

The Watford Word

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

What's on

Today - Simeon & Anna - God's
Generosity to the Faithful. Lesson Text:
Luke 2:25-38. Danny speaking.



Friday 2nd January: 7:30 PM. Spiritual
practices group - "The Examen". On Zoom. Contact
Penny for more information.

Sunday 04 January: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking.
Abraham - living by faith.

Sunday 11 January: 10:30 AM. 10th anniversary
service

Sunday 18 January: 10:30 AM. 18th: David -- living
in hope. Malcolm speaking.

Sunday 25 January: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking.
Jesus - living a life of love.

Sunday 01 February: 10:30 AM. Church service.

Sunday 08 February: Annual church meeting

"I am giving you something new. Look Around. Can you see it?" Well, no, I couldn't. I just saw the unknown and lots of boxes. I felt loss, disappointment, and a fair amount of fear. But God reassured me – don't be afraid because I will create.

Well, as I approach the new year, I can look back and be in awe of all that he has done. Bruce has a new job and a new career. Joey, our son, moved back to live with us, and the three of us often comment that we didn't realise how much we love the country life until now. Being surrounded by green fields and forests is nurturing. The fresh air is refreshing! The quietness of no planes, sirens, or traffic is so calming and healing.

We have been brought into a church family where we feel we belong. I want to thank everyone for the ways you have embraced us and made us feel like part of the family.

I have learned many lessons over this year of transition, but most of all that God is loving and kind and knows my needs better than I do. I have learned that 'new' doesn't have to be scary – but can be an adventure. 'New' can transform perspective and help us not take things for granted, for you never know what is around the corner. Now our daughters can't just come home and have dinner every night, but we plan special times together in different places.

I am learning to make obstacles into opportunities and to be creative. When I can't fit the food in the cupboard (because I don't have as much space as I used to have), I learn to shop smarter and smaller and create storage spaces where there weren't any before. We have been able to get to know people we would never have known if we hadn't moved here.

SOMETHING NEW

Isaiah 43:19 "For I am about to do something new. See I have already begun. Do you not see it? I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland."

My memory verse for 2025.

Last year this time, I had no idea what was ahead. I was moving to a new place called "Croxley Green" – into a new Christian community. Our daughters were moving out. Bruce didn't have a job. We were selling and giving away our belongings in order to move to a smaller place. I sat one day in Kew Gardens, and God gave me this verse, and although I know it was meant for the Israelite nation, it came to life as it applied to me.

I have learned God is reliable, faithful and will guide us through all circumstances, no matter how difficult. What will God do next? What will he do for you? Even if everything in your life were to stay the same, how can you look at life with new eyes and a new perspective and not take time for granted?

He is doing something new! Can you see it?

Your sister, Maggie Miller

(If you have something to share in the Watford Word, please contact me, Malcolm)

New Year - No Loose Ends!

I forget exactly where I saw this, but it is from my friend, Kyle Spears. "In my therapy practice, I almost always have clients create a 'loose ends list' starting in the autumn in order to prepare for the new year. Why? There is a saying that 'loose ends have a way of keeping the past alive'. It has been consistently true that *unfinished business ties up future progress.*"

A "loose ends list" can help us identify what needs closure, attention, or repentance before moving into a new season of life. Perhaps Paul was thinking about loose ends when he wrote:

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (Phil 3:13-14)

Does this speak to you? It is both a challenge and an invitation: To enjoy the freedom that comes when we stop dragging yesterday's burdens into tomorrow's opportunities.

Conclusion

As Christians, we are called not only to move forward but to move forward faithfully. Taking the time to identify and address our loose ends—

whether spiritual, relational, or practical—brings our lives into closer alignment with God's will. When we clear the clutter of unresolved matters, we free ourselves to run the Christian race with endurance, purpose, and clarity. May we follow the Lord's call to order, reconciliation, and spiritual diligence as we prepare for whatever He has planned next.

Reflection Questions

- What "loose ends" in my spiritual life need attention—such as neglected prayer, Scripture reading, or sin needing repentance?
- Are there relationships in my life that require reconciliation, apology, or intentional healing?
- What responsibilities, commitments, or personal goals have I delayed that weigh on my conscience?
- How might addressing these loose ends help me walk more faithfully with Christ in the coming year?
- What step can I take today to begin closing one loose end?

Watford Contribution Details

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Watford Media

