



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

MAY 2023

7 MAY Faith Cycles # 2
Rain

14 MAY Mother's Day Brunch
10am at Spotswood Primary School

21 MAY Surprise

28 MAY Faith Cycles # 3
Wind

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.

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 got off to a good start for Term 2 last Friday.

Our mums and littlies are always excited to return after the holiday break.

Music & Play group is for pre-school children and their parents, grandparents or caregivers.

We meet at 10am every Friday 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.

Local Preaching Day Course with Carey Baptist College principal John Tucker. Saturday 6 May at Northpoint Baptist Church. 9.30 – 4pm \$20, Lunch provided. Register at info@northpoint.org.nz

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!

Here are the dates for Mosaic this term.

April 28: Youth Group

May 12: Youth Group

May 20-21: Overnight Hike

May 26: Youth Group

June 9: Youth Group

June 10: Parihaka Puanga Kai Rau

June 23: Youth Group

Wednesday evening youth group for intermediates is not currently running, so there are no dates for that.

Pre-teen Ministry We have an amazing group of school year 6, 7 and 8's (10 – 12 year 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.

Would you be interested in doing a **Carey Baptist College 12 week course** right here in New Plymouth, with other locals in person, and the lecturer via Zoom? Carey has some options for this. I'd love to hear from you if you're interested.

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, and 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 L, David, Erin or Andy G.

west: events

MAY CALENDAR:

30 April	Church A.G.M.	16 th	Movie Group at venues TBA
5,12,19,26 th	Music & Play at West, 10am	28 th	Mosaic youth starts Term 2
11,25 th	Chocolate Fish Group, at McK's		

west: people

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.”**

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

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 May:

6 May	Chelsea Putt
29 May	Thomas W

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.

Each month we will keep the church informed of our progress. We have budgeted for \$10,583 per month in offerings. For March offerings were \$10,908.

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.

	6 MAY	13 MAY	20 MAY	27 MAY	3 JUNE
Cleaning & Morning Tea	Andrea M	Andy L	Brian W	Allan W	Khon A
Lawnmowing	Laura D	Lynda L	Judy W	Val W	Nang A
		Wayne L		Andy L	