

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

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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 111

September 2014

HANDS ON

Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened....and he saw everything clearly. Mark 8:25 (NIV)

August was a great month for Porch de Salomon . It included our ninth and ten consecutive weeks of hosting short-term teams and individual volunteers in Panajachel. Whew!

At the risk of fostering a cliché, our hands often need to be “the hands of Christ”—working and loving in the world. Our 215 summer team members and volunteers put their hands on everything from buckets, to rebar and wire, to shovels, to the hand of an indigenous child or addicted brother, to guitars, to clinic patients, and to their checkbooks/debit cards.

We don't claim many vision miracles, but strive mightily to create an eye-opening experience for our visitors and for those we all serve. As these visitors engage in hands-on ministry and service, many times they see things more clearly, in a new way. As those we serve (for example, our indigenous house recipients) experience our volunteers' hands-on work, and work alongside them, many begin to see things more clearly as well. It is hard for many of them to believe that strangers from a far-away land will give of their time, talents, and treasure to help people they have never met. For some, their concept of how God works moves from the abstract to the concrete (figuratively and literally!).

We are thankful for our local staff and workers, our teams, and our generous mission partners/donors and partner churches who keep Porch de Salomon “hands on” 52 weeks a year!



(Left): former Monticello, FL home-girl Charlene learns to tie steel under Lonny's watchful eye

(Below): Team Huntertown (IN) members put their hands to sanding new beds for new houses



(Left): Christ Presbyterian (Tallahassee) teamer Elise takes a break with local kids

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

It was a joy to see Liandra's family house (our fourth in 2014!) completed and dedicated in Solola. Liandra, her daughter, and her friend Rosa all gave touching, tearful talks and expressions of gratitude (including *pulic* for lunch!). They and Porch de Salomon thank: Team New Providence (Maryville TN), Team Faith Presbyterian Church (Tallahassee FL), Team Good Samaritan UMC, Team Waukeenah UMC, Team Providence CC (KY), Team Trinity UMC Gainesville FL, the Upthegrove's and Cappellino's, our builders, and more!



(Below): Michelle Sullivan's family team conducted free vision clinics and dispensed hundreds of pairs of eyeglasses



Our friend Paul Kirkpatrick handles a shovel in Chuaxic!!

A Huntertown UMC (IN) member wrote: Thank you, Porch de Salomon, for a wonderful week! You have an awesome team and ministry! Brenda Wiley-Biggs



(Above): We were very pleased to host our first team from Christ Presbyterian Church (Tallahassee). This team put their hands on, and transported down, 12 donated Dell desktop computers for eventual use in two of our on-going building projects: the Chuaxic Community Center and Xecotoj library. Thanks, and thanks Diane and Steve Dahms for the computers !



MORE HANDS ON

(Left): Bill Lange and Bill Peebles joined us, once more, to help our partner ministry Casa Tat Loy help alcoholics and addicted men (60 in a small space!) under Tadeo's leadership (center). "The Bills," as we call 'em, are great resource raisers.

(Below) Melanie and Lloyd were thrilled to have daughter Hannah return to Pana after a four-year absence. She and her *novio*, Patrick Flemming, volunteered at a local adult day-care center.



(Below): Solomon's Porch Café hosted a wonderfully successful fundraiser to support a local family's prosecution of a child sexual abuse case (\$2400 raised!)

It wasn't just the money—but also the outpouring of community support about an issue which has been ignored, or worse, in Panajachel for decades.



OSCAR HANDS UPDATE

This inspiring 14 year-old has been a part of our ministry for years. Sardis UMC (FL) has raised the funds for a new set of artificial hands for Oscar, whose resourcefulness continues to amaze many. Noe took this photo of him in a Burger King in Quezaltenango, where Oscar will be fitted with his new extremities in September.



Maria and Juan Carlos

Maria Cuc (18) lost her baker's job when she gave birth to Juan Carlos two months ago. A single mother, she came to Porch with no food, no house, no money, and no family. Joe said: "I can't get the image of her out of my head; She really looked like someone without any hope." Porch is housing them in our annex, with food and more. Thanks for resourcing our availability for such folks!

Justice for Our Children

A MUSICAL BENEFIT

To help pay the legal fees and costs of a local young woman seeking justice

Featuring music by:

- * Terry and Marta
- * Hermanos Locos
- * MarcoTrio Electric

...with dancing and special guests!



SOLOMON'S PORCH

en el centro de Pana , 7762.0793
*Food and cash bar

SATURDAY, August 9

6-10 PM Q40 Donation
Children under 12 free

Take A Stand Against Pedophilia!

All proceeds will support this prosecution.

For more information: 4justiceinpana@gmail.com or 5176.7538

The Deeds family is back home in Indiana for furlough, visiting with our friends and supporters. We had a lot of people waiting to get their hands on their newest addition to the family. Grandparents, aunts, uncles and many friends have been happy to meet Salem, our little *Guatemalteco*, for the first time. Some are pictured below.

It's been a refreshing time for us and we look forward to speaking with many folks about the great work that God is doing through Porch de Salomon. Our speaking schedule is:
 Sept. 7 -- Huntertown UMC ** Sept. 14 -- Shipshewana UMC
 Sept. 21 -- Akron UMC ** Sept. 28. -- Wooster UMC
 Oct. 5-- Encouraging Truth Min. ** Oct 12--Pleasant Hill UMC
Join us! Will, Amber, and the kids



Creatively engineered donations power hands on promotion!

Laura Feix and Jim Thompson donated frequent flier tickets for Lloyd and Melanie's furlough and Vicki Schaefer donated a '02 Infinity sedan to help PdS's road shows. These three engineers' generosity and friendship help us all along.

Please remember these donation options as well as our tax-advantaged, appreciated stock donation option—all are tax-deductible! Contact Lloyd for more information.

The Monroe's current schedule is:

- Sept. 11—Trinity UMC, Tallahassee (team)
- Sept. 14—Holy Cross Anglican (Tallahassee)
- Sept. 16—Christ the Shepherd Lutheran (GA) (team)
- Sept. 21—New Providence PC (TN)
- Sept. 23—Killearn UMC (missions)
- Sept. 24—First Presb. FW Bch/Navarre ** Sept. 26—*El Puente*
- Sept 28.—Miccosukee UMC ** Oct. 8—First UMC Monticello



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