

# The Watford Word

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)

## What's on

**Sunday 15 Oct - 10:30AM. Malcolm speaking**  
**Sunday 22 Oct - 10:30AM. Malcolm speaking**  
**Sunday 29 Oct - 10:30AM. Archie Higgin speaking**  
**Sunday 05 Nov - 10:30AM. Stefan speaking**  
**Sunday 12 Nov - 10:30AM. Remembrance Sunday**  
**Sunday 19 Nov - 10:30AM. Malcolm speaking**  
**Sunday 26 Nov - 10:30AM. Advent Sunday**  
**Sunday 03 Dec - 10:30AM. Stefan speaking**  
**Saturday 02 Dec - AIM session: Biblical counselling**  
**Sunday 10 Dec - 10:30AM. Dr Andy Boakye speaking**  
**Sunday 17 December - 10:30AM. Carol service**  
**Sunday 24 December - 10:30AM. Service**  
**Sunday 31 December - 10:30AM. Service**  
**Sunday 07 January - 10:30AM. Stefan speaking**

## Eco Church



In the spring, some of the children planted wildflower seeds in the plot at the side of the building. A few months later and here you see we have some lovely flowers coming on. And it's not just the seeds which are growing like weeds.

This is a recent photo.



However, it's a very small act in the grand scheme of things. Can we do more as a church community?

I attended a meeting last week which was hosted by St Mary's Church in the centre of Watford. Guest speakers included Martin & Margot Hodson, a scientist and minister combo with a lot of experience of helping churches be more sustainable. They were encouraging church members across Watford to think about what they can do in this regard.

What has the gospel got to do with sustainability? Well, there are big issues around the stewardship of God's creation and social justice for poorer people living across the planet who are being impacted more severely by climate change than we are.

So, on behalf of the leadership team I would like to hear more about what you think we can do here.

Some questions for you to think about:

1. Can we improve the garden space around the building for wildlife? (Hopefully this will also make the space look more attractive to the people who walk past the building and across the car park).
2. Is there anything more we can do around recycling?

3. What about the use of energy to run the building? Is there anything we can do to reduce energy use in this building?
4. Do we have skills that we can share with each other to help with repairing, reusing items and sharing possessions?

I hope we will have broad engagement from as many of us as possible with this. There will be regular updates and articles in the Watford Word. I have been trying to think of a catchy title for the project, but have failed so far! 'Loving the world' came to mind, but that doesn't sit right! 'Creation Corner'? But some would say this issue is too important to be stuck in the corner.

I look forward to hearing from you, Penny

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## God cares about his creation and so should we

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When considering the world in which we live, it is wise to remember who it belongs to.

*"The earth is the LORD'S, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it;" (Psalm 24:1)*

This magnificent creation has been loaned to us. How lucky we are! God said:

*"...fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." (Genesis 1:28)*

However, 'rule' does not mean exploit. Our model for rulership is the heavenly king. How does God rule? For the benefit of his creation.

Whatever our views on the best way to tackle the environmental crisis looming steadily ever larger, we can be sure that it matters to God. The reason it matters is manifold, and not just to do with soil degradation, extinction of species, and the uglification of forests and mountainsides. It is also about people. God cares about the vulnerable and the marginalised.

*'When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you. I am the LORD your God.' Leviticus 23:22*

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Current challenges with global warming and rising sea levels are disproportionately affecting some of the most vulnerable people groups on the planet. We can be confident God sees this and cares. We may not be able to help the suffering directly, we can make a difference, and signal that it matters to us by the way that we live.

## Questions for prayer and reflection

- How does the fact that creation is on loan to us effect the way you think about using the earth's resources?
- If God cares about the vulnerable, how does that affect the way that we interact with people who have influence on policy decisions?

God bless, Malcolm

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## Sunday Services Survey

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If you haven't already handed in the Sunday services survey, please do so today. You can also email ideas to: [thewatfordchurch@gmail.com](mailto:thewatfordchurch@gmail.com)

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## Hogmanay Invitation

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Our sister church in Edinburgh warmly invites us to join them in celebrating Hogmanay.

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## Watford Media

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj9Qa8D9zumJZdoAtARDUww>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-taef9o>

[www.watfordchurchofchrist.org](http://www.watfordchurchofchrist.org)