# The Watford Word

# www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

#### What's on

**Sunday** 21 September: 10:30 AM. Stefan speaking.

**Sunday** 28 September: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking.

**3-5 October**: Young Professionals' retreat

Friday/Saturday 3-4

October: Christian Wellbeing Conference

**Sunday** 05 October: 10:30 AM. Harvest Sunday.

Malcolm speaking.

**Sunday** 12 October: 10:30 AM. Bruce speaking. **Sunday** 19 October: 10:30 AM. Announcing our annual gift for HOPE worldwide. Malcolm speaking.

**Sunday** 26 October: 10:30 AM. John Slater speaking (from the North London ICOC).

**Sunday** 16 November: 10:30 AM. Safeguarding Sunday.

Sunday 21 December: 10:30 AM. Carol service

## Philippians 1.1-11

Πρὸς Φιλιππησίους (Pros Philippēsious) "To the Philippians"

The lesson today is taken from the first 11 verses of Philippians chapter 1.

#### **Favourite Book**

Philippians was my favourite New Testament book as a young Christian. I marked my Bible with different coloured pens, pencils and highlighters until you could barely see the text. Why did it capture my heart? Partly because of the emphasis on joy and love, but mostly because it is saturated with references to the nature, the work and the heart of Jesus Christ.

Depending on exactly how you count them, there may be as many as 75 references to Jesus (as Lord, Jesus, Christ, and saviour) in those four short chapters. That means he's mentioned or alluded to in approximately every two or three verses. No one is going to miss Paul's focus.

### **Prayer Priority**

Having said that, a particular emphasis in the first 11 verses is on prayer. The paragraph starting from verse three mentions prayer:

"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly **praying** with joy in every one of my **prayers** for all of you," (Philippians 1:3-4 NRSV)

And ends with the same idea:

"And this is my **prayer**, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11 NRSV)

#### **Learning Today**

What will we learn about prayer today? Our focus is on the way we pray *for one another*. What does Paul's prayer in verses 9-11 reveal about his *desire* for the Philippians' spiritual growth? If you were to apply Paul's prayer in verses 9-11 to your own life, what areas would you *prioritise* in your spiritual growth?

Let's learn from the Apostle Paul, the Philippians and, most of all, our wonderful Lord.

God bless, Malcolm

## **Christian Wellbeing Conference**



Last year, it was our privilege to host the inaugural Christian Wellbeing Conference. This year it's back - better than ever! Info here:

https://christian-wellbeing-

conference.my.canva.site
iccmissions.churchsuite.com/events/
nmgssyjm

#### **Watford Contribution Details**

Church bank account: Three Counties

churches of Christ HSBC

**Sort Code**: 401915

Account Number: 04759613

## Helping Hands Update

A message from Nadine Ebhogiaye. Join Us for an Impactful Day at Helping Hands Club!

We're gearing up for an exciting Helping Hands Club Day at Grange Primary School in Harrow on 25th October and need amazing volunteers like YOU to help make it a success!

Date: Saturday, October 25th

**Time**: 9 AM - 2 PM. Lunch Provided!

Your time and heart can make a real difference in the lives of these children. Sign up now to secure your spot—the sooner, the better, as all volunteers must have an enhanced DBS check!

**Register**: https://forms.office.com/e/dr85By8NNv

Questions? Reach out to Aubrey (07380 922211). Let's create joy, connection, and lasting memories together! We can't wait to serve alongside you!

#### Creationtide

David brought this event to my attention. Penny and I have heard the speakers in the past and found them inspiring and informative.



#### **Watford Media**

