



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

JUNE 2016

5 JUNE Beyond Betrayal #5

12 JUNE Beyond Betrayal #6

19 JUNE Church, Covenant, Constituent, Comrade - Membership

26 JUNE Bringing Brokenness back – Reconciliation



Google Maps in the 1800's??? Our National Anthem says "Guide her in the nations' van!" After a quick Google search I learnt this really means "Guide us together as we move forward." In context this means "Guide us together as we move forward in preaching love and truth to all people." Our National Anthem is a treasure! I find it a very moving hymn, especially sung together.

God Defend New Zealand was written in July 1876 by Thomas Bracken. Bracken was a journalist, lyricist and Dunedin Central MP.

Keith Newman shares the following about Bracken: Seven months after the Parihaka invasion, Bracken stood with the Māori MP's of the time to denounce the holding of Te Whiti and Tohu without trial as "a monstrous thing" and a breach of the Treaty. While most politicians supported the actions of Native Minister John Bryce, Bracken, in his maiden speech that day spoke boldly:

"Are we living in a free British colony, or under some petty local despot? Will the people of New Zealand allow any man, even though he hold the rank of Native Minister, to ride roughshod over the constitution... or suspend trial by jury if it so pleases him?"

Thomas Bracken had a colourful career. He had faith in God and was a continual seeker of justice for Māori. Having given up all rights to what would become the nation's anthem, Bracken died in Dunedin hospital in 1898 after being found penniless and extremely ill living behind an old tram shed.

May we sit with these words this month. May we pause to praise God. May we pray for New Zealand. May God guard us from corruption, dissension, envy, hate. May we make peace, and be mighty hosts. May our causes be just and right.

May our love for God increase. May God guide us in the nations' van, of preaching truth and love to man(kind).

God of Nations at Thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.

Men of every creed and race,
Gather here before Thy face,
Asking Thee to bless this place,
God defend our free land.
From dissension, envy, hate,
And corruption guard our state,
Make our country good and great,
God defend New Zealand.

Peace, not war, shall be our boast,
But, should foes assail our coast,
Make us then a mighty host,
God defend our free land.
Lord of battles in Thy might,
Put our enemies to flight,
Let our cause be just and right,
God defend New Zealand.

Let our love for Thee increase,
May Thy blessings never cease,
Give us plenty, give us peace,
God defend our free land.
From dishonour and from shame,
Guard our country's spotless name,
Crown her with immortal fame,
God defend New Zealand.

May our mountains ever be
Freedom's ramparts on the sea,
Make us faithful unto Thee,
God defend our free land.
Guide her in the nations' van,
Preaching love and truth to man,
Working out Thy glorious plan,
God defend New Zealand.

Andrew ☺

west: making a difference

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

Meryl. Meryl has a lovely Christian Doctor who has been helpful to her. He is keen to use his medical skills overseas and plans on doing so when his children are older. In the meantime he and a medical team from his church are going to a closed country in Asia, to be the hands and heart of Jesus to them. Please pray for safety and wisdom in making decisions, both medical and those involving their normal day to day life in a different country.

Meryl also asks for prayers regarding finding somewhere to live from mid June – mid February next year. If you know somewhere please contact Suzanne, ph. 0211853334.

Paul and Sarah B Please remember the Loyal Workshop in your prayers as they continue to search for two skilled locals to employ. One person with administration skills and one who can take the full time burden of laser cutting the leather off Paul. Please pray that God sends them to the Loyal Leather Workshop family soon.

Jo R. Pray for our current team that there will continue to be unity; and for the future members of our team, that they will feel accepted and part of the team immediately.

Carley. I would appreciate your prayers for strength and patience during the hot season. Our school end-of-year happenings (exams, reports, 10 year celebration function for GEMs etc.) are smack bang in the middle of the hot season this year, so I will be at my busiest during the hottest time of the year.

Alton Chakma is a student whose education and board we sponsor in Feni Baptist Hostel in Bangladesh. 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.

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, 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.

Spotswood Primary School: We have people volunteering with serving kids breakfast, reading with children, making morning tea for staff, and on the Board of Trustees. If you're interested in finding out more of what's involved in serving, speak to Andrew, Erin, Syd, Robyn (& more!)

Spotswood Primary Chaplaincy: One of the things happening at the moment is Andrew co-leading two groups. These groups are focused on helping boys listen respectfully, take turns, and provide solutions to problems.

west: groups

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.

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** practice will be on June 23rd 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. See Gary B if you are interested.

Get Real For all Year 7 – 13 students, and their parents/grandparents. Friends, fun, faith, food! We meet each Sunday during term time. 6.30 – 8pm in the downstairs part of our building. See West:events section for exact dates. Contact Hester or Andrew for more info.

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

See 'events' section for dates.

west: people

Congratulations to Rachael M who was recently awarded an honours blazer for achieving the highest NCEA level 2 results at NPGHS last year.

A big thanks to Maureen and Jim for the curtains downstairs – a huge improvement.

The church telephone/address directory is currently being updated. If you have changed any of your details since

the last one please let Heather B know ASAP. If you are new to West and want to be included in the next directory please see Heather B.

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.**

west: events

Over 60's Group. Many thanks to Judy and Keith W. who have offered to organize our next get-together. They will be in touch soon.

Get Real Our youth group called Get Real has started very well this year. It's been a delight for the many adults involved to get to know these young people better. Get Real is for school year 7 – 13 (roughly 11- 17 year olds). We have eight regulars on Sunday nights from 6:30 – 8pm. We've been thinking about the people who have shaped our lives, about our life journey so far, and are currently looking at some of Jesus' stories. We've had a pool party, E-Camp, and pizza and movie night (May 29). One of the highlights has been the formation of a happy, inclusive, open, fun, culture. See our feature photo on the front cover!

Next **Church Meeting** is on Sunday 3rd July.

6,20 June Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm
7,21 June Rainbow Group at Heather H's home, 1.00pm
9,23 June Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
12 June Soup Lunch at Alison & Chris's
12,19,26 June Get Real, 6.30pm at Church

13,27 June Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood
14,21,28 June Movies night at Grant & Megan's home
23 June Music Practice, at Gary & Heather's, 7pm
26 June Soup Lunch at Heather & Gary's

west: pitching in

Soup Lunches

June 12 Alison & Chris

June 26 Heather & Gary, Isabel & Tim

Trust Stuff. The Mother's Day Brunch was a great success once again. A big thanks to all those involved. The Bread Run is looking for more volunteers – please contact Alison D for details.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,835 per month in offerings; in April our offerings were \$9,911.66.

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.

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.

Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing	4 JUNE	11 JUNE	18 JUNE	25 JUNE	2 JULY
	Hester M Will M Andy L	Brent G Murray L	Liane L Wayne L Syd B	Bedford family	Corey and family Allan W