

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

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and on 

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- *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 207

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MIRACLES

Miracle: an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs

Merriam-Webster

“The heavens praise your wonders, Lord” --Psalm 89:5 NIV



Eugenia Chiroy, our social worker, has been instrumental in helping many individuals obtain a new home through our humanitarian aid office. Eugenia, her husband Carlos, and their son Esdras have been sharing a cramped home with 22 other family members. Their personal space is so small that it barely fit their bed. We are excited they will finally have a place to call their own!

The Center for Central American Empowerment, based in Jacksonville, Florida, sponsored the home through a generous donation by Delores Barr Weaver. The Center for Central American Empowerment president, Peter Racine (above, left), said that Mrs. Weaver had sponsored hundreds of homes in the United States through Habitat for Humanity and other organizations; however, this is her first home sponsorship in Guatemala. Racine added that the homeownership program of Porch de Salomon changes the lives of these families forever, providing important stability and helping to break the cycle of poverty.

CREATIONAL MIRACLES - *Miracles that bring things into existence!*

Angelica Ibate Cuá's husband committed suicide four years ago, leaving her as a single mother with six children, living in extreme poverty, and struggling with her health. Thanks to God and our generous donors, Angelica is now in good health, her family has a new home and chicken business, protein-rich food, and her children are sponsored for school through our Scholarship Program! The entire family expressed through tears gratitude to God for providing for them and thanks to everyone who helped, stating that each person and every gift are forever in their hearts.



Thanks to Mary and Miquel Negron and Linda Twiggs for their generous support and for traveling from Florida to this special dedication of Angelica's house in honor of Memorial United Methodist, Fernandina Beach, FL. Thanks to team Milledgeville First United Methodist from GA for helping with the final touches of this new home and celebrating with us. Thanks to everyone who touched this family along the way and joined us on Facebook Live for the celebration.

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

PROVIDENTIAL MIRACLES

Miracles that involve divine foresight!



Porch broke ground on a new home for an indigenous family in San Lucas Tolimán. Leocadia Sabuc, 68, and Francisco Pecher, 70, are Daniel and Marelin's grandparents who now care for them since their mother abandoned them and their father, an alcoholic, passed away a year ago due to alcohol consumption.

We were informed about the family of Daniel and Merelin from the late Bill Lange, who was a supporter of Casa Tat Loy Rehabilitation for men. Bill and his wife Sherry had a vision of building a home for the family in 2017 and raised funds to purchase the land to make it possible. Additionally, in 2017, Amanda Rodriguez felt compelled to save money to sponsor a home build for someone in need in Guatemala. The timing of these events are miraculous!

The family was thrilled to view the blueprints (below) of their new home. Francisco kept expressing his disbelief at the amazing miracles taking place.

We began our summer hosting Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church from Alpharetta, GA! This team of youth and adults, led by Randy Potts (below), began construction on Daniel and Marelin's home in San Lucas Tolimán across the lake.

The team led a Bible School at Porch de Salomon's partner ministry, Casa Tat Loy (a rehabilitation center for men with alcohol addictions, also in San Lucas Tolimán). The men's families came to enjoy music, Bible stories, games, and Polaroid photos!





Miriam and Blanca had been living in poverty and running a small store out of a tiny, dark space. However, their outlook on life has changed for the better, thanks to the power of hope. We were thrilled to see their completed home and flourishing business inside. In addition to expanding their store by removing a wall in their home, they have also started a thriving garden and a chicken coop to supply their store with fresh eggs, vegetables, herbs, and spices. The team was able to shop at the *tienda* before leaving.

SUSTAINING MIRACLES

Miracles that enable humans to thrive and flourish!

We were excited to host Element 3 from Tallahassee, FL; Ken Johnson and friends from Savannah, GA; Amanda Rodriguez from Virginia; and Amanda's mom Susan Cope from Texas at the Porch! They enjoyed visiting Miriam and Blanca, stepsisters from Las Minas San José Chacaya, where Element 3 had previously worked last summer.



In March, at a hearing clinic in Solola, Selena Snowden, the Director of Audiology Services at FSU Speech and Hearing Clinic, met Heydi Castro Yaxon, a 7-year-old girl who had been unable to hear her whole life due to the absence of ear openings. Although Heydi had a healthy inner ear, the sound couldn't reach it. While bone conduction hearing aids could allow sound to travel through bone vibration to the inner ear, the clinic didn't have one available. Dr. Snowden arranged to obtain the necessary device from the Citrus Hearing Clinic in Clermont, FL and delivered it to Heydi through Julie Mae from Element 3 Church. Dr. Snowden also trained Heydi and her family to use the device online. Heydi was able to hear for the first time!

SWEET MIRACLES

Miracles that are pleasant, kind, and gentle toward other people!

Written by Laurel Pascoe
Timnath, Colorado

On our trip to Guatemala this past February, we were all touched by the people we met. Whether they were part of the humanitarian team or the people we served, they all left their hearts on our hearts. We won't be the same; something transformative happened.

These words of wisdom helped keep this experience alive for days, weeks, and months. "Intentional acts will carry through the lows and highs of the impact of this experience." Greg, you were right.

In that spirit, I gathered my family to share my trip to Guatemala. My grandchildren were asked, "Would you be interested in helping the people I met in Guatemala?" "Yes."

Solomon's Cinnamons began! The goal was to ask for donations to raise money for water filtration systems. Our first event happened on June 10th. We sold out in just a few hours and raised \$250.00 in donations. We have four more events scheduled. Others have asked to join us in this intentional act. Friends, neighbors, and my extended family are now a part of this ministry. I can't wait to see what else God has in store for us. God bless the work you do. It is a blessing to many.



God does miracles through ordinary people! Porch's work depends on generous donations from our faithful supporters. Your financial support matters and changes the lives of many for the better.

Porch de Salomon

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