



**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

MAY 2019

**5 MAY** Stories from Easter Camps  
God is at work!

**12 MAY** Mothers' Day Brunch BBQ  
Spotswood Primary School

**19 MAY** More than a Father  
Part 2.

**26 MAY** New series starting!  
#1 : Dust



Eight weeks ago we started our journey of Lent, moving towards Easter with Jesus' death and resurrection. In this time we have participated in Prayer and Self Denial as a way to lift our eyes to an important part of God's character – God is missional. God has a mission. By giving something up, praying and generously donating to the work of New Zealand Baptists, we are participating in God's mission in a way God has clearly called us to participate in.

In Isaiah 6:8 we read the famous words: "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I

am. Send me."

Since 1885, New Zealand Baptists have faithfully answered this call. We have taken seriously the command to go and preach the gospel in lands and places where Christ is not well known. Throughout scripture, we see countless examples of the life of faith that requires a willingness to go, to venture into the unknown, and follow God's lead.

Through God's Spirit, we are all offered this same invitation in our own day-to-day lives, whether we stay or whether we go, we are all invited to follow this sacred call to go on with God, journeying with God in obedience.

This leads us to think about ways we have understood God's missional character locally. God has a mission. This applies in our everyday lives all around us. And even more specifically for us as a gathered church – God's call to mission for West Baptist Community Church.

Historically we have sensed God's call, and this call has consistently been remembered and reinforced over our nearly 27 years as a church. God called us to this Western part of New Plymouth, and even more specifically to Spotswood and our wonderful primary school. Our response to God's call has been expressed in so many wonderful servant hearted, love filled, creative, faithful ways.

Right now, because of God's call and our responses, we have some special opportunities. We must continue to keep our eyes on God, our minds open, our hearts soft, our skin thick.

With the needs and opportunities that exist right now, how is God wanting us to be?

Individually?

As a church?

**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):** We give thanks for this incredibly rich time of rest. Please pray that God would continue to use this opportunity to heal, restore and rest us, in his own beautiful and wise ways.

**Carley (S Asia):** We definitely still need your prayers as we are struggling to retain teachers in the High school, especially for O levels. I know our Father will supply these, our job is to keep lifting this issue to Him. Pray for energy and strength for all the Staff here as the hotter months will soon be upon us.

**Jo and Charlie (N.Z. and S. Asia.):** We return to K-town on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, and are looking forward to returning "Home". Please pray for our travel, for smooth and stress-free immigration, and settling into a life we are excited to get to, but haven't been in, for what seems like ages! Pray for our interaction with the community on our return, and all the anticipation and nervous excitement that comes with that.

**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 spends Wednesday mornings at the school. He is a part of regular pastoral care team meetings which seek to collaboratively support children and families, and he spends time listening to and supporting children. Andrew is also working on developing a partnership

between West, School and Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring.

A new group for boys started this week, focused on healthy anger. This is being co-led with Niki (Social Worker in Schools.)

**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 **Ladies Tuesday Group** (formerly **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. Music & Play has started 2019 really well! We have a great team working well together and lots of families participating in a programme, and more importantly participating in community and friendships. We meet every Friday at 10am.

**Family Faith night** 5pm Sunday 5 May, with shared kai to start. To help our children grow in the ways of God's Kingdom, young families are getting

together on the first Sunday of each month to eat and learn together. Michael & Elizabeth are leading this.

**E-Camp** Jude S-M, eight year 7 – 9 (from 1-3) students and I had an amazing time at Finlay Park on the shores of Lake Karapiro near Cambridge. Incredible amounts of fun was had! Friendships were deepened. Life skills were learnt. God was opening hearts and minds! The photo is of Aston and me before going a million miles an hour on Sea Biscuits behind a speed boat on the lake.

**Easter Camp** James, Carol, Claudia, Caitlyn, Jezmah, Regan and Jenna (from St James) had an incredible time at Manfield Park in Feilding! Ask them about it!

**Impact Youth** Impact Youth (combined youth group with St James and West Baptist youth for years 7 to 13), meet every second Friday from 7-9pm, meeting either at West or at St James (in May that will be the 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>). Contact James M for more details.

Also for **senior youth** (years 10 to 13) there is an additional bible study on every second Sunday evening 7-9pm (12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of May) meeting at 63a Ngamotu Rd.

Contact James M to be put on the text message group and/or find the facebook page for **Impact Youth New Plymouth** (Andrew will give you access to the closed group.)

**The Music Group** This month's practice will be on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm.

## west: people

A **NEW TELEPHONE DIRECTORY** is out today. One per family. An electronic version is available should you want one. If so, please email Heather B and she will send you one.

**Lynda and Andy L** have their house on the market. They will be looking for a cheap rental or house-

sitting opportunity for the next 10 months after it sells. Please contact Lynda or Andy if you can help.

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, Jocelyn D.**

## west: events

**Mothers' Day Brunch BBQ** will be held at 10am on Sunday 12 May at Spotswood Primary School. West Baptist hosts this annual event. It's one way we can serve the local community, build relationships and provide a treat for the families. **Helpers needed!** Please sign up on the form on the noticeboard.

**OVER 60'S GROUP:** Our next get-together is not until sometime in July unless someone is willing to organise a gathering sooner. Please contact Carolyn by phone or e-mail.

### MAY CALENDAR:

3,10,17,24,31 <sup>st</sup>	Music & Play, at West, 10am	12 <sup>th</sup>	Mothers' Day Brunch BBQ,10am
5 <sup>th</sup>	Family Faith Night, 5pm	12,26 <sup>th</sup>	Impact Youth Seniors
7,21 <sup>st</sup>	Ladies Tuesday Group at Heather' H's,1pm	13, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood
9,23 <sup>rd</sup>	Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's.	14,21,28 <sup>th</sup>	Movie Group at Grant & Megan's
9,23 <sup>rd</sup>	Music Practice	20 <sup>th</sup>	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm
10, 24 <sup>th</sup>	Impact Group 7 – 9 pm		

## 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 March our offerings were \$9,872.

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**

**4 MAY**  
Brent G  
Murray L

**11 MAY**  
Liane L  
Wayne L  
Andy L

**18 MAY**  
Corey &  
family

**25 MAY**  
Brian M  
Kathy M  
Syd B

**1 JUNE**  
Bedford  
family