



**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

APRIL 2018

29 MAR Thursday 7pm  
Service of the Shadows

30 MAR Good Friday Service  
9.30am

1 APR Resurrection Sunday  
10am

8 APR What is being Baptist about? #1

15 APR What is being Baptist about? #2

22 APR What is the Gospel? #3

29 APR Catalyst

6 MAY What is the Gospel? #4



Nothing this month.  
Enjoy the white space.

Andrew 😊

## west: making a difference

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

**Meryl** We have been asked to pray for the water situation in Capetown. At the same time, can you pray for my water situation? I have mentioned the cold weather before. Now it is so cold, the water has frozen in the pipes of the whole apartment (last week it was minus 18, minus 23 with the wind factor included, and a 'high' of minus 9), and we all have had no water since Saturday last week. No water to wash my face or clean my teeth in the morning. No water for anything. 😞 In Mursiland (Ethiopia) when we ran out of water, we had the nearby river to 'wash'. Here we have a nearby river, but I'm certainly not going to wash in it, as it is covered with ice and snow! Lord, may I be Christian in my attitude towards this water problem, and thereby 'stand out' from the non-believers around. Thanks for your prayers.

**Paul and Sarah, Mikayla and Malachi (S Asia):** Please pray for Sarah (The Loyal Workshop) as she has had on-going debilitating fatigue over the last 3 weeks. Pray for effective medical treatment: a prompt diagnosis and treatment plan.

**Carley (S Asia):** Please continue to pray for GEMS School and their desperate need for teachers. Pray against advances of the enemy, and that God's presence and protection will settle over the school. May the current teaching staff find strength through

faith, and may they be blessed with wisdom on how best to manage their time and the current situation,

**Jo R:** Please pray for the Gateway cleaning team, that they will find harmony within the team and will experience joy in their work. Pray also for Charlie and I as we continue to juggle our busy work lives and also to find time to spend together. Give praise for a wonderful group of friends, especially the men who are doing community work with Charlie as he settles into life here.

### Closer to home:

We love and 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

All men are welcome to share a drink and good conversation every fourth Monday at **Blokes and Cokes**, 7.30pm at Westside Grill (formerly known

as 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 Westside Grill 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.

**Music & Play** For parents and children under 5 years. We meet every Friday at 10am. Koha. Contact Shirley P on 751 0711

**Youth Group** West Baptist's Get Real, plus St James' Transit youth groups have combined under a new name: "Impact Youth." This is for years 7 to 13 youth. We meet together for social activities on Saturday evenings once a fortnight.

Fortnightly bible studies for the high school aged will also be starting (in term 2) on the Sunday evening of the same weekend. 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 the Transit Youth facebook page for updates, and Andrew will give you access to the closed group.

**The Music Group** This month's practice will be on the 12 April, 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.

**Music lessons with our youth and children** An idea being talked about by a few people, is whether we might be able to help teach some of our children and young people to play some instruments? This is with a view to building relationships, passing on skills, and perhaps having them join our music team one day! Would anybody (or group of people) be interested in getting heads together to explore this more?

## west: in our community

**Food Together** is finishing up at West. Please see the West Weekly for more information why.

**Taranaki Retreat** is our fantastic local place of rest and support for people really struggling, led by Suzy and Jamie. Taranaki Retreat has people baking for them each week and they will be leaving this baking in the foyer on Sunday mornings for it to be picked up by the Retreat on Monday mornings. This is just to let you know 😊

## west: people

**Congratulations to Jude SM** for being selected to play for New Zealand in the 2018 Masters Hockey World Cup to be held in Spain.

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.

Recent West Weekly content includes what our Leadership Board have been up to, and some

interesting information on why we're stopping Food Together.

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

## west: events

**Youth Group:** James and Carol M will be taking a group of nine Year 7-9 Youth away to **e-camp** over the Easter weekend.

Our **Over 60's Group** are meeting at Big Jim's Café on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon. Please reply to Keith and Judy or phone 751-3288 before 10<sup>th</sup> April if you wish to join us.

### CALENDAR:

30 Mar – 2 Apr	E-camp for Year 7-9 Youth.	10,17,24 Apr	Movie Group at Grant & Megan's
2,30 Apr	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm	12 Apr	Music Practice
3,17 Apr	Rainbow Group at Heather H's, 1pm	12, 26 Apr	Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home
6,13,20,27 Apr	Music & Play, at West.10am	15 Apr	Over 60's Lunch at Big Jims, noon
7,21 Apr	Youth Group 7 – 9 pm	28 Apr	Working Bee at Church, 9am
9,23 Apr	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood		

## west: pitching in

On Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 9am start – we are having a **Working Bee** to have a clean up of the Church grounds. We hope to see you there. Wayne L.

**Each month** we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,500 per month in offerings; in February our offerings were \$8,331.

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 prayer, please talk to Andrew.

<b>Cleaning &amp; Morning Tea Lawnmowing</b>	<b>7 APR</b>	<b>14 APR</b>	<b>21 APR</b>	<b>28 APR</b>	<b>5 MAY</b>
	Brian M Kathy M	Andrea M Tracey W Roi S-M	Judy W Brian W	Val/Allan Jill/Ian Allan W	Lynda L Andy L

### THE POWER OF A SEED

Want to see a miracle?

Plant a word of love heart-deep in a person's life. Nurture it with a smile and a prayer, and watch what happens.

An employee gets a compliment. A wife receives a bouquet of flowers. A cake is baked and carried next door. A widow is hugged. A petrol-station attendant is honoured. A speaker is praised.

Sowing seeds of peace is like sowing beans. You don't know why it works; you just know it does. Seeds are planted and top-soils of hurt are shoved away.

Don't forget the principle.

Never under-estimate the power of a seed.

MAX LUCADO

GRAPEVINE