



A special welcome to visitors to West, a place of shelter, faith and laughter. We are an all-age, all-stage community where everyone is included.

We especially love having kids involved in the whole service on Sundays, in all their wriggling, noisy glory, so please don't worry if you or anyone with you makes a bit of a racket – we're glad to have you with us!

Morning tea is part of our time together, so you're warmly invited to stick around for a fairtrade tea or coffee after the sitting-down part of the service.

During Lent we are joining with Central Baptist and Northpoint to embrace the Unplug and Plug In challenge, unplugging from screen entertainment and plugging into life. It's going well!

## to EASTER and BEYOND

## APRIL 2010

**28 MAR**  
**EVERYDAY JESUS 6**  
**Matthew 5:27-32**  
 Matt Kehoe Rowden curating  
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden preaching

**1 APRIL**  
**SERVICE OF THE SHADOWS**  
**Contemplation of Matthew 26-27**  
 7.30pm, all welcome  
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden curating

**2 APRIL**  
**GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**  
**Matthew 27:67-77**  
 9.30am, all welcome, please wear black  
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden curating

**4 APRIL**  
**EASTER FEAST**  
**Matthew 28**  
 11.30am for a celebration lunch  
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden curating

**11 APR**  
**EASIER SAID THAN DONE 1**  
**Matthew 6:25-34 'Do not worry'**  
 Gary Bedford curating  
 Brian Manning preaching

**18 APR**  
**EASIER SAID THAN DONE 2**  
**Matthew 18:21-35 'Forgive'**  
 Liane Lovegrove curating  
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden preaching



## west:pastor

We have been given the gift of time this Lent, extra hours in our day when we used to plug into screen-based entertainment, mostly out of habit. This Lent we've had the opportunity of thinking about how we really want to spend these precious hours.

As Lent comes to a close and we think of Jesus fighting death to bring us life, I strongly encourage you to seize life with your two hands and live it intentionally and counter-culturally.

Think again of the rocks in your jar: having created a bit more space, what rocks do you really want to put in the jar after Easter?

Did you discover you enjoyed slow dinners around a table? Did you rediscover music, beaches, board games and books you had forgotten you loved? Did

you have more time to keep in touch with people you like? Keep making time for them!

Our plan to change the world, one meal at a time, one Spotswood household at a time, depends on each of us making room in our jars. If we are to be a place of shelter, faith and laughter, we each need to keep making room in our homes and lives for God's children in need of community – the ones we don't know yet, especially.

As Easter approaches and life after Lent begins, let's make the

most of the gift of Unplugging, so we have time to live out the teaching of '7 Day Jesus', the Saviour of the universe who we are doing our best to follow.



Thalia (pastor@westbaptist.org.nz)

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## west:making a difference

We have a portfolio of people and communities we support around New Plymouth and the world. The basics:

**Meryl Ashworth** works in education in Ethiopia with SIM. **Graeme and Christine T** work in business and medicine in South Asia. **Juam** is a student whose education and board we sponsor in Feni Baptist Hostel in Bangladesh.

Closer to home, **Kingdom Resources West** provides budgeting help and interest-free loans to people in New Plymouth, and we have a special relationship with **Spotswood Primary School**, across the road and are working on providing a full-time Family Mentor for the school community.

This month's updates: Meryl has 3 families and 2 single girls working alongside her at Mursi, but there is a need there for more people to teach English.

Both Graeme and Matthew T have been unwell, but are now recovered. Jessica is enjoying being back at school. Graeme is finding it stressful getting large orders ready to go out on time. Pray for health and energy for them and the ability to cope with the heat and power cuts.

Thalia has met with the Spotswood Board of

Trustees, the Marfell Community Constable and several other key people in the community – and they're all really excited at what we're proposing for the school. Please keep praying for the Church Trust

members and Thalia as they approach funding organisations, and for the School as BOT elections approach.

## west:groups

Anyone is welcome at the **movie discussion group** meeting at Grant and Megan C's place, 7pm on Tuesday nights, resuming with movies after the school holidays; **Carol and James McK** host a fortnightly Bible study group on Thursday nights; the **Rainbow group** meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons at Heather H's place and will not be meeting during the school holidays.

**Liane L** is interested in hosting a 16-week discipleship group on Thursday mornings; please contact her (753 9770) if you are keen.

Everyone in the church is in one of four **family groups**, who meet for social and service activities throughout the year and help out in practical ways in tricky times. This month the **Sewell FG** will be combining with the **McKillop FG** to have a picnic and

play cricket at Spotswood Primary School on 18 April. The **Cannell FG** will be doing community service - a spot of gardening and tidying up the outdoor classroom at Spotswood Primary School during the last weekend of school holidays, time and date to be confirmed. The **Never a Dull Moment FG** will be going to the new Puke Ariki exhibition, 2pm, 24 April.

