

The Watford Word

www.watfordchurchofchrist.org

What's on

- Friday** 01 Nov: 10 AM. Nana's mother's funeral
- Saturday** 02 Nov: 8 AM. Men's breakfast meeting at the building.
- Sunday** 03rd Nov: 10:30 AM service. Stefan speaking.
- Sunday** 10th Nov: 10:30 AM. Remembrance Sunday. Lance Owen speaking
- Sunday** 17th Nov: 10:30 AM. "Safeguarding Sunday"
- Sunday** 24th Nov: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking
- Tuesday** 26th Nov: 8:00 PM. Zoom event - Malcolm speaking on, "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed." (Luke 5:16) - An exploration of the 'why' and 'how' of taking personal spiritual retreats
- Saturday** 30th Nov: Teaching Day based on Acts 13. Speakers: Malcolm, Paul Smith, James Thomas. Our Birmingham sister church hosts it. Online attendance is available. Details will be forthcoming soon.
- Sunday** 01st Dec: 10:30 AM. Stefan is speaking in Watford.
- Sunday** 01st Dec: 11 AM. Celebration service and retirement party for Tim & Shevvy Dannatt in Thames Valley. Details will be forthcoming soon.
- Saturday** 7th Dec: AIM UK&I - "World Views"
- Sunday** 08th Dec: 10:30 AM. Dr Andy Boakye is speaking.
- Sunday** 15th Dec: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking
- Sunday** 22nd Dec: 10:30 AM. Carol service
- Sunday** 29th Dec: 10:30 AM. Malcolm speaking

Funeral Details

FUNERAL INVITATION

You are humbly invited to mourn with us on the death of our beloved relative

Mrs. AKOSUA NYARKO
a.k.a Nyarko

AGE 54 YEARS

BURIAL SERVICE
DATE: FRIDAY, 1ST NOVEMBER, 2024
TIME: 10:00 AM
CEMETERY: (NORTH WATFORD CEMETERY) NORTH WESTERN AVE, WATFORD, WD25 0AW

FUNERAL SERVICE
DATE: SATURDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 2024
TIME: 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM
VENUE: MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY CENTRE, 70 DURBAN RD, WATFORD, WD18 7DS

DRESS CODE: BLACK AND RED
RSVP: 0773797217, 07727954004

The details of Nana's mother's funeral are on the invitation. Let us pray for God's comfort to be meaningful to Nana and his family.

Watford Contribution Details

We are asking members to make a financial pledge to support the work of the church here. If you did not receive a form or have any questions about what we're doing and why, please speak to any leadership team member.

"Thank You" to everyone who has handed in their pledges already. It would be helpful if any outstanding pledges could be made today or at least by the end of October. We are in a position to begin taking action on items from the vision workshop not long ago. However, many of them will require funding.

Church bank account: Three Counties churches of Christ HSBC

Sort Code: 401915

Account Number: 04759613

Is it OK to Complain?

We had a wonderful time here at this venue on Friday and Saturday participating in the Christian well-being conference sponsored by our East London congregation.

My talk was called: "Loss of Hopes and Dreams — Are perceived disappointments and a loss of dreams part of God's plan for us?"

I thought I would bring you an excerpt from one of the points in my talk titled: "Cries". Basically, is it acceptable to complain to God? The Bible calls this "lament".

First, some examples:

"Why, Lord, do you stand far off? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?" (Psalm 10:1)

"How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever?" (Psalm 13:1)

"How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?" (Habakkuk 1:2)

"And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?")." (Mark 15:34)

Don't they sound rather faithless? Or even impertinent? However, this is not ordinary complaining. This is Biblical lamenting. What's the difference? It's a matter of faith.

Lament is a way of honestly bringing pain, confusion, and suffering to God while still holding on to faith and trust in His ultimate goodness and sovereignty. You see, David is asking, Habbakuk is calling, and Jesus is crying out in great pain and confusion, yet they are not calling into nothingness. They are calling out to a God who they believe is still there. Somewhere.

Biblical lament is different from despair in that it directs sorrow towards God, trusting that He hears, cares, and will ultimately bring justice, healing, or comfort. It serves as a model for us to honestly wrestle with suffering while remaining rooted in hope and faith.

Therefore, if you have pain, if you have questions, if you have doubts — take them to God. He will not be surprised by your feelings or your questions. He can handle them, and he can help you handle them.

Your brother, Malcolm

How to Take a Personal Spiritual Retreat

MALCOLM COX SPEAKING ON:

"Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

- LUKE 5:16



AN EXPLORATION OF THE 'WHY' AND 'HOW' OF TAKING PERSONAL SPIRITUAL RETREATS.

Zoom Event
Tuesday 26th Nov
20:00-21:00 PM

Recently, I was asked by a group of people to share my experiences of two decades of taking personal spiritual retreats. The information is below. All are welcome. There is no charge for this event.

Zoom Details:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://iccmissions-org.zoom.us/j/97750955942?pwd=4dnaAe7MBGMDZ5nyaVwBrivyRrdotm.1>

Meeting ID: 977 5095 5942

Passcode: 833193

P.S. Many thanks to Jess for designing the flyer.

Watford Media

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watfordchurchofchrist6708>

Podcast: <https://www.podbean.com/pu/pbblog-aiinq-iaef90>

