVE [WE] DONE? ANOTHER YEAR OVER

*So this is Christmas, and what have you done?*

*Another year over, and a new one just begun.*

*... For weak and for strong. For rich and the poor ones... (Lennon/Ono, 1971)*

*Why? What have you done? Jesus answered "My kingdom is not an earthly kingdom." John 18*

2016 may have been Porch de Salomon's most impactful year ever. As mentioned last month, our work and facility are both bursting at the seams. It's good!

Now, at year's end, we reflect on "what have you done?":

- Our multi-faceted work and outreach positively impacted hundreds of Guatemalan families, many of whom were in desperate straits
- Thousands of North Americans heard our message. Hundreds "put their hand to the plow" by serving in Guatemala
- We did our best to honor Jesus of Nazareth's teachings and life in it all
- Our mission partners and supporters prayed for us, encouraged us, and supported Porch's work and outreach with their money, some in sacrificial fashion. Thank you and bless you all!

(At right) Jose Santos Aju (41) lost his right leg in a motorcycle accident this year. A husband and father of three, he can chop firewood on one leg but can no longer work selling seeds and plants in other villages. We hope to provide him with a prosthetic leg so that he can again become a good provider for his family. \$1800 will fund our direct cost! Please consider.



Juan Manuel Lopez (22, at left with his family) also lost a leg this past year. He worked as an *ayudante* (helper) on a public bus. Outside gang members shot him as part of an extortion plot. He cannot work now.

\$1200 will fund a new prosthetic leg and allow him to be employed again. We'd like to train him for a different line of work! Please help this young family regain their footing with your donation.

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





**“What have you done?” Our recent teams.....have great answers! Team Geist Christian Church (Indianapolis IN) and Team Trinity UMC (Tallahassee ) helped build houses, conducted medical clinics, dental clinics, and Bible schools (some in the remote *Boca Costa* region). We appreciate them, their churches, and supporters!**



**Jason “Stray” teaches our free English classes and does a great job. English proficiency is a life-changer. Please fund one or more months of his \$100 salary.**

**SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITIES**  
**Your tax-deductible donations have high impact in Guatemala!**

- \*One month’s physical or speech therapy for a special needs Guatemalan child (\$50)
- \*One month’s protein (eggs, beans, and milk) for an indigenous family (\$60)
- \* One month’s milk and medicine for a severely malnourished infant (\$60)
- \* *Utz Jay* clean water system for a family (\$90)
- \* One month’s salary for our part-time English teacher “Stray” (\$100)
- \*One month’s in-patient alcohol/drug rehab for an addicted person (\$125)
- \* An *Ecoplancha* efficient/clean woodstove for an indigenous family (\$175)
- \*Chicken coop start-up (with chicks, feed, etc.) for an indigenous family (\$200)
- \* Self-sustainability seminar/material for an indigenous women’s group (\$275)

**It’s easy! Just use our donation address or link from page one, please.**



**OUR MINISTRY FACILITY ENLARGEMENT** is underway, as detailed in our November *PorchTalk*. Porch still has a long way to go to raise the necessary funds. We have great memorial or honorary donation opportunities available, starting at \$5000. We welcome smaller donations as well--- all are tax-deductible. **“What have you done?” Please consider doing this! Gracias!!**

## WE NEED YOUR HELP

by Lloyd

Porch de Salomon is a small not-for-profit which demonstrates God's love, expressed best through the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, to "the lost, the least, and the last" and others. We strive to do this through creative, "right risk-taking" service and outreach: from the streets and bars of Panajachel, to the incredibly poor shacks of the indigenous villages of Guatemala's Lake Atitlan Basin, to the air-conditioned, padded-pew comfort of our stateside partner churches.

Melanie and I continue in our 12th year of full-time service. We appreciate the sacrifices our volunteers Lindsey, Joe, and Laura have made to be a part of the work (as well as our paid Guatemalan workers!) God has blessed Porch and our families by providing for these years of ministry through the generosity of our stateside partner churches and supporters. Thanks be to Him--and you. Porch de Salomon's work is only possible through your generous financial support.

Every need we meet, when we answer "what have you done," costs money. Our monthly ministry/outreach budget is \$12,500—while this is sizeable, it allows us to deliver efficient, high-impact, life-changing hope, help, and service. Please consider:

- 1) making a year-end, tax-deductible general support donation or;
- 2) funding one of the special needs featured in this newsletter or scholarships (*below*) or;
- 3) making a much-needed monthly/quarterly/annual pledge for 2017.

This will help us have more good things to report when "another year over" rolls around.

*Thank you! See page one for donation instructions or contact me at [dlloydmonroe@gmail.com](mailto:dlloydmonroe@gmail.com) (or 850.688.2076) for more information. We welcome appreciated stock donations (tax-advantaged!) as well.*

### ***Please provide NEW SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2017***

In Guatemala, over 50% of indigenous teenagers have not completed third grade. On average, indigenous Guatemalan women have only 3.5 years of school. Grinding poverty is the predominant cause of this problem; families simply cannot afford school as they struggle to put food on the table each day.

Here are three more of our current indigenous scholarship candidates (*at right, from top*) described by Lindsey Newberry, who is heading our scholarship efforts:

*Neyda Fabiola Sanic Mendez's (15) mother died in 2006; her father abandoned them long ago. Neyda is being raised by her aunt. The aunt sells vegetables to support them. Both cried so hard when we told them Neyda might receive a scholarship.*

*Hovaldo Javier Choy Chiroy (14) is from San Andres Semetabaj. His father's mental illness prevents him from having a steady job. Hovaldo's mother works hard cleaning houses and earns \$2 per day. They are a sweet family. Hovaldo works as a construction ayudante (helper) and gathers firewood. All his earnings go straight to his mother to help pay for food. He dreams of becoming an architect. Hovaldo cried so very hard when we told him he might receive a beca.*

*Eimy Noelia Morales Ajcalon's (12) alcoholic father doesn't have a steady job. Her mother picks peas and beans in the fields, earning \$3.50 per day (while a man would earn \$5 daily for the same work). Eimy wants to become a doctor to help others and to help provide for her mother and her little brothers.*

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Each year since 2006, Porch de Salomon has provided school scholarships ("Becas") through the generosity of our *Beca* donors. In 2016, our donors funded over 100 scholarships! We are now inviting and accepting donations for the 2017 school year (which runs from January to October).

These annual scholarships cost \$240 each. Lindsey will match donors with a recipient! Please consider funding one or more of these life-changing gifts.

Contact us directly with your questions or to say "Yes" – [newberry.lindsey@gmail.com](mailto:newberry.lindsey@gmail.com) or call 850.688.2076.





**“A new one just begun.”** Yes, Melanie and Lloyd’s daughter Hannah and son-in-law Patrick Flemming began their new marriage at the Monroe homestead in Waukeelah, FL on November 5! A good time was had by all at the open-air ceremony, fish fry, and dance. (At right) Brother Stephen Monroe and the loving couple in the “surrey with the fringe on top” moments after the ceremony concluded.



**SAVE (and share!) THIS ISSUE... our next *PorchTalk* will be February’s**



**Best wishes for a blessed and happy holiday season and a prosperous 2017 from our in-country Porch team!**

**Their jobs with Porch de Salomon/Hotel California/Solomon’s Porch Cafe support the families of our eight full-time Guatemalan staffers, as well as part-time workers, and our seven contract builders (the latter of whom are not shown).**

**Your donations and support make the work and witness of Porch de Salomon possible. *Gracias, y Feliz Navidad!***

*Porch de Salomon*  
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