

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

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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 113

November 2014

HARVEST

by Lloyd

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people... Galatians 6

The Monroe and Deeds families returned to Panajachel in October and reunited with our local Porch staff, volunteers, and community. We appreciate the way Noe, Mirna (and her facility staff), Nik, Jeydi, Joe, Laura and others “do good to all people” even when our families are on furlough/promotion. We continue to strive to not grow weary, in Porch’s tenth year of service, in doing good, in dealing with adversity (with as much Christ-like attitude as we can muster!), and in raising the resources to fund the work and bring in the harvest.

We thank those of you who have also joined our efforts as go-ers, senders, pray-ers, encouragers, and fund-ers. *Como siempre, gracias!*

October’s “harvest” included a big and rambunctious short-term team from Trinity UMC (Tallahassee) and a small and fun team from Element3. Under our medical liaison Jayne Mittan’s leadership, Team Trinity traveled to the distant *Boca Costa* region to conduct two days of free village medical/dental clinics and Bible schools. This team had the privilege of treating many indigenous patients who had never seen a medical provider before.

Another part of this team worked diligently, as did Team E3, building Micaela’s new house in the indigenous village of Chutiestancia. The site is near the road, the ground has few rocks, and it’s going up quickly!

Please enjoy the rest of this issue, with tangible examples of “harvest,” all done in Jesus’ name and to God’s glory. Speaking of harvest, the apples are ripe (and the corn is close) and Will Deed’s has created another powerful, short video entitled “Apples.” Please give it a look at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TldStaUDoQY&feature=youtu.be>

(Below): Manuela’s new family house (Porch’s #5 of 2014) is complete and in use in Semeja! Manuela and her children lived with one of her sisters in a tiny tin house. They had no running water, no electricity, no bathroom, and no furniture. They slept on the dirt floor. Our thanks to the teams who helped build (and fund) this life-changing gift.



Porch’s SST leader Rex helps Laura and others get it done!

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

Harvesters from Trinity UMC (Tallahassee) did a great work with free medical/dental clinics in the underserved *Boca Costa* region—three hours plus from Panajachel. (At right) Our faithful medical liaison, Jayne Mittan, PA, works on a little one. (Below) Quill Turk, DDS, brings relief. (Below, center) Deborah is a 16 year-old with a terrible skin malady who had never seen a medical provider previously. We hope to some day provide clinics there every other month—we only lack the necessary funding.



HOW HELP HARVEST

Our faithful and generous mission partners fund and resource Porch's harvest, our "bringing in the sheaves," with their **tax-deductible donations**. It's that simple.

We are thankful for our partners and God's provision through them! Their investment in our work is bearing fruit.

Please consider donating now. We have easy donation options for every budget (even modest monthly auto-deductions "add up"). Contact Lloyd or Rex (*page one*). *Gracias!*

(Below): Team members from Trinity UMC learn to "tie steel" at Micaela's house build. These rebar columns provide strength and a measure of earthquake protection. Team leader Frank Leonard and this church have been tremendous harvest helpers.



FOR THE PRICE OF GRANITE COUNTERTOPS, we can build a new, quality house for an indigenous family, many of who live in terrible conditions. (At right) Element3 teamers Lindsey (center) and Libby share laughs with Micaela's children outside the open-fire shack which serves as the family kitchen; smoke inhalation is a big problem.

MORE HOUSES COMPLETED! (Right): Elizabeth and her kids inside their new house's kitchen (Porch's #6 for 2014). We appreciate the hard work and funding from Teams Sharon Church, St. Paul's Christian Ch., Hunteertown UMC, Sullivan/Rhoads families, and Christ Presbyterian Ch. (Below): Manuela's daughters (see page one) beam on the first real beds they're ever had. We are thankful for our partner Dirty Feet Missions funding this new house project.



Much of October's team construction

energy focused on building a new house for Micaela's indigenous family in Chutiencia. Micaela, her two children, and her aged parents live in a leaky, dirt-floor adobe and corrugated metal, two-room house. They have an outhouse. The family only has one rickety bed, which is shared by the children.

Micaela (27) is a single mother who works washing clothes, cleaning houses, and in the farm fields. She supports her two children and her aged parents on less than \$30 a week. She is an optimistic hard worker, and has faith that her children's lives will be better.

ALL SAINTS DAY SURPRISE

Melanie and I were returning to Pana, the day after our customary band Halloween gig in Santiago Atitlan, via a convoluted route which involved a massive kite festival.

We were sitting in a public van in Godinez, for the last leg of our trip, when Lilian Flores (20) walked by, baby on her back, and recognized us. Lilian and her three children are recipients of our monthly food/protein program. Her older husband drinks too much and has hit her with a machete. Noe and Mirna like her "spunk;" consequently Porch has extended a small store micro-loan to her.

Seeing Lilian, who I didn't recognize at first, and hearing her say that the store goods she carried on her head were provided by "Solomon," inspired me in a big way! *Lloyd*





PRAYERS, please, for:

- * Teams Christ the Shepherd Lutheran (GA) and Union Cong. Ch (CO), Nov. 8-15; construction, village medical/vision clinics and Bible schools
- * Team Olive Branch Church (IN), Nov. 29—Dec. 6; construction
- * Favor in our partner churches' 2015 budgets
- * That Porch's harvest work will multiply and continue to transform folk
- * Our brothers and sisters and loved ones who strive for sobriety
- * Swift completion of our unfinished construction projects (in Chuaxic, Jucanya, and Xecotoj)
- * Rebekah's family, as they grieve the death of this 18 month-old child

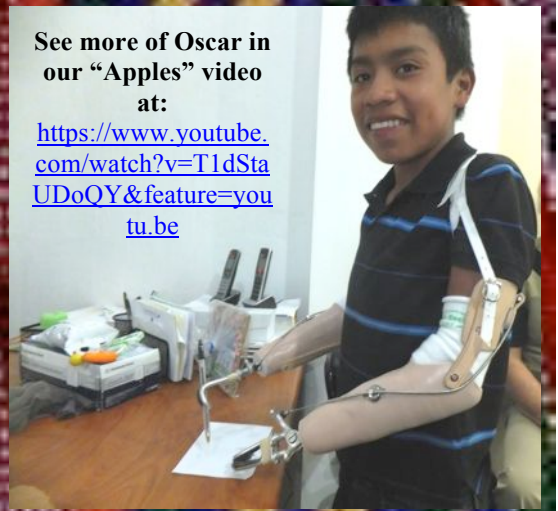
HARVEST PARTNERS!

Our long-time partner church Sardis UMC (FL) funded another set of prosthetic arms for Oscar (14, at right). The first thing this smart lad did with them was write his name.

(Above) Oscar's aunt Elizabeth's family is shown, in front of their new house, with Dirty Feet Missions founder Genia (and Eddie) at this new house's dedication day. *Gracias a todos!!*

See more of Oscar in our "Apples" video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T1dStaUDoQY&feature=youtu.be>



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