



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

MARCH 2021

7 MAR Lent # 3
Jesus and the Prophets Help us be brave

14 MAR Lent # 4
Jesus Gives us a Fresh Start

21 MAR Lent # 5
Jesus is in Charge of Life (and Death)

28 MAR Lent # 6
Jesus is a Surprising King

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/ NZ) Please pray for Peace and Wisdom for Paul and Sarah as they return to South Asia and the workshop next week.

JOYYA Pray for Freeset as they launch their rebrand Joyya. Pray for a smooth transition for the whole team of this freedom business. Pray for God's guidance as they step into this new chapter.

Charlie & Jo (S Asia): Pray for Charlie and Jo's upcoming home assignment. Pray for guidance as they plan from afar, with ever changing border/visa restrictions.

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.

Primary School Reading: Would anybody like to change the life of a child by sitting with them as they read a book at Spotswood Primary School? If so, please contact Syd (our resident child reading super-hero, or Andrew.)

Kickstart Breakfast Club. Thank you Carol for taking over this responsibility, and to all our volunteers!

If you or somebody you know would like to help serve breakfast to students at Spotswood Primary once a term/month/fortnight/week, please contact Carol or Andrew.

7.45am–9.15am, Monday/ Wednesday/Friday

west: growing

The **Movie Group** will meet weekly at various homes on Tuesday nights to watch and discuss movies on the themes of our sermon series. Phone Megan C for details of venues. 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. If anyone new would like to join us you're welcome to come along.

Music & Play group is for preschool children and their parents or caregiver. Friday mornings at 10am during the school term. We begin with fun and interactive songs with lots of musical

instruments, parachutes and ribbons. Followed by a yummy morning tea and play time. The group is an open welcoming space for all who would like to be a part of it. For more information feel free to check out the Music and Play Group Facebook page or phone Naomi on 021 203 3653.

Young Adults:

One day conference with great people!! Check out

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bgdh1XdJEIQ&t=10s>

Mosaic Youth will be meeting on Fridays, March 5th and 19th. We'll also be going to Easter Camp, leaving on Thursday 1st of April, returning on Monday 5th. Please note you'll

need to have been to at least one Mosaic event on Fridays.

There are also a few fund raising ventures going on for Easter Camp such as a Bingo night at 6.30pm on Sunday March 21st at Stumble Inn (Mangorei Road.) See James M if you want to support us in this way, or for more details on any of this information.

Year 7 and 8's please see Andrew or Naomi for more information. Parents and campers meeting on March 21st.

The Music Group This month's practice will be on Thursday 18th March at 69 Barrett Road, starting at 7pm.

west: in our community

Parenting: If you or somebody you know would like to participate in an outstanding parenting course, we have funds available to support people to do this. We are no longer running parenting courses, but can help connect people into them. Please contact Andrew, Naomi, Alison or Chris D, or Val W.

Contact tracing App: Let's be responsible and caring by ensuring we use the contact tracing app or sign in everywhere we go – including at services on Sundays.

Christian leaders are invited to a meeting to address the homeless issue in New Plymouth. Craig from MSD has said that homelessness is going to be the next pandemic in NZ. All Christian Leaders are invited to attend and contribute what they can. The next (2nd) meeting is Wednesday 3rd March, St Joseph's Church Hall on Devon Street at 5.30pm.

west: people

Some Church Directory corrections:

WEST, Allan and Val,

130 Omata Road.

Phone 751 2621

027 512 6210 (A)

027 688 8807 (V)

valallan@maxnet.co.nz

Lou G's Mobile should be 027 313 5813

Meryl A's email is now merylactssim@gmail.com

If you come across **a journal with a black cover** and a pounamu magnetic clasp, please return to Judy Wood or call her (027 359 7833)

The Royal Commission of Inquiry of abuse in care for all faith institutions is very important work. We must protect especially children, youth and vulnerable adults from abuse. Through the commission's required process of review, we have found no instances of abuse in the history of West Baptist Community Church.

Te Kapa Rautaki (TKR) Manatū Iriiri Māori – Baptist Māori Ministries Panui #3 National Strategic Team. We invite our faithful ministry partners and all Maori within our Churches to join us at one of the coming Hui, Whakarongo a Māori, held throughout New Zealand. The Taranaki Hui will be held at Northpoint Baptist Church from 7 – 10pm on Friday 12th March. Contact person is Matt Renata - Mob. 027 323 4683. At the Hui, TKR will give a brief update on developments with Manatū Iriiri Māori and then hear from you. TKR want to listen and learn how to best support Māori to thrive in your contexts. "Are Māori thriving in your Baptist context?" is the question that will guide the Hui.

West has a private Facebook page for connecting with each other. "**West Baptist New Plymouth Connection.**"

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

west: events

14 MARCH - FUN ACTIVITIES AFTERNOON: The last opportunity today, to add your name to an activity list, if you've not already done so! 😊 Looking forward to seeing you all there.

MARCH CALENDAR:

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| 5,12,19,26 th | Music & Play, at West, 10am | 14 th | A.G.M |
| 9,16,23,30 th | Movie Group at venues TBA | 14 th | Fun Activities afternoon |
| 11,25 th | Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's | 18 th | Music Practice |

west: pitching in

West Baptist assist regularly at **Spotswood Primary School** in preparing **Breakfast** for the children. We are short of volunteers for Fridays this term – if you think you might like to help please chat with Carol.

Jill & Ian McKillop advise that they used to have eight in **West's Chapel Support Team**, but they are now down to only one other helper. It's an easy and pleasant role and only involves 3-4 Sundays per year (and you don't have to help every time). So, if you could help them, both Joe Gray (the Chaplain) and they would appreciate it! Please talk to Jill or Ian.

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 \$9,600 per month in offerings; in January our offerings were \$11,870.65.

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.

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|--|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Cleaning & Morning Tea Lawnmowing | 6 MAR | 13 MAR | 20 MAR | 27 MAR | 3 APR |
| | Gane | Liane L | Brian M | Khon A | Lynda L |
| | family | Wayne L | Kathy M | Nang A | Andy L |
| | | Roi SM | | Allan W | |

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 topsoils of hurt are shoved away.

Don't forget the principle.

Never under-estimate the power of a seed.

MAX LUCADO

GRAPEVINE