



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

NOVEMBER 2017

5 NOV Peace in troubled times
Andrew

12 NOV When it feels like God is absent
John Tucker – Carey Principal

19 NOV What does this all mean?
Andrew

26 NOV Surprise
Andrew



In the last week of September I spent the week on planned Study leave. I'm participating in a two year programme called the "Arrow Leadership Course." It's such a privilege and help to have study leave/sabbatical time built into my role for my development and wellbeing – I'm deeply appreciative of this.

One of the many things I took away from this week came from a morning chapel time of singing and preaching whilst looking out along the beautiful Long Bay Beach and Regional Park.

As we looked out from this window at the front of the chapel there were a number of guys working for the council, right on the fence line you can see through the window. They were skilfully building a retaining wall and pathway with a digger and by hand – pretty much right in front of us.

Our beautiful view and our quiet peace were very compromised! Not only that but, our worship was in full view of these guys.



Apparently somebody from our group thought they'd take the initiative to offer to ask them to pause for half an hour, or move to a different part of the retaining work.

Our preacher Val Gould responded by suggesting we leave them be, and it turned out she was able to incorporate this situation into her sermon a few minutes later.

Val preached from Nehemiah chapter 3 which is about the numerous different groups of people who contributed to the work of

rebuilding Jerusalem's walls. But it wasn't about the walls! The people believed rebuilding the walls was something that pleased God. They provided security, peace, and more honour as a people group. Their work was worship. They worshipped as they worked together.

Personally, I find it quite easy to worship God in the wonders of his creation. When I walk with Libby to Kindy and see our Taranaki Maunga poking its head out through the houses along Marama Cres. When I drive alongside the Awakino River when heading North. When I run along Back Beach or up the Herekawe Track. When we picnic on Ngāmotu Beach in the warm sun with kids happily enjoying God's playground. When I'm in a beautiful chapel with stunning views along a beach and park area.

How much more so can we worship God in the seeing of each other at their best? Every single person is more than just God's creation – each person is made in God's very image!

When we look at each other – may we worship. Perhaps this means we keep our eyes open in worship – seeing other people. Perhaps we can encourage one another in sharing "I've worshipped because of you ___" This makes me think of how we share our benediction with each other, to each other.

Wonderful stuff!

Andrew 😊

west: making a difference

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

Paul and Sarah, Mikayla and Malachi (S Asia):

Paul & Sarah B.: Paul & I require wisdom and courage in our Leadership as we continue to grow and strengthen the business. Please Pray. Our kids are constantly saying goodbye to friends. Please Pray that God will supply friends that will stick around for a while. Thanks.

Carley (S Asia) I need extra time and stress management during this time as I juggle teaching, training, working, supporting the boys in their exams, a conference in Hong Kong, and preparing to leave for three months on Home Assignment! I have so much to do - Pray I can get everything done. Continue to pray for the Boys sitting their O levels, this is the point where they get tired and demotivated, pray they finish well. They finish on November 13th.

Jo : November and December are busy months here with visitors coming for many reasons, may each be impacted by what they see and learn whilst here. Pray for our community as we farewell some Team members and begin preparations to welcome new ones. May those leaving be able to leave well and those coming feel welcomed.

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.

west: growing

Building Awesome Whānau parenting course will be happening again in Term 1.

All men are welcome to share a drink and good conversation every fourth Monday at **Blokes and Cokes**, 7.30pm at Westside Grille. 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.

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.

Playgroup. We are starting a new playgroup! On Fridays! More details to come. We're on the lookout for children's toys. If you'd be happy to lend some for a little while, please contact Shirley P on 751 0711. If you'd like to be a part of this, particularly to come alongside parents, please contact Shirley.

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 studying the book "Naked Spirituality".

Youth Group Fortnightly Saturday events for young people who are school year 7 through to year 13 (Form 1-7). There are also fortnightly Sunday faith discussions for year 9-13. Contact James M to be put on the text message group to find out about the events, or any other info. Put a facebook request to Transit Youth for facebook updates, and let Andrew know.

The Music Group This month's practice will be on 16 November, at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm.

west: in our community

Food Together is about connecting people together, eating healthily and affordably. Fresh fruit and vegetables delivered to West's building on Thursday afternoons. For more info see Food Together New Plymouth on Facebook. To order, go to www.foodtogether.co.nz Order by Tuesday 12pm. Pick up Thursday 2.30 – 3.15pm or 5.00 – 5.45pm.

We'd like more people to help pick up food from St Mary's, and welcome those coming to pick up from West. Volunteers are on every five weeks. Please see Jill M if you can help. If people purchase a "Gift Bag" online and have the pick up at West, we'll get to a family that could do with a hand.

Spotswood Primary School has a Gala day on Saturday November 4th. 10.00 – 2.00pm. "Rides, stalls, BBQ, hamburgers, bacon and egg sandwiches, white elephant, cakes, quick fire raffles, activities and lots more."

Anyone with a spare 2 hours on a Monday morning once, twice or more during term times that can assist with **Breakfast in Schools** please contact Erin as are currently short of team members for Mondays. Email: erin.roche@orcon.net.nz

west: people

Our love, support and prayers go out to **Judy W** with the death of her father in South Africa.

Most of our notices, as well as brief Sunday reflections are sent via an e-mail called the "West Weekly." If you'd like to receive this, please contact Andrew or Alison.

Our university students are in the midst of exams. They'd appreciate prayer support in these no doubt stressful times. It will be good to see them soon over summer!

Jacob M is being baptised on November 5! Fantastic! This is happening at Royal Oak Baptist Church in Auckland. Please be prayerful for Jacob. We'll be hearing from him at West in a couple of weeks time!

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

Over 60's Group

Oakura Arts Trail - meet 1:30 outside Church - today - Sunday 29th October.

Over 60's Christmas get together will be at Pukeiti on Sunday 3 December at 12:30p.m. Further details to follow.

On Friday 3rd November **Mainly Music** will be starting at West Baptist at 10am. We have morning tea at 10:30am and anyone is welcome to come and join us and meet our lovely families who come each week. If you want more information please ring me on 751 0711. Shirley P.

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| 3 Nov | Mainly Music, at West, 10am | 11,25 Nov | Youth Group, 7-9pm |
| 6,20 Nov | Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood | 14,28 Nov | Rainbow Group at Heather's, 1pm |
| 6 Nov | Blokes & Cokes Westside Grille 7.30pm | 14,21,28 Nov | Movies night at Grant & Megan's |
| 9,23 Nov | Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home | 16 Nov | Music Practice - Gary & Heather's |
| | | 19 Nov | Church Meeting. More details will be coming out Nov 5 th . |

west: pitching in

Our National Baptist Hui (Assembly) is being held at Northpoint from Thursday 9 – Saturday 11 November. If you can help with billets, cleaning, car-parking, ushering, serving food, and other bits and pieces, please contact Anna Jones at Northpoint directly. Ph 7552374 or 027 3050975 or anna@northpoint.org.nz

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,384 per month in offerings; in September our offerings were \$10,142.

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	4 NOV	11 NOV	18 NOV	25 NOV
	Sue J Steve J	Brent G Murray L Allan W	Liane L Wayne L	Bedford family Stuart W