**Get Real** is for all young people from year 7 up, their friends, families and mentors. In 2010, Get Real will meet three times per term; speak to Alison D (751 1005) to get on the contact list.

**Central Easter Camp** is on at Manfeild Park, Feilding on 1-5 April for all young people Year 9 and up. Remember the young people going to camp, **Lynda C** who is going with them and Lyn B who is helping with the practical stuff.

## west:people

It was great receiving **Will, Hester, Levi, Shania, Zachary and Isaac** into Church membership on 21 March. It's lovely to have you as part of our church family. If anyone else would like to become an official Member of the church, please chat to Thalia or a Board member.

To keep in touch with church people 7 days a week, check out the church blog at [www.westbaptist.org.nz](http://www.westbaptist.org.nz) which has new stuff every few days, and join the **West facebook group** to help keep up with each

other socially. So far we have 44 West people on Facebook – not bad!

Congratulations to **Steve and Rachel B** on the birth of their son and to **Gary and Heather B** on becoming grandparents to little Noah Miles B.

It's been great to see **Matthew C** and **Rebekah L** joining the Music Group – anyone else keen? See Gary and Heather (751 3113) if so! In other impressive news, **Judith S-M** has been selected for the NZ Masters Women's Hockey team. Wow!

## west:events

Easter events at West (in bold) and Central Baptist (cnr Lemon and Liardet Sts)

<b>1 Apr</b>	<b>Service of the Shadows, 7.30pm, West</b>
<b>2 Apr</b>	<b>Good Friday Service, 9.30am, West</b>
4 Apr	Sunrise service, 6am, Marsland Hill, meet at Robe St carpark
	<b>Easter Feast, 11.30am, West, family, friends and neighbours all welcome</b>

5 Apr Emmaus Walk, 7pm, meet at Central  
8am Fish Breakfast, Ngamotu Beach with Central

Other events for your calendar:

30 Mar Part 2 of book discussion at the 53 Karamea St on *The Life You've Always Wanted*  
1-5 Apr Easter Camp, Manfeild Park, Feilding  
8 Apr Music Group practice, 7pm  
18 Apr E100 Bible Reading Challenge begins; check out [www.e100nz.org.nz](http://www.e100nz.org.nz) for a sneak peek  
22 Apr Music Group practice, 7pm  
23 Apr Prayer Night for Spotswood School  
2 May West/Northpoint Relationship Course begins at Spotswood Primary School  
2 May Fairtrade fortnight begins

## west:pitching in

We said at the AGM that our church is not functioning as well as it might in the absence of a church **Administrator** and a **Nurture ministry leader**. If you could help with either of these crucial roles, or to find out what's involved, please speak to Thalia or a Board member.

Last year's collaboration with Northpoint to run an Alpha Marriage Course was such a success we're doing it again, this time over our way. We'll be hosting a **Relationships course** at Spotswood Primary from 2 May, aimed at school families, and we need a team of West people to join the Northpointers in helping with setting up and making desserts. We'd also love to have a team leader from West. Can you help? Speak to Thalia if so.

Our **lawnmowing** roster has got a bit lean lately with people moving away. If you could help out with mowing the church lawns every so often, please contact Margaret S on 753 6621.

Syd and Cela B coordinate the confidential **Prayer Chain**. Call them on 753 3459 if you'd like the chain to pray about anything.

Our **music team** has been particularly affected by the farewelling we've been doing lately, so we'd love a few keen guitarists, keyboardists and drummers to join. Speak to Gary and Heather B (751 3113) if you're interested.

Gwen and Alan B manage the **hireage** of the church building during the week, so please check with them (751 2095) if you'd like to use it. We'd also like to have a few more groups using the building, so feel free to let people know about us.

Please keep bringing a few staple grocery items on Sundays to build up the stocks in our **food cupboard**.

If you'd like to set up an automatic payment or coded envelopes to contribute financially to the work of the church, please see **Tania S-A** (758 3829), our brand new treasurer. The government will rebate a full third of what you give, so you can arrange your affairs accordingly.

Margaret S collects information for this **newsletter**, which comes out on the last Sunday of the month, so please contact her (7536621, [mjsewell@actrix.co.nz](mailto:mjsewell@actrix.co.nz)) with any info by the previous Wednesday.

	3 APRIL	10 APRIL	17 APRIL	24 APRIL	1 MAY
Cleaning & Morning Tea	Jude S-M	Judith M	Kevin F	Brent G	Val W
Lawnmowing	Roi M	Lisa A	Sue F	Murray L	Alan W
	Jude S-M	Murray L	Roi M	Alison D	Wayne L

**New Plymouth West Baptist Church, 144 South Rd, 06 751 2089, [www.westbaptist.org.nz](http://www.westbaptist.org.nz)**