



## From the Pastor

As we enter the season of Lent, we will be focusing on the “I Am” sayings of Jesus in John’s gospel. (See chart below). We will be taking them a little out of order so that we can look at Jesus being the Resurrection and the Life on Easter Sunday.

We will be looking at what those sayings were based on in the Old Testament, what they meant to Jesus’ followers in the New Testament, and what they mean to us today.

Among the first of the “I Am” statements is in John 8:58 where Jesus says, “Before Abraham was, I am.” It is a puzzling statement for him to make to people who were arguing with him. And many have wondered exactly what Jesus meant by that.

It appears that in the context, that Jesus making a claim to divinity, for “I Am” is the name of God in the Old Testament (see Exodus 3). It also seems pretty clear that Jesus’ hearers, faithful Jewish teachers of the Law, understood it this way. Why? Because they picked up stones to stone him. There were several offenses in the Torah which demanded stoning as a punishment. One was sexual impropriety (adultery). One was idolatry. One was murder. One was practicing the occult. None of was the case here.

The only one left is “blasphemy”, and making claims to be God would indeed be considered blasphemy. This seems to fit.

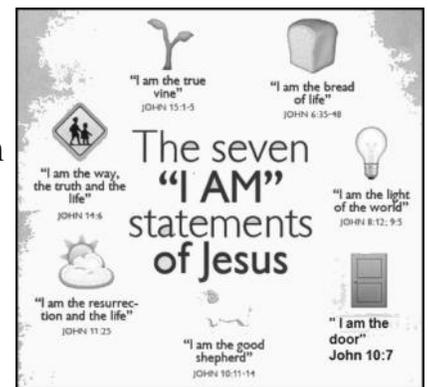
Jesus was making the audacious claim that the name God had given to Moses at the burning bush was his name. This fits the theology of John, in which John 1:14 claims that the pre-existent “Word became flesh and dwelt among us”. If we want to see God, if we want to know what God is like, we see clearly in the person of Jesus. An astounding claim! And yet, there it is. So we will be exploring the richness and depth of these “I Am” statements in John’s gospel.

You go nowhere by accident...

*Jim*

## Odds and Ends

- 1) The music schedule will have the Choir singing the first three Sundays of the month, and the Praise Team singing the last three Sundays of the month.
- 2) **Youth for Christ Central Valley** has begun a Campus Life group here at Harvest. Every Monday at 2:00 p.m. we are gathering to welcome students from Mae Hensley onto our campus, playing games, feeding them, and engaging them in conversation. Come join us!
- 3) We have updated the **Memory Tree** with about a dozen new names, including Ruth Strange. Check it out. (Many thanks to Marlin Sena for his efforts.)



## The Girl That Lost Things

George MacDonald

There was a girl that lost things—  
Nor only from her hand;  
She lost, indeed—why, most things,  
As if they had been sand!

She said, “But I must use them,  
And can’t look after them all!  
Indeed I did not lose them,  
I only let them fall!”

That’s how she lost her thimble,  
It fell upon the floor:  
Her eyes were very nimble  
But she never saw it more.

And then she lost her dolly,  
Her very doll of all!  
That loss was far from jolly,  
But worse things did befall.

She lost a ring of pearls  
With a ruby in them set;  
But the dearest girl of girls  
Cried only, did not fret.

And then she lost her robin:  
Ah, that was sorrow dire!  
He hopped along, and-bob in-  
Hopped bob into the fire!

And once she lost a kiss  
As she came down the stair;  
But that she did not miss,  
For sure it was somewhere!

Just then she lost her heart too,  
But did so well without it  
She took that in good part too,  
And said not much about it.

But then she lost her health  
She did feel rather poor,  
Till in came loads of wealth  
By quite another door!

And soon she lost a dimple  
That was upon her cheek,  
But that was very simple  
She was so thin and weak!

And then she lost her mother,  
And thought that she was dead;  
Sure there was not another  
On whom to lay her head!

And then she lost her self—  
But that she threw away;  
And God upon his shelf  
It carefully did lay.

And then she lost her sight,  
And lost all hope to find it;  
But a fountain-well of light  
Came flashing up behind it.

