



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

MAY 2017

30 APR Sarah B from Loyal Workshop
Rachael McK baptism

7 MAY What's Up with Freeset?
Jo from "K-town" speaking

14 MAY Mother's Day Brunch for and at
Spotswood Primary

21 MAY Surprise!

28 MAY Surprise!

4 JUNE Surprise!



Vulnerability. Honesty.
Authenticity. Going Deep.
Friendships. Real.
Humility.

These are words we value. These are words we treasure. These are characteristics we are drawn to. These are words that capture Jesus' life and ministry. These are words we aspire to describe our lives.

One of the challenges laid before us at the Arrow leadership course that I'm participating in over the next two years, was to embrace words like these.

These attributes are needed in order to face into fear. Fear is the enemy and opposite of love. Fear shuts us down, shrinks our world, stymies our heart, and stops us thinking clearly.

Similar things can be said of insecurity. One of our presenters said: "It's not a matter of whether I have

insecurity or not, it's a matter of how insecure I am, how often it arises, and what impact it has."

When we embrace these words above, we counter fear and insecurity by bringing our fears and insecurities into the light. By *sensibly* vulnerably confessing; we remove some of the power, we share some of the load, we can more readily receive Christ's love, we can gain strength for the journey.

I have a renewed challenge – to be honest enough with myself to bring something of this to light with a friend/spiritual director in my life.

How about you? Does fear live close to you? Are insecurities crippling your thought life? What word from the top stands out to you that might provide some light and love? Is there an action step you could take? Who can you share this with?

With love and peace,

Andrew ☺

west: making a difference

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

Meryl I hope you have had a wonderful Easter celebrating Jesus Christ, the Son of God, rising from the dead. We started this special weekend on Good Friday, attending a nearby church which produced music based on the Passion, found in both John's and Matthew's Gospels. And then today, Easter Sunday, we attending two services, one in English and the other in Korean, the latter of which had a full orchestra and huge choir singing about the resurrection of Christ. Music makes things special, especially a weekend like this.

Please pray for previous co-worker Jimmy, who will have spinal fusion surgery this Thursday to replace two deteriorated discs in his neck. Pray also for Dirk and Thea's daughter who is recovering from last year's brain surgery (the removal of a tumour) and who has begun to feel unwell again (and pray for her parents so far away from her, here in Korea!). Blessings, Meryl

Paul and Sarah B As we spend time in our homeland of Aotearoa, we are dependent on our good God to rest us deeply. May He rest and restore us in every way. In each part of us that is dry and worn out, may He bring restoration and new life.

And in our absence, may the Loyal family know His strong, loving and peaceful presence. May He be holding them together in love and unity.

Jo R. Pray for Jo as she returns to South Asia after 3 months in NZ on home assignment. Pray that she will quickly settle back into South Asian culture.

Carley Please pray for extra strength as this is the month of end of year exams, reports and end of year performances and functions.

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.

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 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. There will be another 6 week course starting Sunday 21 May. Speak to Naomi if you'd like to participate or help out.

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 11 May, 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?

west: people

Rachael McKillop is being baptised April 30!

It's great having Liz a part of us! Welcome (from a month or so ago!) 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, Kathe M, Jocelyn D.**

west: events

A Weekend to Remember:

Marriage retreat and input at its best. 5-7 May. 30 June – 2 July. 22-24 September.

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

Annual Mothers' Day Brunch will be held at Spotswood Primary School on Sunday 14th May, commencing at 10.00am. We look forward to seeing as many of you there, as are able to attend. Please sign up to assist where you are able, or just come along to be a friend to the attendees.

2,16,30 May Rainbow Group at Heather H's, 1pm

8,22 May Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at
Treehouse, Spotswood

9,16,23,30 May Movies night at Grant & Megan's

11 May Music Practice - Gary & Heather's

11,25 May Chocolate Fish Group, at James
& Carol's home

14 May Mothers' Day Brunch at Spotswood
Primary School, 10.00am

22 May Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm

west: pitching in

Trust Stuff

The WBCT is looking for a further one or two people to join the Trust. Some knowledge about funding applications would be helpful. The Trust meets once a term. Please contact Chris D. or Val W. if you have any questions.

The Food Cupboard:

The food cupboard needs replenishing. We need things like pasta, rice, breakfast foods, Juice sachets, coffee, tea, tins of veges, 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 March our offerings were \$8,508.88.

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**

6 MAY
Corey and
family

13 MAY
Raewyn H
Ross H
Wayne L

20 MAY
Brian M
Kathy M

27 MAY
Tracey W
Andrea M
Andy L

3 JUNE
Roi SM
Jude SM

*The way to Heaven - turn right
at Calvary and keep going
straight.*