



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.

Look out for people wearing blue **"Prayer Team"** tags – they will be happy to pray with you after the service.

See inside for more....

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

NOVEMBER 2014

2 NOV **Gospel beginnings in Aotearoa #4**
The Good News of the Treaty of Waitangi

9 NOV **Being a Disciple**

16 NOV **John the Baptist**
Preparing the Way

23 NOV **Year in Review**
Everyone welcome to share about the year!

30 NOV **Advent #1 HOPE**
(Green)

7 DEC **Advent #2 PEACE**
(Blue)



I feel very blessed to have some of my Grandfather's tools. He was a builder for over 50 years and he died December last year. He's also left me with many precious memories. One of the most striking things about my Grandfather was his generosity – as a multi home owner, the tenants he had paid so little for their rent. Sure, he could afford to do this, but more importantly it meant the tenants could afford to live (in Auckland!), and save to buy a house of their own if they chose to. This shouts out loud of Christian faith being lived out in tangible ways. My Grandfather has left a legacy in many ways.

Hebrews chapter 11, verse 4 has jumped out at me this week about the legacy I'm leaving for my children. There's these two brothers who approach God with very differing attitudes. One of the brothers (Cain) tries to get away with the minimal, which displeases God. The other brother, (Abel) brings a good gift to God out of a generous heart, which God accepts. Cain kills Abel. The last part of the verse says this: "and even though Abel is

now dead, his faith still speaks for him." Even though Abel is now dead, he has left a legacy of faith in God that others have remembered and are inspired by and encouraged towards.

This legacy of faith is about belief that God is the most important in life, and that actions must follow this. Passing on faith is the best legacy we can give to future generations. This doesn't guarantee children and grandchildren will have faith (belief and action), but it doesn't change the fact that living out faith in Jesus is the best possible legacy.

When I considered what I want to be remembered for, I think I'd like it to be about living faith in Jesus out, in tangible ways. This is what *really* matters.

We talked a few weeks ago about the best way to coach our children in worship - the best way is for us parents and grandparents and adults to be seen worshipping. And the same goes for helping people in need, being generous with what we have, being content with what we have, reading the scriptures, treating all people with respect, etc, etc, or as Micah would say "act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God." More is caught than taught!

I reckon it's pretty neat to think that each day (well, hopefully – and in part!) I'm creating a legacy for others.

Andrew ☺

west: making a difference

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

Meryl A writes a regular email keeping us up to date with her teaching at SIMTI in Korea. If you would like to receive this email, do contact her. Her address is: merylashworth@sim.org

Paul and Sarah B Our first 6 month training programme has finished. Praise that all 5 girls stuck with us, demonstrating amazing determination and courage to leave the sex trade and start new lives. Please pray for success as we struggle through various layers of bureaucracy, and for the next training programme starting with a new group of girls. Please pray that the women we are working with will experience complete freedom and healing as Jesus works in and around them.

Jo R Pray for courage & God's leading as I try to live a simple life and for my language study and confidence in speaking. Thanks for my wonderful language helper and

her family. Please pray for new friends and relationships as things here change.

Tipon Tripura, our Bangladeshi child we have been sponsoring for four years has now left the hostel. In this time we have enabled him to gain a good secular and christian education, a loving christian home away from home and good health services.

Introducing our new Sponsored child - We now have a new sponsored child who has just arrived at the same hostel in Feni. His name is **Alton Chakma** and is a friendly and active 5 year old. He comes from a very poor family from the very remote rural eastern Hill Tracts area. His parents have recently become christians. His father is a day labourer who can barely feed and care for his family with the little amount he earns. Educational, communication and health facilities are very limited and

there is no school there. Our sponsorship is an answer to Alton's parents' prayers as they were very anxious and frustrated about his future. They are also extremely grateful for the christian nurturing and teaching that the hostel will provide as there is none of this where they live. Our sponsorship enables Alton to live in the Feni Boy's Hostel which provides food, education, clothes, medical care and spiritual development in a sound christian environment.

Information and updates on Alton will be on the notice board at the back of the church. Please pray for Alton and his family and please write to him. Paper and envelopes are on the board also. He will no doubt be finding it hard to be away from his family at such a young age.

Closer to home:

Kingdom Resources West provides budgeting to people in New Plymouth.

We love & partner with **Spotswood Primary School**, across the road. We're involved with HPP Reading, KickStart Breakfast Club, Pastoral Care, Mother's Day

Brunch, Gifted and Talented Kids, Morning Tea for staff at the start of each term, Citizenship Award, and other areas individuals volunteer in. There are many ways you can serve our school community if you're interested.

Just letting us all know, there are children and teens in our Spotswood community that we have had a fair amount of contact with, who would love to have, and need to have an adult spend regular time with them.

