



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 2016

2 OCT James # 7
3:1 – 12
Our Most Powerful Muscle

9 OCT James # 8
3:13 – 18
Purity in Wisdom

16 OCT James # 9
4:1 – 10
Purity in Humility

23 OCT James # 10
4:11 – 17
Purity in Speech

30 OCT James # 11
5:7 – 12
Endurance

6 NOV James # 12
5:1 – 6
Purity in Wealth



“What’s going to work? _____” Parents of younger children no doubt could finish this line from the TV programme “Wonderpets.” “What’s going to work? TEAMWORK!”

Teamwork by West has made a real impact in our community over the last few weeks. Here’s the story...

It started over a year ago in a Trust Board meeting where it was suggested by a trustee (Chris/Alison/Val/Hester/Stuart) that I ask Spotswood Primary if there was anything further we could do with our partnership to help?

At a weekly school Pastoral Care Team Meeting, we discussed this question and decided that a Parenting Course would be beneficial.

This ‘co-incided’ with Naomi co-leading a parenting course at Ngāmotu kindy. She loved it and was keen to help lead the course again with others. Naomi completed training, and researched what was needed. A number of us considered how we might run courses in light of the context of our community. We decided that eating together would be important. Meeting in a home would be more inviting. Sourcing finance to pay for the course would break down barriers to people participating. Involving co-facilitators would grow leadership. Offering childcare would fit with our “all age-all stage” values.

At one of our post-service Church Meetings we presented some of our dream. We prayed. People were keen to get on board by volunteering practical support. This was taken as a “YES, let’s do it!”

Back to our Trust Board. Funding applications were submitted to Tindal Trust. Chris, Alison, Naomi and I put information, numbers, and letters of support together. We received the full amount we requested! Enough for four courses, perhaps even more!

In Term 1 of this year Naomi ran a small daytime course.

Another parenting course has just been completed. It was on Sunday afternoon’s at our place, from 3-5pm, followed by dinner together. Andrea co-facilitated. Liane and Alison made delicious meals. I was a volunteer too; creating obstacle courses, musical masterpieces, rest-inducing games, and other activities for eight children who were between three and 10 years old. Each week (bar one absence on my part) I teamed up with amazing (and much needed!) support with the children from Norman (Andrea’s son), Michael, Rachael, Erin, and Lisa. I’m sure there were others who prayed for the group too!

The parenting course is called “Awesome Whānau.” It’s one of the Toolbox parenting courses provided by Parents Inc (formerly Parenting with Confidence). The course is for a wide range of people such as mums, dads, grandparents, soon to be parents, school families, church families, other local families. Interestingly we had parents come who’d heard about it from Ngāmotu Kindy, Spotswood Primary, Te Wānanga Ō Aotearoa, and a Mainly Music group.

At the end of six sessions there are a bunch of new friends for everybody. All the children looked forward to playing together too! On Sunday there was a palpable “we don’t want this to finish” in the air.

Feedback from participants largely centred on their learning how to listen better to their children and how to talk with them more easily. Many stated they are getting along better as a family. I’m reminded of Jesus saying “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” This time was precious, life-affirming, relationship building, community forming, church in action time.

I’m left wondering “where to from here?” Yes, advertising is happening now for the next course (starts Tuesday 18 October, 10am). Perhaps you’re interested in tips for growing in grandparent /parent awesome-ness? But I’m really wondering about where to with these connections and community that have formed. How can this continue? There haven’t been any expressions of interest in coming along to church services, but that’s not the point. I’d be interested in your ideas!

One of the other challenges with this type of involvement in our community is the sustainability question. Funders will not fund forever. They expect churches and trusts to be working on how to make their operations and programmes less reliant on external funders. This of course then raises the

question about the value of running programmes in the long term. Perhaps there's ways of engaging with our community that are less dependent on receiving funding? I'd love to hear for example how individuals

/families are walking alongside others, sharing some of life together.

Great TEAMWORK West !!

Andrew 😊

west: making a difference

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

Meryl has requested prayer for her two co-workers, Jimmy and RoxAnne who have had to return to the USA to help in a family crisis. Also prayers for their son Steven who is unwell, and his wife Kunhee. It is not known when or whether they will return to Korea, and this may mean Meryl may need to cut short her time in N.Z.

Pray also for wisdom for Meryl and the staff at ACTS as to how best they can help. Meryl also thanks West folk for their various kinds of support shown in many ways.

Paul and Sarah B Our third intake of Women started their 6 months of training with us on 23rd September. They are courageous women who are determined to fight for their freedom out of slavery. Please stand with us as we support them in this fight, pray they have stamina and wisdom and that all seven will be set free and into God's family.

Jo R. Pray for Jo as she juggles a busy work schedule, pray she will have the wisdom to manage her schedule well.

Carley. Please pray for Carley's ongoing language learning. Pray that opportunities will arise which will allow her to practise her learning on a daily basis.

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 Chaplaincy: Andrew has finished co-leading groups for boys that help with listening, being respectful, taking turns, and providing solutions to problems. It was hard work! Let's see what Term 4 brings!

Hospital Chapel Service support. Bed pushers and wheel chair pushers are needed on a roster basis for Services at Base Hospital. Helpers would be called on around three times a year. Co-ordinators are Ian & Jill McK, please talk to them if you would like to help.

west: groups

Awesome Whānau Parenting Course for any adults wanting to develop in parenting skills, aimed at 0 – 12 year olds. Starts Tuesday 18 October at 10am – 12 noon. The course will run for six weeks and is free of charge. Babies and toddlers are welcome too. Morning tea is included. Liane and Naomi will be leading the Course. For more information contact Naomi on 021 2033653.

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 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.

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

The **Music Group** practice will be on the 13th and 27th 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. 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 Andrew for more info.

west: people

Michael McK was baptised on Sunday 25 September! Congratulations on taking such an important step in committing your life to the Living God who has committed his life to you! Michael will share his story with us when he's next in New Plymouth.

Michael says to all of West: "A massive thank you for all the notes and encouragement that people sent me. Made my baptism, seeing as you could not be there in person. I am super honoured and privileged to have

been able to grow up in the West Baptist community! And to know each of the amazing members that make up her congregation! I'd like to say thank you to everyone for being God's hands and feet in my life! Love you all."

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

Get Real is a fun and safe place for young people (Year 7 up) to explore faith and build relationships. We meet on Sunday evenings from 6.30-8.30pm in the youth room downstairs.

3,17 Oct.	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood	13 & 27 Oct	Music Practice - Gary & Heather's
10,24 Oct.	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm	13 & 27 Oct.	Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
11,25 Oct.	Rainbow Group at Heather H's home, 1.00pm	16,30 Oct	Get Real, 6.30pm at Church
11,18,25 Oct.	Movies night at Grant & Megan's home	18,25 Oct	Awesome Whānau Parenting Course

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 \$10,490.41.

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.

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.

Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing

1 OCT
Brent G
Murray L

8 OCT
Liane L
Wayne L
Wayne L

15 OCT
Bedford family

22 OCT
Corey & family
Andy L

29 OCT
Ross H
Raewyn H