

⌘ PorchTalk

Volume 158

December 2018

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

Lloyd and Melanie Monroe

Founders/Directors

dlloydmonroe@gmail.com

melaniemonroe@gmail.com

011.502.7762.0460

850.688.2076

Mirna Recinos Aceituno

Facility/Hotel/Finance

mirnarecinos2003@gmail.com

011.502.7762.0793

Humanitarian Relief

Co-Directors:

Noe Benjamin Perez

noebenjaminperez@gmail.com

011.502.5945.1313

Hilda Mux Son

hilda.son03@gmail.com

011.502.5850.8629

Robin Bateman

Treasurer

treasurerpds@gmail.com

850.321.8243

Rex Ware

Assistant Treasurer/Support

rexware@floridasalestax.com

850.933.0344

Jayne Mittan, P.A.

Medical Liaison

jaynemittan@gmail.com

850.212.6593

Tax-deductible Donations:

Porch de Salomon

PO Box 10509

Tallahassee FL 32302-2509

Or on-line

www.porchdesalomon.org

*Short-term mission teams
in Guatemala

*Humanitarian relief for
indigenous families and others

*Café Hotel California/
Solomon's Porch ministry

*Live music outreach

* Helping transform churches
and individuals

EXTEND YOUR SOUL...LIGHT SHALL DAWN

If you extend your soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.

Isaiah 58:10 (NKJV)

Extend: a. to stretch out to fullest length

b. to make available (*Merriam-Webster Dictionary*)

[Jesus] is a light to reveal God to the nations. *Simeon, at Luke 2:32 (NLT)*

Porch de Salomon enjoyed a busy and impactful November with short-term teams, incarnational ministry, and our never-ending outreach and service in Guatemala's Lake Atitlan Basin.

This month's issue contains creative examples of folks extending their souls, not just to the hungry (Guatemala suffers from the world's tenth-worst chronic malnutrition rate), but also to people hungry for something that doesn't go in their stomachs. Doing so let light dawn, as we approach Christmas, when "light" is a core concept.

Porch's mission partners and donors extend and stretch their souls through their generous financial donations. That lets light dawn in or through their lives: sometimes directly, sometimes vicariously, through Porch's service and outreach. *Gracias!*

We invite our readers' attention and your year-end support, please. *Lloyd*



(Above) Team Mark/Sue Williams' Annie uses rebar on a concrete column. (Left) That same team's Dr. Tori Williams and her patient light up.



Panajachel's 54 garbage collectors and traffic/street police were not paid for two months.

Mirna and Noe "extended Porch's soul" through the idea of providing a good food pack to each of them. This included 60 eggs, milk, beans, soya protein, oatmeal, oil, rice, sugar, and more.

It was a pleasure seeing them come by Hotel California for their victuals. A generous team-member couple donated \$1000 of the total \$1500 cost.



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



SOUL EXTENSIONS AND LIGHT included November's Team Mark/Sue Williams (*above left*) and Team Christ the Shepherd Lutheran: (*above*) moving a 700# *pila* sink and working alongside Rosa Tzay's daughter Nataly (11).

Porch mission partner Jim Thompson posted on Facebook: My business colleague Jay is also a volunteer firefighter in Indiana. In August, he told me their department had surplus firefighting gear. He wondered if it could be used in Guatemala. Coincidentally, Lloyd and Melanie were coming to stay with us. When they arrived I told them about the gear. Lloyd responded, "Do you know the Panajachel department's gear was recently stolen when they went to Guatemala City for training?" Neither I, nor anyone here in the States knew this.

We contacted the various short-term mission teams going to Panajachel this fall. Jay shipped the boxes to them and they repacked it all as checked luggage. The Lord does provide. *Jim*

(*Right*): Porch's Noe, Pana's volunteer department chief, is shown, at center, with the "muled" gear and a fellow Pana firefighter.



