



**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 2019

**7 JULY**  
Mirrors  
Church Meeting

**14 JULY**  
Learner #3  
Doubt and Faith

**21 JULY**  
Joe Gray  
TDHB Chaplain

**28 JULY**  
Learner #4



The Baptist LEAD conference in Wellington has been held this week. I attended for the first time, with high hopes as our new National Leader Charles Hewlett was leading our time together.

Charles started by sharing and speaking briefly about 1 Corinthians 1:10-17

<sup>10</sup> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. <sup>11</sup>My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. <sup>12</sup>What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow

Christ."

<sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

Charles' key message throughout our three days together was the importance and call to keep our eyes on Jesus. As we listened to many different voices and wrestled with this scripture, we spent a lot of time in groups around tables discussing various questions and praying together. This was an excellent example of being church together, especially of being Baptist together- as we believed the risen Jesus was in our midst speaking to us as we all contributed to the discussion.

Here are some of the things I took away from LEAD:

- Charles was wise and brave, naming keys ways in which us Baptists are divided. Four groups were named: Traditionalists, Pentecostals, Progressives and Missionals. When we consider the strengths each of these groups bring, we see a huge amount of positives to celebrate. Spending time together to get to know others helps counter any sense of comparing, competition and judgement.
- With increased unity as a Union, we could become less controlling of what other churches do, and be more releasing/generous. Unity in diversity was a consistent theme.
- In our "West Way Forward" and in thinking about the worldwide church in general, it would be helpful to state and remember that we have a common vision: that the Good News of Jesus is about "reconciling all things in Christ." (This is the Kingdom of God coming near, for God's ways are reconciling ways.) - West must strengthen our ability to relate and connect with younger generations. We need to include people under 30 and under 40 on our Leadership Board. "Growing Young" by Kara Powell was a recommended read on the importance of this.
- A key thing the church in Aotearoa has to offer society is 'relationship.' With so much loneliness and isolation, churches are well placed to meet this fundamental need.
- Stories to communicate what we're doing and becoming are really helpful.
- I found myself encouraged to continue my journey of being te tangata o te Tiriti (a person of the Treaty), and to keep growing in being bi-cultural – that is, growing in feeling comfortable living in another culture.
- Encouragement to keep working on what membership looks like in 21st Century Aotearoa. Further ideas were gleaned on how we can do this as a church. Contacts were strengthened with other pastors and churches looking to do the same.
- Encouragement in how we're planning church meetings

- The Baptist Magazine has great stuff in it! I want to raise this more often at West
- Carey Baptist College has such great courses. Would any West people be interested in doing some distance learning which would nurture them and West?

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 continue to be thankful for this 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):** Please pray for my health. I've been quite sick most of this year and so would like to be back to being 100% healthy. Continue to pray for GEMS in your prayers, for a good start to the new school year, and for good relationships between parents and school.

**Jo and Charlie (N.Z. and S. Asia.):** Continue to pray for us as we develop our roles here, for clear direction and insight for all the unknown things that will soon be coming in regards to the business, that our documents for FRO will be procured quickly and easily so we can register. Pray that we will deepen relationships with our household and our new neighbourhood and pray for our language learning.

**Conversations** are continuing with NBMS about a West trip to see their work in South Asia.

### Closer to home:

We love and partner with **Spotswood Primary School**, across the road. We're involved with HPP

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.

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 has started, 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

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** Sunday 7 July. Families, Food, Fun, Faith. 5 – 6.30pm on the first Sunday of each month. We start with shared kai.

**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.

Firstly **thank you** to those from West who helped with the **mid-Winter Christmas progressive dinner**, particularly the Bedfords (junior) and McKillops (senior) who hosted a large bunch of kids and adults for various courses of the meal. We all enjoyed the hospitality and fun of the evening.

School holidays start on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> of July so we're having a school holiday cinema special, on that day

(possibly at West.) Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> is also during the school holidays, so the next event will be August 2<sup>nd</sup>, with **Spotlight and night games** at West Baptist. James M will keep you informed of more details by text closer to the times.

Also for **senior youth** (years 10 to 13) there is an additional bible study on every second Sunday evening 7-9pm meeting at 63a Ngamotu Rd. We take a break for the school holidays.

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 practices will be on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> July at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm.

### west: people

**Jill McK** is making shopping bags, machine washable, priced at \$2.00 a bag! They are being made now, with a view for 'extras' in Christmas parcels or other gifts. The money raised will go to Tranzsend's Christmas Angel Appeal. So see Jill if you'd like to purchase any.

**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

#### OVER 60'S GROUP 😊

Judy and Keith will be organising our next get-together, and will be in touch.

#### JULY CALENDAR:

2,16,30 <sup>th</sup>	Ladies Tuesday Group at Heather's, 1pm	7 <sup>th</sup> July	Church Meeting
4,18 <sup>th</sup>	Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's.	7 <sup>th</sup>	Family Faith Night, 5pm
4 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup>	Music Practice	8,22 <sup>nd</sup>	Lasses & Lattés, 7.30pm at Treehouse, Spotswood
5,12,19,26 <sup>th</sup>	Music & Play, at West, 10am	9,16,23,30 <sup>th</sup>	Movie Group at Grant & Megan's
5 <sup>th</sup>	Impact Group 7 – 9 pm	15 <sup>th</sup>	Blokes & Cokes at Westbar 7.30pm

## 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 \$9,664.

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.

<b>Cleaning &amp; Morning Tea Lawnmowing</b>	<b>6 JULY</b> Bedford family James McK	<b>13 JULY</b> Roi SM Jude SM	<b>20 JULY</b> Michael P Elizabeth P Jude SM	<b>27 JULY</b> Sangsters & Erin R	<b>3 AUG</b> Sue J Steve J Murray L
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### IF JESUS CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two;  
If He came unexpected, I wonder what you'd do?  
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honoured Guest;  
And all the food you'd serve Him would be the very best.  
And you would keep assuring Him you're glad to have Him there;  
That serving Him, in your home, was joy beyond compare.  
But when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door  
With your arms outstretched in welcome to your Heavenly Visitor?  
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in?  
Or hide some magazines and put the Bible where they'd been?  
Would you turn off the radio and hope He hadn't heard?  
And wished you hadn't uttered that last loud, hasty word?  
Would you hide your worldly music and put some Hymn books out?  
Would you let Jesus walk right in or would you rush about?  
And I wonder – if the Saviour spent a day or two with you;  
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?  
Would you go right on saying the things you always say?  
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?  
Would your family conversation keep its usual pace?  
And would you find it hard each meal to say a Table Grace?  
Would you sing the songs you always sing? And read the books you read?  
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?  
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd plan to go?  
Or maybe, would you change your plans for just a day or so?  
Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest friends?  
Or hope they would stay away until His visit ends?  
Would you be glad to have Him stay – forever – on and on?  
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last had gone?  
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do;  
If Jesus came in Person to spend some time with you.