

## *Porch de Salomon*

Panajachel, Guatemala

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and on 

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P.O. Box 10509

Tallahassee FL, 32302-2509

Or get online at

[www.porchdesalomon.org](http://www.porchdesalomon.org)

\*Short-term service/mission 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 201

December 2022

## PEACE ON EARTH

Now may the Lord of Peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way. The Lord be with all of you. -- 2 Thessalonians 3:16

"We should really love each other in peace and harmony. Instead we're fussing and fighting." –Bob Marley



## MAY YOU HAVE THE GLADNESS OF CHRISTMAS, WHICH IS HOPE

Porch de Salomon broke ground on the home for Santa, a young widow, and her two children, Brayan and Lester, along with her mother, Maria. Santa's husband died while working as a construction bricklayer when a power line electrocuted him. Santa and her husband always dreamed of building a home together, but she lost all hope when he suddenly passed away. Our fall teams began the work for this home, but more importantly, they brought hope and love to this family.



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



## PORCH'S NOVEMBER TEAMS

During November, Porch teams served in unique ways, including a medical clinic at Casa Tat Loy Rehabilitation Center, a fiesta for the elderly at Golden Years, construction on Santa's home, and countless hours at medical clinics providing care and medicine for many. Thank you, team Trinity UMC, team Williams, and team Woodland UMC!



## WE NEED YOUR HELP

Porch de Salomon is a high-impact/low-overhead non-profit that demonstrates God's love, expressed best through the life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, to "the lost, the least, and the last."

We strive to do this through creative service, right risk-taking, and outreach: from the streets and bars of Panajachel to the incredibly poor shacks of the indigenous villages of Guatemala's Lake Atitlan Basin to our stateside partner churches.



We appreciate the work of Porch's Guatemalan staff, our volunteers, and short-term team members. God has blessed Porch and our families by providing for these years of ministry through the generosity of our partner churches, mission partners, and supporters. Thanks be to God—and you. Porch de Salomon's work is only possible through your generous financial support.

Each need Porch de Salomon meets costs money in service, word, or deed. Our monthly ministry/outreach budget is \$35,000—this money empowers us to deliver efficient, high-impact, life-changing hope, help, and service. Here are three ways you can support us financially:

- 1) making a year-end, tax-deductible general support donation.
- 2) funding a specific giving opportunity, shown on page four.
- 3) making a much-needed monthly/quarterly/annual pledge for 2023.

See page one for donation instructions. We welcome appreciated stock donations or direct IRA roll-overs, both tax-advantaged.

*Greg and Rachael McGaha*



**MAY YOU HAVE THE HEART OF CHRISTMAS, WHICH IS LOVE**



Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus. The life of Jesus teaches us the beauty of restoration. Porch de Salomon gives thanks this season for the many opportunities to share in the work of restoration.

Samuel (above left and middle) was chained to a post for years due to severe schizophrenia. Jayne Mittan, our medical liaison who brought gifts and attended to Samuel shared, "Samuel is now safe, being fed, clothed, sheltered, cared for, and getting his medicine every day. When we found him, he was none of those things. He is no longer having the violent outbursts that got him chained up. While he will never be "normal," he is much better off than when we found him. He is treated as a human being with a serious mental illness, not seen as someone who is possessed and feared."

Porch de Salomon also hosted a vision clinic in Panajachel. Yasmine (above right) and many others left with a smile on their face. Three hundred and twenty people with restored vision!

**Porch de Salomon congratulates our 2022 scholarship high school graduates!**

In Guatemala, over 50% of indigenous teenagers have not completed third grade. On average, indigenous Guatemalan women have only 3.5 years of school. Grinding poverty is the predominant cause of this problem; families cannot afford school as they struggle to put food on the table daily.

Please renew or begin an annual school scholarship for the 2023 school year starting in January. A \$240 donation will allow a Guatemalan child or youth to attend school. You may contact Hilda at [Hilda.son03@gmail.com](mailto:Hilda.son03@gmail.com) for details.

Porch de Salomon congratulates our 2022 graduates!

Rear (L-R): Carlos, Angel Ramos, José García, Juan Coxelca, Keiner Nimacachi.

Front (L-R): Dayana Sahom, Anita Rocche, Yessica Tol.



**MAY YOU HAVE THE  
SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS,  
WHICH IS PEACE**

Our in-country team (photo right) sends warm wishes to you and your families this Christmas. The jobs with Porch de Salomon/Hotel California/Café support the families of our full-time Guatemalan staffers, part-time workers, and our contract builders (not shown). Your donations make the jobs, work, and witness of Porch de Salomon possible.

*Gracias, y Feliz Navidad!*



**SPECIAL GIVING (OR GIFT!) OPPORTUNITIES**

Your tax-deductible donations have high impact in Guatemala!

- One month's protein (eggs, beans, milk, more) for an indigenous family (\$60)
- One month's milk and medicine for a severely malnourished infant (\$60)
- A multi-purpose, concrete *pila* sink (\$85)
- An *Ecofiltro* clean water system for a family (\$90)
- One month's in-patient alcohol/drug rehab for an addict (\$100)
- An *Ecoplancha* efficient woodstove for an indigenous family (\$195)

It's easy! Please use our donation address or link from page one.

May God fill your life with love, joy, and peace this holiday season and throughout the new year. Merry Christmas from Rachael, Greg, the Monroes, and our faithful volunteers Robin, Rex, Brian, Richard, Jayne, Will, and Mark!

*Porch de Salomon*

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