



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 assembled in the area near the side exit door – they will be happy to pray with you after the service.

See inside for more....

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

OCTOBER 2015

4 OCT Church – Who's in?
A Jewish leader a part of church?

11 OCT Celebrating Sexuality # 1
Celebrating God's Good Design
and Intent

18 OCT Celebrating Sexuality # 2
Celebrating Singleness

25 OCT Celebrating Sexuality # 3
Celebrating Friendship



How have you been finding our series “Church – Who’s in?”

Is there something you already do that you have been encouraged in?

Is there something you have learnt?

Is there a question you’re thinking about?

Is there something hard you’re being challenged by?

Perhaps a response to this could be shared at our “Year in Review?” service on 22 November?

Here’s a series of affirmations of who we’re seeking to be as God’s people at West in relation to being an **inclusive** potpourri faith community.

What stands out to you?

We want to be a body – all of us different parts, working together. We are better together than separate and apart. (Like the “City of a Hill” clip)

We want to remember that we are a “city on a hill” – an oddly attractive place of belonging for all.

We want to celebrate with people in who they are, rather than just put up with them.

We want to be a church OF our community, not a church IN our community. i.e. We want our church to be made up of people who live in our community (not to the exclusion of others).

We want to embrace post-modernity’s value on difference.

We want to challenge post-modernity’s value of individual rights.

We want to be wary of our protestant heritage of splitting or starting new churches when differences of belief emerge.

We want to acknowledge that we don’t know what it’s like for people different from us to be that way. We want to humbly learn by getting to know people different to us.

We want to understand more than be understood.

We want to identify & remove barriers to people becoming & staying a part of West.

We want to realise that we all have lenses through which we see life, God, each other. What sort of lenses do we have? Is it accurate? Which lenses need changing?

We want to challenge the unspoken belief that we only want people to be part of our church if they are like us.

We want to be one people, one community – with Jesus as our King, Lord, & Friend.

Andrew 😊

west: making a difference

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

Meryl A (Korea) Four of our students are 'returnees' - they have been to one or more courses we offer, and have come back for more. One girl has come back for the fourth time - as her English improves, she understands more and more of what part God wants her to play in world missions. Thank you for your prayers in regards to my support - more than half the needed amount has been promised (and some given already). Please continue to pray, and that the rest of the support will be pledged and

given. Please refer to Meryl’s recently e-mailed newsletter.

Paul and Sarah, Mikayla & Malachi: (Kolkata, India) We are in recovery mode after an intense year getting the Loyal Workshop off the ground. Sarah - who had not been well – has taken a step back to recuperate and Paul has stepped up as Team Leader & interim production manager. Pray for a local production manager to help share the load. Pray for the kids adjusting to a new International School.

Jo R. (India) is in NZ until Oct. 25th to apply for a new Visa. Pray for persistence to keep on with language learning and to not be overwhelmed on her return by the amount of work that has to be done.

Carley (Dhaka, Bangladesh) says life is crazy busy at the moment. Pray she finds time to spend with God, rest and reflect. God is working in our lives and the lives of those we are serving and it is very encouraging.

Alton Chakma (Bangladesh) Please pray for primary school aged Alton whom we sponsor to live in the Baptist Hostel in Feni. Our sponsorship provides him with accommodation, christian nurturing and education, food, clothes, medical care, and full education at the local school.

Closer to home:

Kingdom Resources West provides budgeting to people in New Plymouth.

Play and Parent Support Group. 10am Thursdays at Naomi's. All (aiming for local) parents/caregivers with children under 3 are welcome.

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. See 'events' section for dates.

Carol and James McK host a fortnightly '**Chocolate Fish**' Bible study at their home. See 'events' section for dates.

Get Real is for all young people from year 7 students and upwards. We meet once a month on

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, 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.

Kickstart Breakfast Club: Many thanks to those who have volunteered your time to serve our community's children. We've started a new connection with Spotswood College! A few of their Year 9 (13 year old) students will be helping soon too.

west: groups

Sunday evenings. When we hang out, we eat, have fun, and talk about life, faith, and Jesus. See 'events' section for our next date. Speak to Hester or Andrew 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 practices will be on 15 & 29 October at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm. If anyone is interested in joining the Music Group, we would love to have you come along and join us. We would especially love to have some new musicians and singers. Most practices concentrate on learning new songs.

west: people

Congratulations Ross and Raewyn on your marriage!

Welcome back Sue and Steve!



There have been a number of deaths of family members of West people. May we and God continue to love and support you as we can.

Please continue to pray for and support those who are struggling with ongoing health difficulties, and

those unable to meet on Sundays, **Cath P, Lyn S, Lloyd D, Marlinka R and Elizabeth L.**

west: events

Over 60's Group We are looking forward to meeting together in October, and are looking for someone to volunteer to arrange an event. Please contact Maureen C. if you are keen to help with this.

Sunday 18 October. Get Real. Doors open 5:50, dinner at **6pm.**

1,8,15,22, & 29 Oct	Play and Parent Support Group, 10am at Naomi's	12,26 Oct	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood
5,19 Oct	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm	13,20,27 Oct	Movies night at Grant & Megan's home
6,20 Oct	Rainbow Group at Heather H's home, 1.00pm	15,29 Oct	Music Practice, at Gary & Heather's, 7pm
8,22 Oct	Chocolate Fish at James&Carol's	18 Oct	Get Real, 6.00pm at Church
11,18,25 Oct	Discussion and learning on topic of Same sex marriage. 7pm at church building	1 Nov	Church Meeting after service

west: pitching in

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,600 per month in offerings; in August our offerings were \$10,490.

Prayer If you have a prayer request, please see Andrew. If you'd like to join the e-mail prayer chain as a pray-er, please talk to Andrew.

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.

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.

We have our **John D Memorial DVD collection** downstairs. If you'd like to borrow something, please take it, record it in the notebook, and return it to the correct place on the shelves.

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.

Trust Stuff

Did you know that if you volunteer for the **Bread run**, you only do it once a month? It takes about 2 hours on a Tuesday. If you want any further details please contact Alison D.

Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing	3 OCT Alison D Lisa A	10 OCT Val & Allan Angela/Glenn Wayne L	17 OCT Andrew/Naomi Erin R	24 OCT Sue J Steve J Andy L	31 OCT Hester M Will M
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