



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.

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.

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!

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

SEPTEMBER 2022

4 SEPT

What is God like? # 3

11 SEPT

What is God like # 4

18 SEPT

What is God like? # 5

25 SEPT

What is God like? # 6



Kia Ora whānau,

One of the things we're doing to help us be a bit more connected is hearing what's happening in people's lives during our services over the next few weeks.

I love hearing the varied and interesting things people are involved in, or that are happening in their lives. I love hearing how faith in God interacts with these experiences and shapes our reflections and responses.

As we hear from people it gives the rest of us insights into other's lives and how faith interacts with these. I find that helps broaden my thinking. Like when David shared about waiting in line to see the David statue. Behind him there was a couple arguing which created a stressful waiting time. Noticing how he was feeling, he decided to leave the line and do something else instead. It made me think of times I push through things I'm quite uncomfortable with when really, I didn't need to as there wasn't much at all at stake or to gain from pushing through the discomfort. Often, I just end up more grumpy that I would have been otherwise! Of course, there are times to do this too, which is where wisdom comes in, to know the difference and make a choice accordingly. Thanks David!

We're hoping that sharing stories like these will continue to encourage a culture at West of being appropriately vulnerable with one another, as well as strengthening a sense of connection with one another. Who knows what sort of conversations might be initiated as we hear what each other are up to and thinking about?!

I'm looking forward to hearing from lots of different people!

We're asking: What's something that's happened in my life lately?

And in this, where have we noticed something of God in or through this?

Is there an image or object that could help tell part of the story?

Let me know if you'd like to share something!

With Love

Andrew 😊

west: making a difference

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

Charlie & Jo (S Asia): have had some of the busiest months they have ever had, and the heat has taken its toll on everyone. They are thankful that the cooler weather has come now that the rains are here. They are thankful too for the progress that Joyya is making and the ripples that are moving through the communities they are working with. Please pray for safety on the streets for the children learning cycling, and pray for the adults delighted to be learning to read and write the language they already speak.

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, such as sports team coaching. 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 with anybody connected to the school community.

Leadership Board:

This is a friendly and excited reminder that the election of a new Church Board will take place early in November. Two current Board members are completing their term and are not seeking re-election. This means there is room for a number of new Leadership Board members. The role of the Board is really important at West, a team of people whose vision, background work, prayer, communication and creativity, all adds considerably to the leadership of our faith community.

The nomination committee is asking you to consider, seriously and prayerfully, how and who this new Board could be. Please get your nominations in to

Judy W, Wayne L or Andrew, as soon as you can. Please see recent West Weekly e-mail for more information.

west: growing

The Movie Group On the first Tuesday of the month members take part in a Quiz night at Westside Grill at 6.30pm. We meet on the third Tuesday night of the month to watch and discuss movies. Phone Megan C for details of venues.

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. We meet on Friday mornings at 10am during the school term. We begin with fun, interactive songs with lots of musical instruments, parachutes and ribbons and many other props. We follow this up with 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 Carol on 027 738 5465.

If you'd like to find out more about **study at Carey Baptist College**, or tapping into their wonderful webinars, hit <https://www.carey.ac.nz/>

board@westbaptist.org.nz This e-mail address can be used to contact our church Leadership Board. We are keen to hear from you. We love serving you.

The Music Group meet at 9.15am Sharp on a Sunday Morning before the service to go through the songs for the service.

We would love to have more singers join us. If you feel this is something you could do on a Sunday please talk to Gary, Heather or one of the team.

Mosaic Youth is for school year 9 – 13. This is our collaborating youth group with a variety of other churches. We meet fortnightly during term time for fun, food, and faith discussions. It's a great place to make friends!

Pre-teen Ministry We have an amazing group of school year 6, 7 and 8's (10 – 12 year olds.) Ros J is helping out now – yay! And so are Ruth and Tonia – yay! We'd love a couple more adults to come along to love these kids. Please contact Ethan or Andrew if you are interested in finding out more.

The Justice Conference. Saturday September 3rd. looks great! www.thejusticeconference.org.nz

Please remember that if you have a concern – 'go to the source. That means, go and speak to the person you have a concern with Lovingly. Gently. With an open mind and heart. Ask questions to understand. If your concern still isn't resolved, or you'd like support to 'go to the source', contact me or your favourite Leadership Board member; Andy, Carol, Lyn, David.

west: events

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR:

31 st August	Wednesday Youth Group
1,15 th Sept.	Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's
2,9,16,23,30 th	Music & Play at West, 10am
7 th Sept.	Wednesday Youth Group
9 th Sept.	Mosaic Youth
14 th Sept.	Wednesday Youth Group

17 th Sept.	Mosaic Youth Tramping Trip
20 th Sept.	Movie Group at venues TBA
21 st Sept.	Wednesday Youth Group
23 rd Sept.	Mosaic Youth
28 th Sept.	Wednesday Youth Group

west: people

Welcome Chelsea, James and Kirrily P! It's great having you a part of us, and we hope you feel a part of the family really quickly!

Being family, we want to celebrate things in each other's lives. Each month, we'll acknowledge Birthdays and Anniversaries in the newsletter, with special birthdays acknowledged on Sundays.

Here are dates for September:

29 August	Madison
4 September	Sue
12 September	Val A 80!!
17 September	Carol M
19 September	Judy W
22 September	Mouse

Congratulations to Valerie A, celebrating her 80th birthday this month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

The Church is people... if you are thinking of somebody or praying for somebody, how about letting them know. Make contact. Ask how they are.

Perhaps offer to share a coffee at your home/their home/café.

I'm sure it would be a huge encouragement. Is there somebody you're thinking of right now that might like a phone call or coffee visit? An older person? Somebody less able to get out?

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

Kia ora West Baptist Whanau. If you are a landlord looking for tenants or if you have nice, clean household furniture that you no longer need please let **Naomi** know on 021 203 3653.

Facebook: Are you awesome at this? Would you be willing to administer an events-type of Facebook page for West, for awareness/advertising purposes? E.g. Music & Play, Sunday morning services, other stuff.

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

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.

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.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$10,833 per month in offerings; in July our offerings were \$10,903.

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.

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.

	3 SEPT	10 SEPT	17 SEPT	24 SEPT	1 OCT
Cleaning & Morning Tea	Gane family	Liane L Wayne L	Brian M Kathy M	Khon A Nang A	Lynda L Andy L
Lawnmowing	Roi S-M		Allan W		Wayne L



https://drive.google.com/file/d/17xgHDiG4UZFhZWkJljRrHTmKXdy_0quo/view?usp=sharing