At last she lost the world:  
In a black and stormy wind  
Away from her it whirled—  
But the loss how could she  
mind?

For with it she lost her losses.  
Her aching and her weeping,  
Her pains and griefs and crosses,  
And all things not worth  
keeping;

It left her with the lost things  
Her heart had still been craving;  
‘Mong them she found—why,  
most things,  
And all things worth the saving.

She found her precious mother,  
Who not the least had died;  
And then she found that other  
Whose heart had hers inside.

And next she found the kiss  
She lost upon the stair:  
'Twas sweeter far, I guess,  
For ripening in that air.

She found her self, all mended,  
New drest, and strong, and  
white;  
She found her health, new-  
blended  
With a radiant delight.

She found her little robin:  
He made his wings go flap,  
Came fluttering, and went bob-  
in,  
Went bob into her lap.

So, girls that cannot keep things,  
Be patient till tomorrow;  
And mind you don’t bewep  
things  
That are not worth such sorrow;

For the Father great of fathers,  
Of mothers, girls, and boys,  
In his arms his children gathers,  
And sees to all their toys.

*From The Gifts of the Child Christ-  
Volume II,*  
by George MacDonald, Eerdmans, 1973

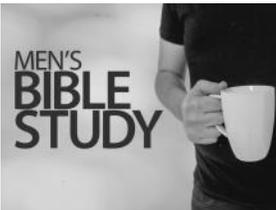
This was the poem from  
the Celebration of Life Service  
for Ruth Strange

## Harvest Mariners' Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner, March 20th



The Harvest Mariner's appreciated the February presentation of financial trends by Lee Heim. We now look forward to the Friday March 20th traditional St. Patrick's Day Dinner celebration at 6:00 p.m. in song, food, and fellowship. The corn beef and cabbage meal will be coordinated by Virginia Bathe (thank you in advance!). This festive meal is open to ALL church family and friends, with a suggested donation of \$6.00 per person for this planned and served meal. A sign up sheet will be available for those planning to attend and for those able to assist Virginia with meal preparation. If you need more information, please contact Virginia Bathe or Mariner's Skipper Tom Bennett.

## Men's Bible Study on Fridays at 8:15 a.m.



The Men's Bible Study continues on Friday mornings at 8:15 a.m. in the Youth Room at church. All men are welcome to this informative study on Mark's Gospel. Donuts will be served!

## Griefshare Group Meets Every Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Griefshare is a 13-week program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed.

Past participants have related how helpful the information and follow-up discussions were to them. Our Griefshare Group meets on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the CE Room. Cost is \$15 and includes the workbook. See Pastor Jim for details. If you or a loved one has experienced a recent loss, or is grappling with grief, this could be a helpful setting for them. We will NOT be meeting on March 26th, as I will be in Florida.

## Pastor Jim in Florida



I will be attending a CREDO (Latin: "I believe") Conference hosted by the Presbyterian Board of Pensions from March 23-30 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. **Pete Kirchoff** from Youth for Christ Central Valley will be preaching on the 29th. These CREDO conferences have three tracks, and are by invitation only. The first track is the beginning of ordained ministry, the second is mid-career, and the third is for the final years of ordained ministry. I am looking forward to it.



Harvest Presbyterian Church  
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POSTAGE



Mission Statement ~ With God in control, the mission of the Harvest Presbyterian Church is to proclaim and bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and nurture the faith of our church family.

## Harvest Leadership 2020

### Deacons

Virginia Bathe (Moderator) (2021)  
Betty Baughman (2022)  
Patty Correia (2021)  
Kate Hendrix (2020)  
Martha McNamara (2022)  
Judy Salyer (2020)

### Elders

Tom Bennett (2021)  
Michael Cousins (Treasurer) (2020)  
Karen Edwards (Clerk/Mission) (2020)  
Brandy Meyer (2021)  
Larry Mitchell (2022)  
Paul Moran (2022)