LIGHT SHALL DAWN in a new way, for Macario (26) and Rebeca's (25) indigenous family in steep *Santa Catarina Palopo*. Macario has been one of Porch's faithful contract house builders since he was 18 years old. He has supervised hundreds of our short-term teams' house builders in patient, skilled, and friendly fashion. This family lives in a 4 m x 2 m room, and borrows an outhouse, kitchen, and washing "*pila*" area (*right*). Now, they will begin construction of a quality two-story house on their 6 m x 6 m property, through a \$13,000 grant from Porch. The material costs more than usual because it must be hand-carried up the village's steep paths. Please contact me if you'd like to help fund this life-changing initiative for a young man who has helped Porch improve many other lives. *Lloyd*



WE NEED YOUR HELP

by Lloyd

Porch de Salomon is a medium-sized non-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 14th year of full-time service. We appreciate the work of Porch's Guatemalan workers, our volunteers, and short-term team members. God has blessed Porch and our families by providing for these years of ministry through the generosity of our partner churches, mission partners, and supporters. Thanks be to God--and you. Porch de Salomon's work is only possible through your generous financial support.

Every need we meet, as we deliver and reflect Jesus "light," in service, word, or deed, costs money. Our monthly ministry/outreach budget is \$24,000—while sizeable, it allows us to deliver efficient, high-impact, life-changing hope, help, and service. Please *extend your soul* by:

- 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 2019.

This will help us deliver more light, and see joy dawn in the faces and lives of the recipients.

See page one for donation instructions or contact me at dlloydmonroe@gmail.com (or 850.688.2076) for more information. We welcome appreciated stock donations, or direct IRA donations, (both tax-advantaged!) as well. Thank you!

Please provide NEW 2019 SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

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.

Each year since 2006, Porch de Salomon has provided school scholarships through the generosity of our *beca* donors. In 2018, our donors funded 165 scholarships!

Here are two new, 2019 *beca* scholarship candidates (*right*):

Estela (14) is one of four children; her father farms with a hoe, and her mother is an indigenous weaver. She had to quit school last year because they could not afford Estela's education any longer. Estela is a smart girl who hopes to help her village's children when she grows up.

Angel (13) hopes to enter eighth grade in January. Abandoned as an infant by his parents, he has been raised by his loving grandparents, who no longer have the money to send Angel to school.

We are now inviting and accepting donations for the 2019 school year (which runs from January to October). These annual scholarships cost \$240 each. Hilda will match donors with a recipient! Please consider funding one or more of these life-changing gifts. Contact us directly with your "Yes" or your questions; hilda.son03@gmail.com or call Lloyd at 850.688.2076. *Gracias!*



SPECIAL GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Your tax-deductible donations have high impact in Guatemala!

*One month's protein (eggs, beans, milk, more) for an indigenous family (\$60)

* One month's milk and medicine for a severely malnourished infant (\$60)

* A multi-purpose, concrete *pila* sink (\$85)

* An *Ecofiltro* clean water system for a family (\$90)

*One month's in-patient alcohol/drug rehab for an addict (\$100)

* An *Ecoplancha* efficient woodstove for an indigenous family (\$195)

It's easy! Please use our donation address or link from page one.

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

Best wishes for a blessed and happy holiday season and a prosperous 2019 from our in-country Porch team, Melanie, Lloyd, and our faithful volunteers Robin, Rex, and Jayne!

Their jobs with Porch de Salomon/Hotel California/Café support the families of our 14 full-time Guatemalan staffers, as well as part-time workers, and our six contract builders (most of whom are not shown). “Extend[ing] your soul,” through your donations and support, make these jobs and the work and witness of Porch de Salomon possible. *Gracias, y Feliz Navidad!*



Porch de Salomon’s two-year facility expansion is complete: cafe, restrooms, hotel/team rooms, laundry room, parking spaces, and humanitarian relief building remodeling, God be praised.

Our humanitarian relief staff will move into the remodeled building (behind Hotel California) by December 15—without Porch incurring debt! We thank our mission partners, special facility expansion donors, God, our builder Tono Mucun and his workers, and Mirna Recinos for her excellent oversight.

(Shown) Team Williams helped Melanie move the clothing, medicine, equipment, dental chairs, and more into the new *bodega* (storage room).

Porch de Salomon
P.O. BOX 10509
Tallahassee FL 32302-2509
www.porchdesalomon.org
and on 

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