



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.

Church picnics: Every Sunday evening (weather permitting) we meet from 5-7pm at the Eastern end of Ngamotu Beach. Bring your own food and come and enjoy the fellowship

See inside for more....

A MONTH OF SUNDAYS

FEBRUARY 2017

29 JAN Roi Nu
John 15:16, Psalm 1:3
Abundant Living: Go & Be Fruitful

5 FEB Roi Nu
Luke 5:17-26
Bringing Others to Jesus

12 FEB Roi Nu
Luke 18:1-8
Keep on Praying

19 FEB Rachael McKillop

26 FEB Brian Manning

5 MAR Judy Wood



Mingalar Bar Everyone!

I hope your New Year is going well. Thank you to West Baptist Church for having me over the summer as your student Pastor. I am very pleased to have been here and have enjoyed exploring the tremendous beauty of Taranaki. It's a great province to live in! But even more than that I have

enjoyed getting to know so many wonderful people who make up the Church. You each have special qualities and I am so grateful for your support and encouragement which has enabled me to focus upon my pastoral ministry.

This has been extremely valuable and practical experience for me. During my time here at West I have gained a wide range of ministry experience, including preaching, visiting and curating. One of the things I love doing here at West is preparing and delivering the Sunday messages. Hopefully, you enjoyed hearing them! I am particularly grateful for this opportunity to preach consistently, because normally, when we are on fieldwork during the year I usually only get to preach three or four times in the English language. Visiting people has also been good and another thing I have really enjoyed doing here at West is chatting and talking with people after the worship service. This is a great time to talk and connect

with people whether they are regulars or new to the Church.

One of the greatest qualities that I have really appreciated here at 'West Baptist Church' is the special way in which you provide a place of shelter, faith, and laughter. The gathering together for all-age, all-stage community worship is one of the most important things you do at West Baptist Church and fairly unique in our Baptist movement. You also have a strong community focus and it is evident that God's faithful presence is among you as a faith community.

I would like to encourage you that God is at work here and I pray that you will continue to be an example for others in the future. I look forward to keeping in touch with you all and hearing how the church is doing.

May I leave you with the words of Paul who encourages us in our faith.

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

**In Christ's peace,
Roi Nu.**

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 Month 2 of training of our third intake of Women. May our new seven trainees grow in confidence and hope as they struggle for their freedom. May we have the wisdom and the energy required to support and encourage them on their journey.

Jo R. Please pray for my Family as we continue to grieve the loss of Dad. Pray that I will find joy in unexpected places.

Carley. We are going to be very busy over the next few months with exams, reports, functions, and lots of

visitors. Pray for continued strength, and the ability to be calm and joyful during this stressful time of the year, and that I will be thankful and happy with what I am doing and where God has placed me.

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: Spotswood Primary Chaplaincy: Along with contributing to the school's pastoral care team, Andrew spent individual time with four children last year.

Hospital Chapel Service support. Hospital Chapel Service Support: West helps with the hospital chapel

service occasionally. If you'd like to find out more, please contact Ian & Jill M.

Sun 7 Feb. is West's first Hospital Chapel service duty for 2017, so our bed-pushing team will be involved in that service. If anyone else would be willing to assist with this task, please talk to Ian McK. It only involves about 3-4 times per year.

west: groups

Building Awesome Whānau Course will be held this term on Friday mornings at 9.30am – 11.30 for six weeks starting on the 24th of February. It will be facilitated by Naomi at her home. This is a wonderful course for parents and grandparents of children from 0-12 years old. The material is presented in a humorous and relaxed manner and gives you lots of practical strategies to try. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Naomi on 021 203 3653.

Blokes and Cokes, All men are welcome to share a drink and good conversation the first Monday of the month 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. See events section for dates.

The **Rainbow group** meets fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons, 1pm at Heather H's home. See event section for dates.

The **Movie Group** 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. Anyone looking for a fortnightly home group on a Thursday is welcome to check us out. The group is currently following a video series on the book of James.

Get Real is all about friends, fun, faith and food. It's for young people who are year 7 through to year 13 (Form 1-7.) We meet on Sunday evenings from 6.30-8.00pm in the church basement. Contact James McK

The Music Group: The first practice will be on the 16th February, 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.

Over 60's Group. We will be having a barbecue tea at Alan and Val's place on the 18th February at 5.30 p.m. Please bring meat and either a salad or desert to share. Any queries phone Val or Carolyn.

west: people

Welcome Roi Nu! We're delighted to have you as part of West over the summer months! Roi Nu's details will be in the West Weekly. She is staying with Wayne and Liane, and is looking forward to meeting and getting to know everybody. Meal invites would be one great way to do this 😊

A big Congratulations to Robyn & Gary R.

On the 18th of February they will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. They were married in the little Presbyterian Church in Eltham where Robyn grew up. They will be celebrating this special occasion with their family.

Can you help? Harish needs help dropping his 7-year-old daughter at Spotswood School. If there is anyone

who can help or knows of someone who could please contact Harish on 021 046 5879

We have had several **new people to West** in the last few weeks. It's great to have you as part of West! We trust you can make friends, to participate as you choose to, and to grow with us as God's people at

West. We're looking forward to getting to know you more

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

west: *in our community*

Our Pastor Andrew is spending a few weeks at **Parihaka** as a part of his sabbatical. This is a fantastic opportunity for him to learn, relate, get to know, and experience Māori culture with a distinct Christian heritage. Forming a connection with Māori, and with a Marae was something a lot of people were keen on according to feedback from our bi-cultural series – **this** – would be an awesome way to do it! Money is needed too. If you would like to help donations can be put into West's bank account with "**Parihaka**" in reference box. Tax rebates will be given.

west: **pitching in**

Breakfast in Schools volunteers:

Do you have a spare 2 1/2 hours on a Monday or Friday morning once, twice, three times – or more a term? We require more volunteers to help give the kids at Spotswood Primary a good start to the day by feeding them breakfast. If you are interested, please contact Erin.

The Food Cupboard:

The food cupboard needs replenishing. We need things like pasta, rice, breakfast foods, Juice sachets, coffee, tea, Tins of Vege's, fruit, meals, soup etc. Flour, sugar, etc. If you could bring along one thing each week we will soon have the cupboard restocked.

Trust Stuff: The Trust was successful in their application to the Community Organisations Grants Scheme (COGS) for some funding. This will enable the Trust to continue its work into the near future.

Offerings: 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.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,835 per month in offerings; in December, our offerings were \$8,909

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.

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.

west: **events**

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30 Jan	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm	2, 16 Feb	Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
7, 21 Feb	Rainbow Group at Heather H's, 1pm		
13, 27 Feb	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood	7, 14, 21, 28 Feb	Movies night at Grant & Megan

Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing	4/5 Feb Brian & Kathy M Alison D	11/12 Feb Tracey W & Andrea M	18/19 Feb Roi & Jude SM Stuart W	25/26 Feb Brian & Judy W	4/5 March James & Carol Mck
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