

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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Or on-line

www.porchdesalomon.org

*Short-term mission/service 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

PorchTalk

Volume 174

June 2020

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

You may have been chosen... for just such a time as this.

Esther 4:14 NCV

In our 15 years of service and outreach, Porch de Salomon has "been there" for various crises in Guatemala. The first was Hurricane Stan, a mere six weeks after the Monroes moved to Panajachel in 2005.

Now, we are confident that Porch has been chosen to

help and serve during the Covid 19 pandemic. Our facilities are central and our staff is capable, willing, trusted, and resourced to serve and help.

Thanks to our faithful and generous mission partners' on-going donations, we have not needed to tap our emergency reserve funds, God be praised. Perhaps our partners feel they have been chosen to provide funds "for such a time as this." We believe you have. *Muchas gracias!*



OUR THREE-MINUTE YouTube video captures Porch de Salomon's service during the pandemic. Don't miss it!

Click the link below to view:

<https://youtu.be/rW-vDiFuntc>



This is a screenshot from the video. From left: Noe, Hilda, Mirna, and Jezer.

We are thankful that our entire staff remains gainfully employed.

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



OUR KITCHEN AND HOTEL STAFF presses on with our Tuesday and Thursday family lunch-to-go program. Between 175 and 185 Panajachelinos are being served each day.

We thank donors who have “picked up the tab” (donated) to fund the groceries involved; they cost \$135 each day. One Facebook campaign raised well over \$1000. We invite you to help us with this.

It’s easy at: <https://porchdesalomon.org/ypal/> or with paper checks as per page one. Gracias!



PANAJACHEL’S ECONOMY, tourism-dependent, remains ravaged.

This security camera screenshot, from in front of our facility, shows eerie stillness in the town’s busiest intersection.

Another spike in Corona virus cases may result in a complete, nationwide, 15-day shut down. Please pray that doesn’t happen.

Santos and Rafael’s new house in Xejuyu II was completed and dedicated last month. It has been a challenge; we thank our builders, Macario and Edras, who lived work-weeks on site to complete the house after our four remaining spring teams were cancelled.

Noe says: "In the midst of this crisis, Santos and Rafael accepted their house with tears in their eyes. They thanked God and all the teams and people involved.

They thanked Sharon Church for last year's micro- business which allowed them to stay in this community. They are happy to be in the new house as the rainy season starts. The oldest daughter, Susanna, is thankful that she will have light for homework when school resumes."

God be praised for Porch de Salomon’s 127th house!

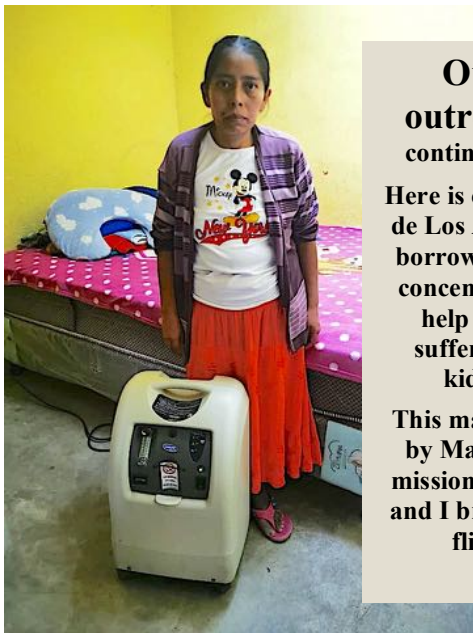


HILDA WRITES: Porch received \$1100 from two donors for food distribution; we decided this would best be used in eight indigenous villages near Panajachel, with focus on the families of our *beca* scholarship students. Those families are often poor farmers, widows, abandoned mothers, or with alcoholic fathers. Some of the few fathers we spoke with told of job loss. All the families expressed deep gratitude for the food.

Each family member also received a month's supply of vitamins from our storage. Some were nearing their expiration date.

Interestingly, the families who had worked with our short-term teams asked about the team members' well-being. They said: "The virus is scary. Please give the team members our greetings and let them know that we hope that they stay safe."

We thank the two donors and everyone who supports Porch de Salomon. We saw relief in the families' eyes when they received their food. We know how much it helped them. We want to do it again in June.



Our medical outreach and service continues, as best it can. Here is one example: Maria de Los Angeles was able to borrow one of our oxygen concentrator machines to help her breathe. She suffers from heart and kidney problems. This machine was donated by Maryville, Tennessee mission partners. Melanie and I brought it down on a flight years ago.
Lloyd

STATUS REPORT!

- * Guatemala's borders remain closed and the country on strict lock-down.
- * There are 5087 known cases in the entire country.
- * Our busy July team schedule was cancelled, with regret. We hope and pray our fall teams will be able to proceed.
- * Melanie and I remain unable to make our customary promotion and fundraising visits.

Your generous donations will help fill the financial void created by team cancellations and avoid a gap caused by no in-person promotion. Have you been "chosen...for such a time as this?" Please say "yes." *Lloyd*

Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert. *Isaiah 35:6*



XECOTOJ CLEAN WATER FUNDED!

A generous couple, who are short-term team members, just donated \$7300 to cover the cost of this water system. God be praised! Celebrate with us, people.

Porch heeded the pleas of local officials and successfully installed an 800 foot-deep water well/pump in Xecotoj. The housing project's 70 families were in desperate need of water for washing and sanitation, especially in these pandemic times.



FOOD FOR QUARANTINED FAMILIES

Local authorities asked Porch de Salomon to provide a three-week supply of food to five families which they had quarantined in Solola. We gladly complied. The groceries were left outside their doors.



No one said “yes” to this giving opportunity from our May edition. Here it is again! Are you being “chosen” to donate now?

Melvin and Jessica moved their family from the Boca Costa five years ago, seeking opportunity in Panajachel. He served as a pastor but welded for a living. When the pandemic ended public transportation, he rode a motorcycle to work in another town. His knee was severely injured in a fall. Jessica also works when there is work.

Porch is matching the \$1000 the family had in savings to fund his \$2000 knee surgery. Please consider donating to fund all or part of the surgery. Gracias!

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