



# PorchTalk

Volume 82

February 2012

## ADELANTE!

by Lloyd

*When Jesus saw her, he called her forward... Luke 13:12*

### **Porch de Salomon**

Panajachel, Guatemala

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

\*Short-term mission teams  
in Guatemala

\*Humanitarian relief for  
indigenous families

\*Solomon's Porch  
café ministry

\*Live music outreach

\* Helping transform churches  
and individuals

As we move forward ("Adelante!" in Spanish) into 2012, we remember that Christ calls us to keep moving in the Way; sometimes figuratively, sometimes literally. We never "arrive," at least not on this side.

Melanie and I returned to Panajachel January 24. We greatly enjoyed our holiday furlough time stateside. It was wonderful to reunite with our children, extended family and friends.

So many folks encouraged us with smiles, prayers, hospitality, food and generous and faithful donations to Porch.

#### .... WITH NEW HOUSES

Marta is a widow in the indigenous village of Chipop; her husband died from alcoholism. Their mud/cornstalk house was destroyed by Hurricane Stan. She and her four children have lived in a shelter with feed sack and mud/stick walls since 2005. They have no electricity, no bathroom or outhouse, no sink, no running water. They all sleep on two hard board beds.

Marta washes clothes in the river and earns \$2.50 a day. Her 17 year-old son earns some money as a field hand; he has only a fourth-grade education.

Team Good Samaritan UMC (Tallahassee FL, Jan. 28-Feb. 4) will bless this family with a good new house. Teams like this continue to demonstrate selfless giving and service in villages which have rarely, if ever, seen such.

#### ..... WITH CLEFT PALATE CHILDREN

For years Porch has provided formula, special bottles, medicine and surgery for cleft palate babies who are brought to us. We work against ignorance, shame and fear which sometimes resulted in these children being hidden away to wither away.

We are proud that Bartolito recently received his third, and final, corrective surgery! A faithful donor in the states provides \$50 monthly for his milk. We have new babies who need such sponsors; let us know if you'd like to help! *(Continued on Page Two)*



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



**(Above) Cleft palate babies Hector and Alison with their mothers at clinic: our Hector faithfully transports them in the Porchmobile.**



**Jerson (13) hopes to advance his education beyond fourth grade with the help of a Beca**

## ADELANTE! (Cont'd from Page One)

### FORWARD WITH CASA TAT LOY

Late last year, Porch began a relationship with this new humble drug/alcohol rehabilitation center across Lake Atitlan in San Lucas Toliman. Over 25 men lived, worked and received professional, faith-based counseling in Casa's cramped, somewhat dreary facility.

The center's leader, Tadeo (himself a recovering addict), has secured a much-needed, larger (but still modest) facility nearby.

Alcoholism is part of the problem with so many families we work with. Porch has placed three men from Panajachel in this facility (at a discounted monthly cost of \$100 each) and is donating \$250 monthly for food for the group.

Please let us know if you'd like to get involved in funding this effort. We welcome your questions or support!



**Casa Tat Loy brothers**

**Tadeo**

### ADELANTE VOLUNTEERS!

Recent Porch volunteer Bill Kenbeek (Kalamazoo MI) writes:

"My trip was so awesome. The people are in such need, and I was blessed to go there and help. I shall return to help out some more!"

We look forward to these vols in February:

Will Roper (Tallahassee, FL)

Lynsey Neal (Seattle, WA)

Ebbesen/Dahms/Wise families (Neenah, WI)

Roy and Jonna Davenport (Nashville, TN)

... and appreciate Joe and Kristen Swartz as they approach one year's service here.



## BECA SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Education is a key to breaking the cycle of poverty that grips Guatemala. Without money, many children never attend school or attend for two or three years. We're pleased to report that generous donors have again provided enough money to send over 50 children to school this 2012 term (which began in January). We thank all our Beca partners/donors!

We have more scholarship candidates than we can fund and we are still accepting donations; \$220, per year, is the cost of this life-changing gift. Contact [lloyd@porchdesalomon.org](mailto:lloyd@porchdesalomon.org) or Rex 850.933.0344 to get involved.

## 11 NEW HOUSES in '11 !

Both Narcissa's family (*below*) and Josefina's family (*right*) moved into their new houses on Dec. 31.

We thank Team Trinity UMC (Tallahassee) and Teams Deerlake UMC and Christ the Shepherd Lutheran (Alpharetta GA) for these incredible gifts.

