



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 service on Sundays. So please don't worry if anyone with you makes a little bit of noise – 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

JULY 2018

1 JULY What is the Gospel? #7
How we're tracking?

8 JULY What is the Gospel? #8
Faith and Belief

15 JULY God's ways are not our ways
Isaiah 55: 8 & 9

22 JULY What is the Gospel? #9
Entering like a child

29 JULY Worship
with Mark Pierson

5 AUG Alongsiders #1



We've been exploring what the Gospel is – according to Jesus. This topic was identified by US as something to think more about – in order to shape how we think about God, life and mission.

In order to be closely orientated to God's Gospel in our everyday experiences, I believe it's crucial to reflect on our experience.

The "Examen" helps with this. Examen is an old term used to describe a time of reflection at day's end – to help us grow from our experiences of the day. In its simplest form, the Examen can mean asking ourselves questions which are designed to help us identify God's activity in our lives.

Wherever you are, spend the latter part of your day...

You may like to place a hand over your heart and ask Jesus, God, or the Holy Spirit to bring to your heart the following question:

1. When did I give and receive the most gentleness today?
2. When did I give and receive the least gentleness today?

Let what you're feeling come to the surface.

Let God's love fill you just the way you are.

Give thanks for whatever you have experienced.

A range of different questions could be asked – especially about the things that matter most to God – like the list of Gospel descriptors we've been considering, that are below.

For Example:

1. When did I experience something 'heavenly' on earth today?
2. When did I experience something not 'heavenly' on earth today?

A simple spiritual practice like this helps us reflect on our experiences and therefore to grow in how we are attentive to God in our everyday life.

There is more information on the blue handouts at the back of building.

What does the Gospel – the Kingdom coming near - look like?

Anytime that God's ways (God's Kingdom) are being lived out:

* From Galatians 5 the Fruit of Spirit show us what God's kingdom is like

o Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control

* From Luke 4 – Jesus' description of what he's about

o to heal blindness so we can see as God sees

o to free us from captivity to destructive ways of thinking & behaving

* From Matthew 6 – Jesus teaching disciples how to pray

o To help God's ways in heaven to be done also on earth

* From Matthew 5 – the beatitudes

o Poor in Spirit, meek, merciful, pure in heart, peacemakers, persecuted, those who mourn, those who seek righteousness

* From Mark 1

o To repent and believe

The Gospel according to Jesus is about the here and now:

* Jesus fulfilled the expectation that these good things (above) would happen one day. Those days are today.

* It's not about escaping earth to get to heaven.

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 and I are worn out. It is hot season, we are sweaty and bothery, and ready for a rest. Please pray that His grace will carry us and enable us to be patient with our staff, our kids and each other. May He lead us and grow us in the midst of a myriad of challenges. We have a visa run coming up on the 2nd July. We hope that he will rest us well over our break.

Carley (S Asia): Please pray as a new term has begun, for new ideas, renewed energies, and relationships as I continue a pastoral care role with the students.

Jo and Charlie (N.Z. and S. Asia.): On Saturday 14 July we get married. Pray that everything will go smoothly on our special day, and for it to be a wonderful time of celebration with friends and loved ones. Pray for us as we begin our new lives together with a few months in New Zealand and then prepare to head back to S. Asia at the end of the year.

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, and assists with gardening and orchard design.

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 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 the Impact Youth facebook page for updates, and Andrew will give you access to the closed group.

Mark Pierson will be running some training for curators and anybody else interested in creating space for worship, on Saturday July 28th. Exact times to be clarified. Mark will also be curating and preaching on Sunday 29 July.

The Music Group This month's practice will be on the 5th and 19th July, at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm.

west: in our community

Murray L and Naomi S are involved in garden and orchard design and work at Spotswood Primary School. Thanks to the excellent work of our West Baptist Community Trust, we have been able to donate funds for three apple trees. Aden L generously donated four mandarin trees from his "Fruity Gardener" business.

west: people



On Sunday 24th of June, James, Carol and Claudia went to Waiheke Island for the induction ceremony for Roi Nu, who is taking over as pastor for the Baptist church on the island. The church there is, and will continue to be, supported by Windsor Park Baptist in Auckland.

The induction service was also attended and supported by a number of other local Waiheke churches, along with a strong contingent from the

Myanmar church communities of Auckland. It was great to see the Christian community coming together for a wonderful occasion.

Let us continue to remember Roi Nu (who spent the 2016-17 summer here at West) in our prayers as she begins this new journey, mission and adventure amongst the people of Waiheke Island.

Congratulations Roi Nu!

Brian and Judy have relatives visiting from 23-27 Dec this year and wondered if anyone needs house sitters for that time. We will mainly be cooking and eating at our house, but a few extra beds would be useful for us and we can take care of things at your place. Chat at church or call Judy (027 359 7833).

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

July 1st - Church Meeting - for everybody.

CALENDAR:

1 July	Church Meeting	7,21 July	Youth Group 7 – 9 pm
2,16,30 July	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood	10,24 July	Rainbow Group at Heather H's, 1pm
5,19 July	Chocolate Fish Group, at James & Carol's home	10,17,24,31	Movie Group at Grant & Megan's
5,19 July	Music Practice	23 July	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm
6,13,20,27 July	Music & Play, at West, 10am	28 July	Mark Pierson workshop on creating worship events

west: pitching in

Prayer: If you have a prayer request, please contact Andrew who would be delighted to pray with you and/or put your request on the prayer chain.

We have an e-mail prayer chain where a dozen people are committed to praying for any request, as they are able. All West people are encouraged to be a part of this. If you'd like to join the prayer chain as a pray-er, please contact Andrew.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$9,500 per month in offerings; in May our offerings were \$9,241.

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.

Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing	7 JULY Bedford family Stuart W	14 JULY Corey & family	21 JULY Raewyn H Ross H James McK	28 JULY Brian M Kathy M	4 AUG Andrea M Tracey W Jude S-M
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Isaiah 49:16

Forget you?

*How could I
possibly forget you?*

*I have carved your
name in the palm of
my hands!*

God