

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

NOVEMBER 2022

6 NOV Partnering with Spotswood Primary
With Mark F

13 NOV How has West helped us walk with
Jesus with love this year?
Everybody!

20 NOV Surprise!
With Andrew

27 NOV Advent # 1
Hope: Green



Kia Ora whānau,

On Tuesday evening I found myself watching another fascinating and important TVNZ documentary. This week's one was on Crime: Greed vs Need. (PS: There are eight one-off documentaries. All seem exceptionally interesting and relevant for our society and church today. I cannot speak highly enough of last week's one 18/10/2022 "Beyond Conversion" – please consider having a watch of it if you haven't seen it already.)

"White collar crime costs New Zealand billions of dollars a year, yet offenders are rarely prosecuted. Instead, our system is focused on crimes of poverty and need.

Former police detective Tim McKinnel investigates our justice system, asking if we are locking up the needy and letting off the greedy."

Our good God's gospel is one of justice, redemption, forgiveness, compassion, and reconciliation.

Watching this I was struck by:

- the blatant injustice where some crimes (greed) that have a huge impact on our society are largely ignored whilst crimes (as horrible as they are) born out of a perceived need for survival (need) are largely the only ones leading to prosecution and jail time.
- How jail time hardens criminals and educates them on how to offend more efficiently. Jail time is not redemptive or rehabilitative. It is expensive and alienates people from necessary supports and community. It could be done so much better. (In a few instances it is, that I'm aware of.)
- What is it that leads us as a society to want to harshly punish people in ways that make things worse? (Sensible Sentencing Trust comes to mind as a very anti-gospel group)
- What could society be like if we reversed the growing inequality?
- What could society look like if we poured a chunk of the over 1 billion dollars we spend annually on prisons (that don't work) into rehabilitation and combatting inequality?

I'd be really interested to know your thoughts on this documentary and last week's one :-)

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:

Ryan & Sophie have settled in Christchurch. Ryan is currently supporting Joyya's IT platforms and IT people, and also contracting himself out to organisations in Christchurch, with the money going to Joyya. Sophie has been working in the South West Baptist Church Café and doing writing and editing jobs, as well as volunteering at the boys' primary school. The children are loving their new school and are especially enjoying field trips and camps, experiences they did not have in India.

Charlie & Jo (S Asia): We are loving the classes we are part of - especially cycle class, which everyone is showing great progression in! Please pray for a visa that Charlie is applying for - we need prayer for these processes that take up time and can be uncertain. Thank you!



Paul and Sarah are heading back to Ktown to see their family at Loyal Workshop. Please pray for Sarah who had to delay her flight after testing

positive for Covid the day before! We would love you to also pray for their time there- as they spend time with staff and debrief many of the changes over the past couple of years together. Pray for unity and whanaungatanga (close connection, kinship).

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

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.

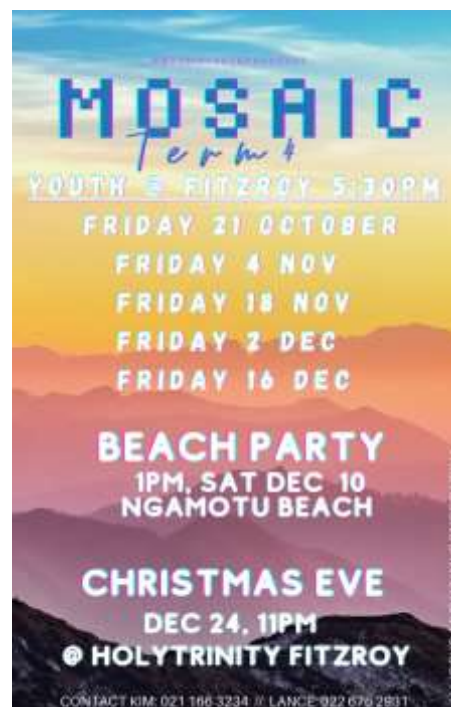
We would love to have more singers join us. If you feel this is something you could do on a Sunday please talk to Gary, Heather or one of the team.

regular pastoral care team meetings which seek to collaboratively support children and families, and he spends time with anybody connected to the school community.

Thanks Heather B and Meryl A for making a super yummy morning tea for the Spotswood Primary School staff on the first Wednesday of the term. It's a great way to show our affection and support for our community and the amazing mahi the staff do!

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 – 12year-olds.) 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.



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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR:

3,17 th	Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's	13 th	Church Meeting after the service
4,11,18,25 th	Music & Play at West, 10am	15 th	Movie Group at venues TBA
4 th	Mosaic Youth at Fitzroy, 5.30pm	18 th	Mosaic Youth at Fitzroy, 5.30pm

west: people

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 November:

2 November	Manning's WA
14 November	Hparat A
18 November	Ezra S
19 November	Claudia M
25 November	Meryl A
25 November	Naomi S
28 November	Aaron S
29 November	Allan W
30 November	Jude SM

If there's anyone who will be away over **Christmas** and would like some **house-sitters** (23rd to 27th)? Our growing family (marriages, etc) are now too numerous for the junior McKillops and us to accommodate, so we are looking for a house which

could sleep 5 (3 young women and 2 young men.) If anyone is interested, please contact us. Thanks, Ian & Jill.

The Church is people... if 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.**"

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 September our offerings were \$9,862.

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.

	5 NOV	12 NOV	19 NOV	26 NOV	3 DEC
Cleaning & Morning Tea	Roi SM	Bedford	Sangsters	Gane	Liane L
	Jude SM	family	Erin R	family	Wayne L
Lawnmowing	James M	Brian M	David S	Roi SM	