

November 20, 2020

Dear Friends,

If you are looking for a Christmas present, Ann Voskamp's *The Broken Way* is a good book. You'd think I'd know this but today she reminded me that I am not the mortar. I hold nothing together in an ultimate way. That goes for you too mothers, fathers, teachers, healthcare professionals, friends, spouses, employees of any kind, and even political types! Christ is the mortar. Paul put it to the Colossian church this way: "He [Jesus Christ] is before all things, and in him all things hold together." We try to control things, to hold things together when it's not our job! Meanwhile, the call is to let go, trust God, and serve others. In fact, says Voskamp, "The best way to de-stress is to bless [another person]."

Another zinger of a quote: "I don't know how to smooth out angst or stress or worry, but I know you either leave your worries with God...or your worries will make you leave God."

Advent

Let's stick with God. Advent helps us keep our heads screwed on straight. How great that Advent is the starter season for the church new year! We watch and wait with eyes open like saucers to notice the coming of God through Christ. We let hope, and peace, and joy and love rule and reign in our hearts, replacing worry.

This [Advent 2020 video](#) inspires us to mindfully travel through Advent. The Wesleyan Church has provided some [Advent devotional resources](#) to guide you.

Praying with the Psalmists: Gratitude (November 25, 7 p.m.)

[Register here](#) today for Wednesday's Praying with the Psalmists gathering on the theme of Gratitude. Bring your own Bible, notebook, and pen as you prepare to hear God's word, receive the sacrament of Communion, and worship through hearing music and saying prayers. If you sign up, an email will come Monday with other details and you will be prompted Wednesday to complete pre-screening before entering the building.

Sunday Online Worship Gathering at 10 a.m.

We are 99 years old! Here's a little [Wesleyan Church history in a nutshell](#). On Sunday we will celebrate by 'meeting' some new friends, hearing portions of their stories. I will talk about God's "incomparably great power for us who believe." (Ephesians 1:15-23, NIV) You want to see God's power? Look square in the face of the crucified Christ. Notice that God raises him and everything he stands for from the dead. He is Lord. How do we exercise power as followers of our beautiful crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ? Hint: it looks different than typical world systems and structures.

Please [contact me](#) for the Zoom link.

Sunday School for grades 4-6 at 11:15 a.m.

You may 'send' your child to Sunday School (grades 4-6) at 11:15 a.m. Please contact our [family pastor](#) for a Zoom link.

Last Tuesday Prayer Gathering of 2020: November 24

You may [submit a prayer request](#) to our prayer team before 9 a.m. on Tuesday.

Don't forget to talk with God about how you are doing. Check out today's [Psalm 102](#) to remember how he relates to you.

With love and prayers,

Pastor Kerry Kronberg (with the whole team)