Special thanks also to Steve and Diane Dahms (WI) for the idea and seed money for marble dedication plaques on all "Porch houses."  
(*See right.*)

We'll see that each house (almost 40 now!) gets a plaque as soon as we can. The plaques read:

Porch de Salomon

Panajachel, Guatemala

\*REGALO PARA LA GLORIA DE DIOS\*  
SALMO 127:1



### PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- \* effective and honest leadership by Guatemala's new president, Otto Perez Molina
- \* less violence in Central America
  - \* a job for our friend Joe A.
  - \* health recovery for David D. Jones in Chicago
- \* Asa Monroe at Maryville College
- \* safety, impact and growth for our teams and volunteers
  - \* provision for Casa Tat Loy
  - \* Tim Silven's widow and son

## FORWARD WITH FRIENDS

Porch de Salomon has been blessed---to be a blessing to others. Hearty thanks to our partner churches and donors whose generosity has kept our mission ministry financially strong for over seven years.

You closed out our 2011 strong with generous gifts and donations! Every need we listed in December will be met. Praise be to God for the way he has worked through you. *Gracias!*

\*\*\*

Among other things, your gifts have allowed us to provide medicine and medical care to many poor people in the Western Highlands. One example is Paola(14); she was abandoned by her parents and raised by her grandparents. For the first time in her life, she now receives regular medical care and anti-seizure medicine (*shown right*) which has controlled her epilepsy.

Thank you for resourcing us to meet the many needs God places before Porch daily.



## FEBRUARY TEAMS FORWARD!

Here we go! These teams will bless the families and villages they serve, Solomon's Porch and the local economy. Porch and its teams directly infused over \$250,000 into our struggling local economy in 2010 and 2011. Our schedule:

- \*January 28- Feb. 4 Good Samaritan UMC (FL)  
*House construction and Bible schools*
- \*Feb. 4-11 Team Roper/Shalley (FL)  
*House construction and Bible schools*

\*Feb. 17-25 Team CUMC Oakdale (CA)

*House construction and Bible schools*

\*Feb. 18-25 Team Heritage UMC (KS)

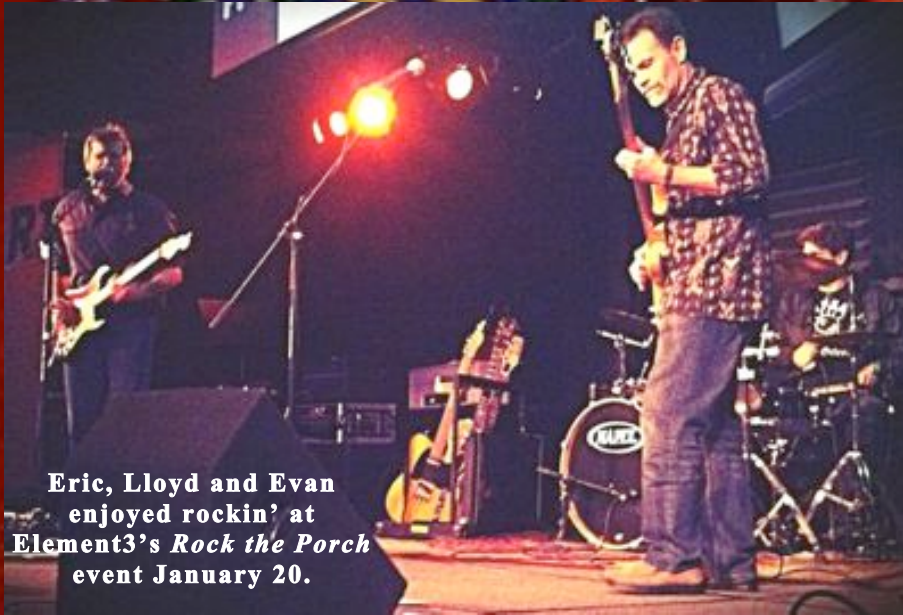
*House construction and Bible schools*

\*Feb. 26- March 4 Canadian Mennonite Un (35 strong!)

*Basketball court/pavilion construction in housing project*

>These teams also bless the folks who make their visits and work possible with partnership opportunity and testimony.

Please pray for all! *GRACIAS!*



Eric, Lloyd and Evan enjoyed rockin' at Element3's *Rock the Porch* event January 20.



**IN MEMORIAM: Tim Silven** died in an auto accident in January. Leader of Pana's *Hermanos Locos* band, he is a friend who will be greatly missed.

***Porch de Salomon***

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