Chaplaincy at Spotswood Primary School. Andrew's chaplaincy role at the school is being clarified, formalised, and recognised. This week, on Andrew's suggestion with the Principal and Deputy Principal's support, the Board of Trustees decided to officially call Andrew the school's chaplain, to make this known, and from 2015 to have him available to the school community at set times of the week.

We have a wonderful trusting, collaborative, long serving relationship with Spotswood Primary! Good on all those legacy creators who over the last 20 + years have served the school community so faithfully!

west: groups

Play and Parent Support Group. Exists to build friendships with local families, encourage them, Naomi is kicking this group off at the moment. It exists to build friendships with local families, demonstrate God's love, and provide stimulating learning and development for babies and toddlers. Thursday's 10 – 11.30am at Naomi's, for parents of children aged 0 – 3 years.

All men are welcome to share a drink and good conversation every second Monday at **Blokes and Cokes**, 7.30pm at WestBar. See Brian M or Will M, and the events section over the page for dates.

Lasses & Lattés. A chance for the women of our church (and friends) to get together, every second Monday, at 7.30pm at the Treehouse on Devon St West All women welcome.

The **Rainbow group** meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons, at 1pm at Heather H's home. Next meeting is on Tues 4 November.

Carol and James McK host a fortnightly 'Chocolate Fish' Bible study at their home.

Get Real is for all young people from year 7 students and upwards. We meet on the first Sunday of each month to hang out, study bible and eat.

See 'events' section. Speak to Kathy M (753 2604) for more information.

The **Movie Group** will meet weekly at Grant & Megan's home on Tuesday nights to watch and discuss movies on the themes of our sermon series. On the first Tuesday of the month members take part in a Quiz Night at Westbar, at 6.30pm.

The **Music Group** desperately need more singers and musicians. If you feel you would like to be part of the music group, please talk to Gary B. We normally practice on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We are now meeting at 69 Barrett Rd, Whalers Gate at 7pm.

Family Groups 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. If you are new to West and would like to join a Family Group please speak to Alison.

The **Connectables** - Lyn will be in touch regarding a get-together in special recognition of Lynda and Andy – check your emails or contact Lyn or Erin for further information.

west: people

Welcome Cody, Ruby, Jesmah, and Caleb. It's great having you a part of us!

Cathy G will be a grandparent one day this month! All the very best Megan – you'll be a great mum!

Roi celebrated his 50th birthday recently and the family are off on a celebratory cruise from Sydney to New Caledonia.

Cheers! **Chairs!** Thank you Brent and others for your efforts in organising new chairs for us! They look fab, feel comfy, and are stocking friendly 😊

Please continue to pray for and support those who are struggling with ongoing health difficulties, and those unable to meet on Sundays, **Les M, Lyn S, Lloyd D, Marlinka R** and **George and Elizabeth L.**

west: events

2 November **Get Real.** 5.30pm at Church Building. Please bring a plate to share for dinner.

Over 60s get together – our second event will be held as an end of year/Christmas lunch at Maureen & Jim C's home, following Church on Sunday 30 November. Please bring a plate to share, and a small gift each(\$5) marked 'Lady or Gent.'

2 Nov Get Real, 5.30pm at Church
3,17 Nov Blokes & Cokes at Westbar, 7pm
4,18 Nov Rainbow Group at Heather H's home, 1.00pm
6,13,20,27 Nov Play & Parent Support Group, 10am at Naomi's
10,24 Nov Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood

11,18,25 Nov Movies night at Grant & Megan's
13,27 Nov Music Practice, 7pm at Gary & Heather's
13,27 Nov Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
30 Nov Over 60's Luncheon at Maureen and Jim's.

west: pitching in

Alison D is co-ordinating our building bookings, and **Andrea M** is checking the Hall before use. Please contact Alison (751 1005) if you wish to make bookings.

Prayer We have a committed group of people who pray for others when needs are made known. This is confidential, and follow-up only happens through Andrew. If you'd like to join the e-mail prayer chain (perhaps one e-mail a week at most, as needs arise) contact Andrew. If you have a prayer request, see him too.

Would any teenagers or children like to join the prayer chain? Andrew can send out a simplified/appropriate version.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,000 per month in offerings; in September our offerings were \$9,996.07.

If you'd like to set up an **automatic payment** or use envelopes to contribute financially to the work of the church, please see our treasurer, Brent G. (751 0010) The government will rebate a full third of what you give.

Maureen C now collects information for the **Newsletter**, which comes out on the last Sunday of the month, so please contact her with any info by the previous Tuesday.

**Cleaning &
Morning Tea
Lawnmowing**

2 NOV
Brian M
Kathy M

9 NOV
Tracey W
Andrea M
Syd B

16 NOV
Judy W
Brian W

23 NOV
Roi M
Jude SM
Allan W

30 NOV
James McK
Carol McK