

Porch de Salomon
Panajachel, Guatemala

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and on 

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Tax-deductible Donations:
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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

Volume 153

July 2018

QUIERES JUGAR? (*Wanna play?*)

... play skillfully, and shout for joy. Psalm 33:3



Amy McGibany's comments, below, inspired this issue's theme. While it's a cliché, our Porch teams work hard, but play hard as well!

In our faith journeys, some hear God inviting us to “get in the game” and truly follow the Way of Jesus of Nazareth, and not just spectate or relegate that to Sundays. Likewise, Porch de Salomon always invites folks to partner with us and not just watch our work. (See this month's matching donation opportunity, page three!)

(Above) *New Providence PC (TN) team members work it and play it!*

(Below) *CPA's Hunter and Amy join the footer-digging game.*

Amy McGibany: What really hit home for our girls was the connections they made with the indigenous people using a simple soccer ball. “Futbol” is a common link of simple fun across cultures. Even playing a small game in a narrow, sandy back alley next to the home-building site —kids just want to play. Here in America, we spend a lot of money playing the game...uniforms, travel, coaching, etc. In Panajachel, it just takes a ball and a willingness to ask, “*Quieres jugar?*” It reminded us that we are not that different.

Hunter Heuchan: We were so touched by the people we met and grateful that we have made some incredible new friends.

It is an undeniable gift to feel like you have impacted a person's life in a positive way, to see that impact firsthand and to feel their love and gratitude through words, tears and hugs.



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



Team Flower/Digisi served with Porch de Salomon, helping build Marta Julia Tun's house and leaving tangible benefits for that family in Guatemala's Western Highlands. It was good to have them here, and we appreciate them including our visiting nephew, Liam Smith, at the work site. His parents co-founded Porch de Salomon with us in 2005 and he lived in Panajachel for a while. *Lloyd*



Porch was also honored and pleased to host other hard-working and fun teams in June: Dream Team Duke (from all over) and Team New Providence Presbyterian (TN).



"Blocks' eye view" with Merlin, Greg, and the block line!



Porch de Salomon was pleased and humbled to complete and dedicate our fourth house of 2018 in chilly *Xaxajac*. Juana Sicajau and Mario's family life will never be the same; comparing their squalid living conditions to their neat, new house was quite the juxtaposition. They received the house free/gratis, but with a charge to live and love as generously as they can. We are thankful to our indigenous builders, our spring teams, our staff, and mission partners who put it all together-- desire, labor, money, and more. *Adelante juntos!*



Hannah Monroe wrangles one of the pigs for Juana and Mario's pig micro-business.

We appreciate our donors who specifically fund such self-sustainability projects.



MATCHING DONATION UPDATE!

As per our June newsletter, we are thrilled that a generous mission partner family will match up to \$20,000 in donations to Porch through July 31.

At press time, Porch has received to-be-matched donations of about \$12,000. Please help us achieve the complete match by donating now (see page one for directions).

Gracias!

Porch de Salomon launches our next house build on July 3. Santos (42) is a humble, hard-working, indigenous single mother. Daniel's father abandoned them the day Daniel was born, 12 years ago. Santos' work, weaving and selling snacks, yields a \$60 monthly income. Daniel, one of our school scholarship recipients, helps her with this work.

They live in two crumbling-adobe, dirt-floor rooms with a leaky, perforated, metal roof. The room is cold and wet in the rainy season, and hot and dusty during the dry season. Their sanitation facilities are deplorable. Santos fears that the old adobe house may collapse on them during an earthquake or tremor.



Our mission partners' faithful financial support and donations fund Porch's year-round service and outreach; most everything we do costs money.

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Gracias! Lloyd and all



We continued, in June, with our relief:

- to cleft palate babies like Alejandro Hernandez (nutrition, hygiene, and eventual surgery), and;
- Helping the beleaguered local hospital in many ways, including the nursing mother salon



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