

*Jesus*  
THE LIGHT of THE WORLD

# Portland LINK

SELECTIONS FROM OUR WEBSITE AND MORE

## ✦ Summer's End Picnic

Undeniably, the long summer days are coming to an end. So before bidding farewell to warm weather and lighter schedules, everyone was invited to an end-of-summer picnic on the campground on September 7.

People started arriving a little before 6:00 p.m., and soon dozens of children were playing games on the front lawn and particularly enjoying the use of a giant bubble wand. Seniors were given preference in the serving line, but the food was just as good for the last ones served—and it was good! The meal featured the opening-Sunday-of-camp-meeting

favorite: raspberry Oreo cream pie. Everything was delicious.

The food was served in the Fellowship Lodge, with seating available inside as well as on the patio. For the majority who attended, visiting and catching up with friends had started while standing in the food line, and continued as families and friends found seats and enjoyed their meal. Children continued playing on the lawn until shortly after 8:00 p.m., when skies were darkening and guests began heading home.

*“The weather was perfect, the food was great, and the fellowship was by far the best part of all.”*

favorites: chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, and a bread roll. There were also cabbage rolls, which are not traditionally on the camp meeting menu, but perhaps they should be! For dessert there were ice cream sundaes as well as another camp meeting

The weather was perfect, the food was great, and the fellowship was by far the best part of all. The picnic was a taste of camp meeting in more ways than one, and it was deeply appreciated after two years without camp. What a blessing when the family of God gets together!



(Top) Roselind and Oaklin Barrett go for a train ride before dinner. (Bottom) The friendliest food servers in Portland!

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SEPTEMBER  
2021



### EXCERPTS FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 30

District Superintendent of Botswana, Reverend Lordick Motshidisi (pictured left), submitted the following report about Botswana's recent camp meeting:

“Let me take this time to thank God for a blessed 2021 Botswana Camp Meeting. This year's camp was held from July 18-25. The theme was ‘Jesus Christ the Redeemer,’ taken from Isaiah 59:20-21. Live services were streamed through the Zoom platform, YouTube, and FaceBook. Many were able to join the services from the comfort of their homes with their families. We thank God for the oneness and support the region demonstrated. It is my hope that the children of God were able to examine themselves and allow the Redeemer to help them renew their relationships with God in preparation for the Rapture. It is my prayer for God to sustain the spirit of oneness from the branch level to the regional level and beyond for the benefit of His work.

“Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, last year's camp meeting had to be cancelled. We anticipated the visit of Superintendent General Darrel Lee and Reverend John Musgrave from Portland, Oregon, but their trip was cancelled because of the surging pandemic. There were many uncertainties again this year regarding the situation of COVID-19 but that did not deter the children of God as other options were considered to allow the camp meeting to proceed. A virtual camp meeting was the only doable option, but there were worries about availability of proper infrastructure like internet connection, and other equipment needed for streaming. Low online turnout was expected as most people may lack devices and other resources needed. However, God did not disappoint His children as they continued to arrange to hold camp meeting, and all they needed was provided. A week of revival preceding the camp meeting brought us closer to God, and saints across the Southern Africa region joined hands together to ensure the camp was a success.

“Throughout the week, testimonies of the redeemed were shared, which demonstrated the power of God in the lives of those who have surrendered their lives to Him. All meetings ended with a wonderful time for prayer as seekers went before the throne of grace to plead for mercy and ask God to plant His words in their hearts. Before every service started, workers gathered to pray for God to take total control and bless every part of the service. Prayer requests were also shared and the workers were encouraged with different messages on improving their service to God.

“The people of God attended in large numbers to receive the special messages that God had prepared for this year's camp meeting. Many blessings of healing were evidenced throughout the whole camp and the saints of God who came with many burdens were revived.”





## ✦ Youth Focus on Genesis Topics

The young people recently gathered for youth focus sessions on August 28 and September 18. The first one started with Abby's Legendary Pizza for dinner, followed by banana splits for dessert, with chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry flavored ice-cream as options. After the meal, Azaria Charles led the group in a fun Bible trivia game before a time of singing. Most of the songs were well known, but a few new ones were learned as well.

The message that evening was given by Ryan Erdmann, on the topic of the Lord's return. He recounted a story that Wayne Butler recently shared about his childhood, when he thought the Rapture had occurred and he had missed it. Brother Ryan went on to say there have been many sermons on the Rapture, but someday, one of those sermons will be

*"...there have been many sermons on the Rapture, but someday, one of those sermons will be the last of its kind to ever be preached."*

the last of its kind to ever be preached on this earth. No one knows when God will return for His people, but what is known for sure is that everyone needs to be ready.

Brother Ryan pointed out that in the days of Noah, people were caught off guard by the Flood because they

chose not to listen to the warnings God sent. He talked about how the devil often tries to convince people that they have plenty of time later to prepare for the Rapture. If people believe that lie, they may put off giving their lives to the Lord. The truth is that one day, time will run out, and it could be very soon. No one should delay getting saved.

At the end of the message, the young people were reminded that God wants everyone to make Heaven, and for that to happen, each person must receive salvation and then remain watchful by studying Scripture and drawing close to God.

The next youth focus began with a meal of spaghetti with homemade

meat sauce, and garlic bread and salad on the side. Dessert included cream puffs topped with a choice of ice cream, sauces, sprinkles, and whipped cream—all excellent options!

After dinner, the group played a game where one person would leave the room and everyone else chose someone



in the room to be the "leader." The leader would initiate movements for everyone else to mimic. When the person who had left returned, he or she had to guess who the leader of the group was by trying to notice who was the first to make a move and who everyone else was mimicking. Guessing the leader was harder than you might think!

Following the game, everyone was led in a time of singing. The songs were a mix of popular youth service songs as well as some well-known Sunday school action songs.

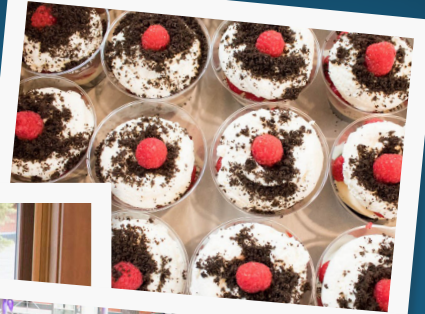
For the last portion of the evening, Erik Calhoun introduced and then played a film called "Answers in Genesis." It helped explain the doctrine of Creation, giving scientific and historical evidence that supports what the Bible says about how God created the world in six days. At the end of the film, Brother Erik reminded everyone that the same God who created the world created each one in the room, and He loves us.

Both of the youth focus sessions were a great time of fellowship and learning, and concluded with a time of prayer.

*(Clockwise from top) Never too old for songs with motions!; Friends focus at youth focus; Nikita Jones with baby Kennedy Warberg.*







# Gallery **PICS**

*photos from our events this month*



(Clockwise from top left) Cousins ready for a train ride; Two more of Portland's friendliest food servers; "The Camp Meeting Dessert"; Another load of happy train travelers; A little chat with Jesus; A little chat between Cameron Hinkle and Steve Barre; Holly Lucescu is very happy to be in service; Ava Calhoun sings a special; Guest preacher LeRoy Tønning of Stavanger, Norway.