



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.

This month we're focusing on supporting people making a difference overseas.

See inside for more...

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

JULY 2010

4 JULY

ORDINARY HEROES #1
Genesis 12: Abram
 Jacob Manning curating
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden preaching

11 JULY

ORDINARY HEROES #2
Genesis 29-30: Rachel
 Liane Lovegrove curating
 Mark Fisher preaching

18 JULY

ORDINARY HEROES #3
Genesis 25-27: Jacob
 Brian Manning curating
 Will Mills preaching

25 JULY

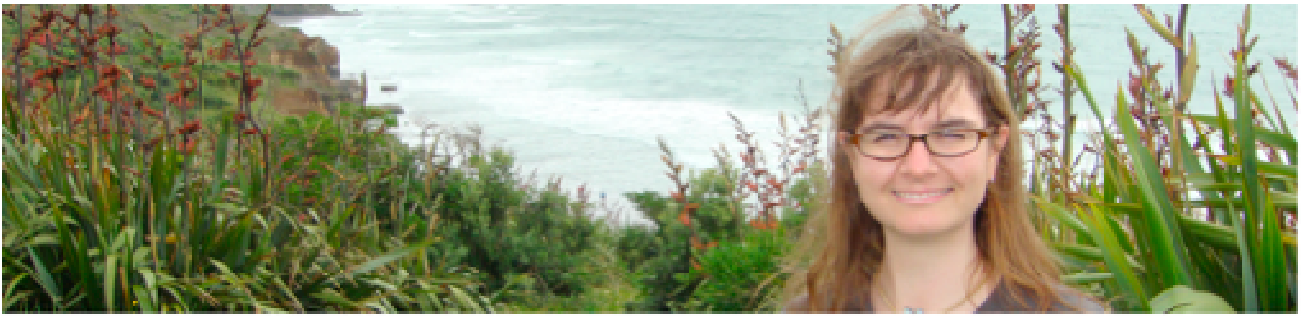
ORDINARY HEROES #4
Genesis 37: Joseph
 Gary Bedford curating
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden preaching

1 AUG

7 SACRED DAYS #1
Recovering the Sacred
 Murray Lowe curating
 Thalia Kehoe Rowden preaching

8 AUG

7 SACRED DAYS #2
Sacred Working
 Liane Lovegrove curating
 David Christoffersen preaching



west:pastor

Hear this message of hope: God is interested in everything we do and are, not just the bits that seem most 'spiritual'. This is what our **7 Day Faith** theme is all about, and over the next two months we'll be unpacking it more.

In August, in **7 Sacred Days** we will be looking in detail at what that might mean for our lives at school, work and home, and how we can find meaning in the ordinary parts of our lives.

In July we're surfing the E100 wave and exploring some of the **Ordinary Heroes** of Genesis: Abraham,

Jacob, Rachel and Joseph. Each of them achieved pretty amazing things for God, but as we'll discover, they were all pretty ordinary people, with everyday struggles and weaknesses.

And that's pretty hopeful for you and me, with all our everyday struggles and weaknesses, right? Because if God can use a

selfish liar, a manipulative scoundrel, a depressed victim of family dysfunction and a spoilt brat to change the world, then who knows what God could do with *us*.



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** sends greetings from Ethiopia. She will return to Makki on Friday for

another school term. Her car was repaired in Addis Ababa, and she is driving back to Makki in convoy. Pray for safe travel and that they will finish all that needs to be done before they leave Addis.

The **Taylors** give thanks for the new business premises and plenty of orders, enough to look for more women to join them.

The new **Spotswood Primary School** Board of Trustees has given an enthusiastic go-ahead for the **Family Mentor Pilot**, so it's full steam ahead. We have several more applications for funds being completed and considered; please continue pray for the West Trustees as they work hard on this process.

west:groups

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.

The **Movie Group** has had a great time discussing *The Shack* and will take a break for the school holidays before getting back to core business: movies!

The national **E100 Bible Reading Challenge** is under way, and it's especially suitable to do in pairs or groups. Keep an eye on the church blog to see how it's going for different people at West.

