Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on facebook

Lloyd and Melanie Monroe Founders/Directors dlloydmonroe@gmail.com 011.502.7762.0460 (stateside) 850.688.2076 melanietmonroe@gmail.com

Mirna Recinos Aceituno Solomon's Porch/Hotel California mirnarecinos2003@gmail.com 011.502.7762.0793

011.502.5927.1324

Noe Benjamin Perez Humanitarian Relief Director noeben jaminperez@gmail.com 011.502.5945.1313

Lindsey Newberry Choguaj Field Coordinator newberry.lindsey@gmail.com 011.502.5931.6398

Rex Ware Stateside Support Team/ Assistant Treasurer rex@radeylaw.com 850.524.7583

Robin Bateman Treasurer treasurerpds@gmail.com 850.321.8243

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

> *Solomon's Porch Café ministry

*Live music outreach

* Helping transform churches and individuals

PorchTalk

Volume 142

July 2017

COMPARE

.... you have done great things, O God, who can compare to you? Psalms 71:19 (NET)





Porch de Salomon's June was a busy one, packed with short-term teams and more, positively impacting hundreds of lives in Guatemala's Western Highlands. We invite your attention to this issue, to sample a bit of what we experienced.

Compare the photos of Marta Julia and her daughters, above. The one on the right reflects help, hope, and health for them. Living in a dirt-floor, cardboard walled shack (at left) without sufficient food, they could never afford the traditional, indigenous traje garments the indigenous women yearn to wear. Thanks to our partnership with Dirty Feet Missions, they now own this clothing, and look forward to receiving a new house and to becoming educated. We imagine they will forever compare their "before and after" lives.

(Below, right) Lonny trains new foundation "steel tying disciples" from Team Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church (GA). We compare this photo to the times, years back, when Lonny's looks reflected his sad state of alcoholism.

(Below, left) Martin entered Casa Tat Loy's detox/rehab program last month destitute (as did Lonny, years ago). He is one of the eight men Porch is currently sponsoring there. Let us know if you'd like to help fund one (\$100 per month).





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



FROM OUR SUMMER INTERN....

In *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe,* Lucy steps into a new world unlike anything she has ever experienced. I felt like that as I entered Guatemala June 7th; seeing lush green mountains, black smoke puffing from the exhaust pipes of chicken buses, toothless smiles, vibrant clothes, malnutrition, salsa dancing, rusty tin roofs, and more.

Toothless smiles are in abundance at *Golden Years*, the adult day-care center. Our presence, laughter, bubbles and silly skit brought them so much joy. One of the patients called Lloyd up and said that they needed more financial support and they would love a trip to Lake Atitlan. I expected a polite, "We'll see what we can do," but to my surprise Lloyd said "yes," on the spot. I saw an organization that says "yes" to loving people well, with the confidence that the Lord will provide, in abundance.

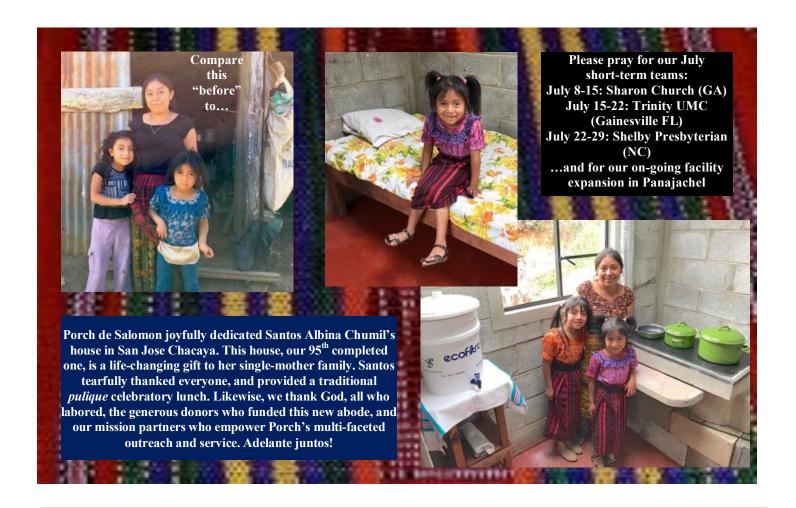
I'm helping Eugenia and Jeydi with our nutrition plans for malnourished families. I guide short-term teams to dinner. I join in as they tackle projects with enthusiasm, whether it's a day of the dreaded gravel bucket line up-the-mountain

or the head-to-toe mud "art" that digging foundation footers sometimes requires. During a rain break we hosted a dance party in the indigenous girls' room. Their mother told me that I now have two more sisters. I will never forget that day.

Medical clinic teams were with us last week, and attracted a line of grateful people awaiting our help. I couldn't help but think, seeing all of this in action, of the body of Christ. "There are many parts, yet one body." 1 Cor. 12:20. I got off the plane knowing no one. As I have integrated into the living body here, I have been welcomed, loved and filled in ways that exceed anything I expected. I can't wait to see what another month will provide! Brittney Schwind

Brittney is a spunky North Georgia gal whose major at Georgia College & State University is creative writing. She's a scholarship member of the cross-country team. She is doing a great job for us!





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

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