

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 168

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RUACH רוח

by Lloyd

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
King David, in Psalm 51:10 (NIV)

Without the spirit, we can neither love God nor keep his commandments. *St. Augustine*



Five years ago, Melanie and I attended the Sumpango kite festival on November 1, Guatemala's *Day of the Dead*. This renowned festival features hand-made kites, some of which are 20 feet tall. It was amazing to see them launch and stay airborne. Of course, that required wind.

The Hebrew word *Ruach* means: wind, breath, and God's spirit. King David pleaded for a renewed spirit after his disastrous affair with Bathsheba. St. Augustine rightly noted our need for God's divine spirit in our lives. Too many times I fail to deeply breathe in God's spirit, and lean on it, as I press forward with life and service. God help us all to do better there!



(Above) A Boca Costa clinic patient is happy with her new walking cane.

(Left) Union CC teamer Devan's beautiful spirit was a blessing to many.



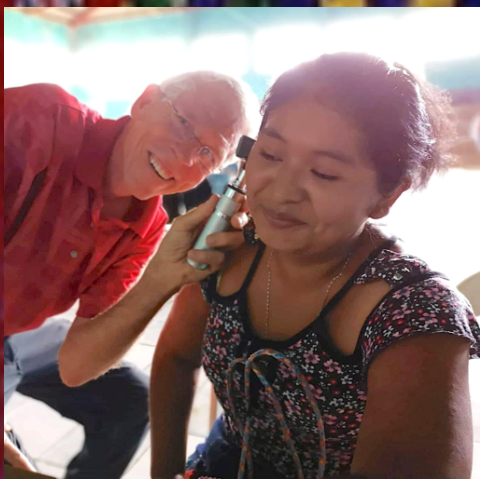
"For the lost, the least, and the last"



Angel (13) helps build his family's house.



(Above center) Our volunteer medical liaison, Jayne Mittan, again led Trinity UMC's medical team to the distant, grossly underserved Boca Costa region for two days of free clinics.
(Below left) Pete Kwiatkowski, M.D. smiles with a patient there.





New house starts!
 We hope both families will be living in them by Christmas.



Juan de Leon and Magdalena's indigenous family lives humbly on the \$135 he earns as a baker when there is a full month's work available. Magdalena (30) focuses most of her efforts on caring for Gustavo (4), who is afflicted with both Cerebral Palsy and Down's Syndrome.

Our fall teams have loved building the new house right alongside this hard-working family. Some of the team members chose to care for Gustavo during the work day, to give Magdalena a respite.

Team leader Tom Stumpf commented: *When I first received the information sheet on Gustavo's family I thought "what a burden he must be to them." Now, having seen this family up close, I was wrong. He is a joy to them and their intense love for Gustavo shines through.*



Team member Cassiana helps at meal time.

Please join us in praying for a steadfast spirit of generosity in our faithful mission partners, old and new. Their donations provide the financial "wind in Porch's sails."
 Thank you, partners. Your generous spirit and actions move us ahead.



Florinda Quino is an illiterate, single mother whose indigenous family has virtually no material resources. The husband/father abandoned them four years ago.



Florinda is a very hard worker; weaving, sewing, and making tortillas to earn \$90 monthly. Jose (14) has a second-grade education. He works as a porter for building materials, and gives his mother all he earns. They walk 30 minutes to fetch water and have no electricity. May they feel God's spirit as Porch provides them with hope and help.



Team Trinity UMC members helped deliver 100 new school desks to the INEB school in Panajachel. Many of the school's desks were decrepit. Some students sit on the floor for complete lack of a desk.

Please help us foster a spirit of learning and service by funding this \$2000 project with your donation. How about taking a 1/10 share (\$200) if you don't do it all, or half? *Ruach!*



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