### Church Information

Church Office Phone: (209) 537-3519  
Website: [www.harvestpres.org](http://www.harvestpres.org)  
Pastor Jim Stochl—[harvest.pastor.jim@gmail.com](mailto:harvest.pastor.jim@gmail.com)  
Prayer Requests—[prayer@harvestpres.org](mailto:prayer@harvestpres.org)  
Bonnie Middleton—[secretary@harvestpres.org](mailto:secretary@harvestpres.org)

### Office Hours

Mondays: 8:30 —10:30 a.m.  
Thursdays: 2:00—6:00 p.m.  
Fridays: 8:30 —10:30 a.m.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>Communion— 10:30 am</p>	<p>2</p> 	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p><b>Alpha Circle— 9:30 a.m.</b></p> <p>Choir 5:30 p.m. Griefshare— 7:00 pm</p>	<p>6 Starbucks</p> <p>Men- 7:00 am</p> <p>Men's Bible Study— 8:15 am</p> <p>Women's Bible Study— 10:00am</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Bookkeeper</p>
<p>8 Worship— 10:30 am</p>  <p>Time to Spring Ahead</p>	<p>9</p>  <p><b>NATIONAL NAPPING DAY</b></p> <p>AA—7:00 pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Prayer Mtg — 6:00 pm</p> <p><b>Persephone Guild—7:00pm</b></p>	<p>12</p>  <p>Choir—5:30 pm Griefshare— 7:00 pm</p>	<p>13 Starbucks</p> <p>Men- 7:00 am</p> <p>Men's Bible Study— 8:15 am</p> <p>Women's Bible Study— 10:00am</p> <p><b>Deacons 12:00 pm</b></p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 am</p>	<p>16</p>  <p><b>NATIONAL PANDA DAY</b></p> <p>AA—7:00 pm</p>	<p>17</p>  <p><b>HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY</b></p>	<p>18</p> <p>Prayer Mtg — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>19 <b>Session— 12:00 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Presbytery Finance 2:00 pm</b></p> <p>Griefshare— 7:00 pm</p>	<p>20 Starbucks</p> <p>Men- 7:00 am</p> <p>Men's Bible Study— 8:15 am</p> <p>Women's Bible Study— 10:00am</p> <p><b>Mariners 6:00pm</b></p>	<p>21</p> <p>Bookkeeper</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Worship — 10:30 am</p>	<p>23</p>  <p><i>National Puppy Day</i></p> <p>AA—7:00 pm</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Prayer Mtg — 6:00 pm</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Starbucks</p> <p>Men- 7:00 am</p> <p>Men's Bible Study— 8:15 am</p> <p>Women's Bible Study— 10:00am</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Worship— 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>End of Month Potluck</p>	<p>30</p> <p>AA—7:00 pm</p>	<p>31</p>  <p><b>NATIONAL CRAYON DAY</b></p>	<p>1 Prayer Mtg —6:00 pm</p> 	<p>2</p> <p><b>Alpha Circle— 9:30 am</b></p> <p>Choir—5:30 pm</p>	<p>3 Starbucks</p> <p>Men- 7:00 am</p> <p>Men's Bible Study— 8:15 am</p> <p>Women's Bible Study— 10:00am</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bookkeeper</p>

## Sunday School Schedule \*

- 3/1** Beth Stochl, Lysie Salyer, (Judy Salyer)
- 3/8** Brandy Meyer, Lysie Salyer, (Judy Salyer)
- 3/15** Anette Arias, Lysie Salyer, (Martha McNamara)
- 3/22** Staci Edwards, Lysie Salyer, (Nawatha Reed)
- 3/29** Beth Stochl, Lysie Salyer, (Patti Arbizu)

\* This schedule may change! Check with Brandy Meyer or Bonnie Middleton if you have any conflicts or questions.



## Regular Prayer List

### Health Issues:

Susan Bennett  
Warren Cawley  
Leon Edwards  
Kate Hendrix  
Dorothy Nelson  
Frank Reed  
LaVeta Rhoys  
Casey van Rys  
Bettye Welsh

### Other Concerns:

Coronavirus outbreak



2—Kohl James  
17—Kate Hendrix  
20—Bettye Welsh  
25—Martha McNamara  
29—Brady Arias



None

RESERVED PARKING  
CHURCH PARKING LOT

