



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 2017

4 JUNE Pentecost Sunday

11 JUNE Meet the Ganes – heading to K-town

18 JUNE Surprise!

25 JUNE New Series Starting



“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

These are familiar words of Jesus – and yet it’s hard to understand what “poor in spirit” means.

If we “Peterson-ise” it – by looking at Eugene

Peterson’s The Message version, a little more light is shed for us...

³“You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.”

This last week has seen many families on the other side of the world at the end of their rope. Grieving, numb, in shock, confused, in pain, angry, broken.

Around 30 children died this week needlessly. They died because of greed, corruption, lack of education,

and lack of availability to the most basic of medicine and health care. Next week, another 30 children will also die.

Around 1575 children have died so far through the Syrian war. Innocent, potential- laden, hope-filled, children.

As followers of Jesus, we must value the lives of people unseen and different to us, as much as those who are seen and similar to us - even when both groups are on the other side of the world.

With so many people at the end of their rope, may there be more of God and God’s rule. May God’s presence fill, soothe, and transform both lives and situations- so that God’s ways of peace, friendship, justice, compassion and love may be experienced by all.

Andrew ☺

west: making a difference

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

Meryl Greetings to the ‘Land of the Long White Cloud’ (and a few other places too) from the ‘Land of Morning Calm’. It’s just over 6 weeks since I returned to Korea, and it seems like I’ve never been away! The glorious cherry blossoms are out in full, with the lovely weather that goes with it.

Please pray for one of our students, Petrie (P-Tree, or Pretty Tree, the literal translation of her Korean name). Her good friend Yama has been in hospital for a number of weeks, and from what we understand her condition is extremely serious - she needs a liver transplant or a complete miracle (or both!) Petrie is devastated. Yama wants to return to her African home to spend time with her 5 year old son and her young brother and sister, and to us that seems the best option. Pray for them both, for wisdom and acceptance for God’s will to be done, and for Petrie’s church which is helping with Yama’s medical bills.

My co-workers, Jimmy and RoxAnne, are now working with SIM USA and are based at SIM’s Global Mission Centre, in Charlotte, North Carolina. They are involved in providing pastoral care and training for missionaries, helping others ‘embrace the

unique challenges and joys of life on the mission field’, very similar to what they were doing with me in South Korea. They will be perfect in that role, having had many years of experience of mission work in both Africa and Asia.

However that will mean there is a big gap here, in South Korea, working with me in training Asians for the mission field. Do you know of someone who would enjoy getting to know and mentor students, and teach them English? They need not be fully fledged teachers, nor experienced missionaries, although a certificate in teaching ESOL is preferred. Anything from a 5-week term, to a 3-month term, or longer (6 months? A year? Longer?) Pray with me for God to supply the right person/people.

Paul and Sarah B Sarah is undergoing tests to determine the cause of her ongoing illness. Pray for a positive outcome, also pray they will be well rested and restored while home in NZ and that Loyal Family will be coping well while they are away.

Jo R. Give praise for a wonderful home assignment and being able to enjoy all of what NZ has to offer. Pray for her re-integration into life and work back on

the field as a lot has changed in the 4 months she has been away.

Carley As the school year finishes pray she will get through all the exam marking, writing reports, helping to organise a school production etc, and then can enjoy a holiday with time to recover and be refreshed.

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:

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.

Spotswood Primary Chaplaincy Andrew is a part of the school's pastoral care team which meets weekly to collaboratively support children and their families. He also spends time with staff and children.

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.

west: growing

Awesome Whanau Parenting Course: for all adults wanting to develop in parenting skills, aimed at 0 – 12 year olds. A new 6 week course started very well on Sunday 21 May. Contact Naomi if you'd like to participate or help out in a future group.

All men are welcome to share a drink and good conversation every fourth 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. Anyone looking for a fortnightly

home group 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 school year 7 through to year 13 (Form 1-7.) We are still deciding what our gatherings will look like. Watch this space!

The Music Group This month's practice will be on 29 June, 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.

Love a Good Book? We have a bunch of new, excellent books in our bookshelf at the top of the stairs. Would you like to read one, and write up a brief review/response of it for others? Andrew would be very happy to hear what you're interested in and give some suggestions.

west: in our community

Combined New Plymouth Churches Pentecost Sunday service at City West Church, on Sunday 4th June at 6.30pm. Mick Duncan speaking.

west: people

Congratulations to **Michael and Liz** on their recent engagement! Fantastic news! We hope you enjoy the journey towards your commitments and celebration on December 30th!

Naomi was surprised at school assembly on Friday with a "Caught Being Good" award. (These are normally just given to the children!) Mark F presented Naomi with a certificate and prize for being a great parent help in the school community. Naomi has been helping with breakfast behind the

scenes, doing gardening with groups of kids, and running Building Awesome Whānau parenting courses.

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, Kathe M, Jocelyn D.**

west: events

Liane L is holding a Craft Afternoon at her home on Saturday 10th June, starting at 1.00pm. A great opportunity to chat and bring along whatever craft you'd like to do.

A Weekend to Remember:

Marriage retreat and input at its best. 30 June – 2 July. 22-24 September.

www.familylife.org.nz There is a brochure on our notice board. Or talk with Naomi or Andrew – we recommend it!

Our annual **Mother's Day Brunch** for Spotswood Primary School families went extremely well. An excellent team effort from many West people helped make this flow well, build friendships and gather our community together.

6,20 June Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood
8,22 June Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
10 June Craft Afternoon at Liane's, 1pm

13, 27 June Rainbow Group at Heather H's, 1pm
13,20,27 June Movies night at Grant & Megan's
19 June Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm
29 June Music Practice - Gary & Heather's

west: pitching in

The Food Cupboard:

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

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,384 per month in offerings; in April our offerings were \$9,556.

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**

3 JUNE
Roi M
Jude SM

10 JUNE
Judy W
Brian W
Syd B

17 JUNE
James McK
Carol McK

24 JUNE
Linda L
Andy L
Allan W

1 JULY
Alison D
Lisa A