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. The **Sewell Family Group** have Allan and Val W organising the next Family Group event on July 18, so keep it free. Thanks to the **NADM** group

who put on a hilarious car rally for the combined FG event in June.

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.

Seedpods is a weekly themed play and friendship group for parents with young children. Tania S-A, Hester M and Carol McK are starting a Seedpods group to meet at 10am at Church every Thursday of the school term. It's going to be awesome, so contact them if you're interested or know someone who might be.

The **Alpha Marriage and Relationships** course hosted by Northpoint and West at Spotswood Primary was a great success and much appreciated by the couples who took part. Huge thanks to everyone who made desserts and/or set the hall up each week.

west:people

A warm welcome to **Marlinka R**, who has joined the church. Her contact details are: 18 Marama Cres, 751 0930, 027 653 9481.

We recently said goodbye to another of our young people as **Kimberly B** is off to Wellington to study, along with her bear! Longtime provider of the bears, **Judith M**, is also saying goodbye this month as she joins the St Chad's community in Westown.

Megan, Grant, Simon and Rebekah C wish to thank everyone who sent cards, did baking, visited and attended the funeral for Megan's father. It was very much appreciated.

Travel news: **Lyn B** is back from a visit to family in Texas, **Syd and Cela B** are enjoying family events in the UK and **Matt KR** is in Uruguay for a conference for Christian Doctors from all over the world.

Simon C is performing with his Stage Centre Drama Group at Little Theatre, Aubrey St on 19-21 July in "The Complete works of Shakespeare Abridged." Adults \$20, students \$15. Go along and support him and enjoy a laugh.

Rebekah C is settled in Brisbane and has a job at the Vet Clinic at Queensland University. Well done.

It was great to see **Wayne and Rachel P** at Church and to meet baby **Jacob**. They are back in NP on holiday from Australia.

Congratulations to **Katrina F** on the launch of her children's book at Puke Ariki last month.

Please continue to pray for and support those who are struggling with ongoing health difficulties, especially those unable to meet on Sundays, **Lyn S, Grace and Lloyd D**.

west:events

4 July	School holidays begin
4 -16 July	Thalia KR at a retreat then on annual leave; Gary B and Brian M available in her absence.
8 July	Music practice, 7pm
10 July	SoulFood 3 Winter Quiet Day at St Mary's, 9.30-3pm. To register ring Mary on 757 9763 or email Ailsa on butterfly.arr@xtra.co.nz
10 July	12.30pm at Daily News Café in Puke Ariki, launch of Sue Horton's book featuring the Bollens
22 July	Music practice, 7pm
22-24 July	Thalia at Red Letters conference in Auckland
24 July	Change of date: prayer meeting is now 7 August instead, details to follow
31 July	All-day preaching workshop at Northpoint with Paul Windsor

Our winter **Soup Lunches** are under way, and are held at different members' homes after church. All welcome!

July 4	Gary & Heather B	July 25	Megan & Grant C
July 11	Lynda C	August 1	Matt and Thalia KR
July 18	Lyn B		

west:pitching in

Great News! Alison D has become the new **Church Administrator**. She and Thalia are developing a new job description for the role and will communicate further when it is clear, but she is already making a huge difference to the smooth running of the church.

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.

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

Stocks of staple grocery items are very low in our **food cupboard** at the moment, particularly of canned vegetables and food suitable for dinners, so your donations would be much appreciated.

Our **lawn mowing** 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. Just a reminder, please do not put the **lawn clippings** on the new front garden at the Church - down the side will still be fine.

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

Eric and Cath are coordinating the **Prayer Chain** while Syd and Cela B are away. Call them on 758 3546 if you'd like the chain to pray about anything.

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) with any info by the previous Wednesday.

	3 JULY	10 JULY	17 JULY	24 JULY	31 JULY
Cleaning & Morning Tea	Rebekah L	Gary B	Tracey W	James McK	Alison D
Lawnmowing	Emma L	Heather B	Stuart W	Carol McK	Margaret O
	Stuart W	Alison D	Wayne L	Allan W	Grant C