

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

porchdesalomon.org

and on 

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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

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REST FOR THE SOUL

“Hope is like the sun, which, as we journey toward it, casts the shadow of our burden behind us.” — Samuel Smiles

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” — Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)



REST FROM YOUR LABOR

Porch de Salomon joyously joined Hilda and her mother, Herminia Son Bal, as they celebrated the groundbreaking of their new home in Panajachel! Despite living miles apart, Hilda, a co-director at Porch, and her mother have always been very close and have longed to live together. Thanks to God's provision, their dream is finally becoming a reality!

Hilda and her mother expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Lloyd and Melanie Monroe, the founders of Porch, and Genia O'Neal, founder of Dirty Feet Missions, along with Greg and Rachael for their unwavering support. They also extended their thanks to all the generous donors whose contributions have made this incredible opportunity possible.



“Hilda's dedication to advocating for indigenous people has been inspirational, and it brings me immense joy to see her finally receive a home of her own. This haven will not only provide her with a place to live but also enable her to care for her aging mother. It is a well-deserved reward for someone who has selflessly been a voice for so many. I can't think of anyone more deserving of this opportunity.” — Genia O'Neal

REST FROM ABUSE

166th House Dedication

Porch dedicated our 7th home this year in Concepción to Feliza Juracan Solis, a single mom of three who has been through a lot. Feliza, along with her children Emmanuel, Juan, and Dominga, had to flee from her ex-husband due to physical and psychological abuse. Feliza's parents welcomed her and offered her a safe space and a small property. Feliza wanted to rebuild her life for herself and her children but felt hopeless. During the home dedication, Feliza stated, "For so many years, I suffered with my kids, and we lost a lot of things, but there is one thing that you helped us recover, which is the hope to have a new life, and this is the result of all of this." Feliza realized the Lord was fighting for them and expressed that each person who helped make her home a reality directly answered her prayers.



At the dedication, Juan, three years old, enjoyed watering his new flowers and showing everyone his new room and bathroom, especially his new toilet! The photo above was Juan in his old bathroom and toilet.



REST FROM YOUR BURDENS

In San Bartolo, Sololá, teams Impact Racing and Compassion from Georgia laid down the building blocks for Carmen Puac and her sons, Israel, William, and Moisés, to construct their new home. Assisting them, the First Presbyterian Church of Columbus and Team Papermakers from Atlanta joined forces with Carmen's family, working hand-in-hand to bring the walls to fruition.

Element 3 from Tallahassee and St. Benedict Catholic Church brought joy to the community of Pujujil as they worked tirelessly with Isabel and her sons, Víctor and Kevin, to build their new home. These teams showed remarkable kindness by shopping for Isabel's family and providing them with essential food, beautiful flowers, and even new bicycles to support and encourage them.



Thanks to a generous donor, Israel (above) received a scholarship to attend university!



We also want to thank our teams for collecting donations to help others in need. We are grateful for your generosity. A big thank you to our donors, who are making a difference in the lives of many in Guatemala.

ETERNAL REST

The late Dr. Perry Merrill White, III, of Knoxville, who passed away on May 8, 2024, helped the Panajachel Fire Department receive an automated external defibrillator (AED). Merrill traveled to Guatemala on medical mission trips three times with Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church in partnership with Porch. He and the church provided the lifesaving AED for the people of Panajachel.



During a ceremony to honor Dr. White and receive the AED, the fire department thanked everyone who made this gift possible to their community.



While serving with Element 3 Church from Tallahassee, FL, Gene Madden, a seasoned emergency preparedness trainer, led a comprehensive training session for the building crew at Porch. The training focused on equipping the crew with the necessary skills and knowledge to respond effectively to potential emergencies on the job site. The session covered various medical scenarios, ensuring the crew was well-prepared to help in an emergency.

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