

July is here and it is hot, hot, hot. It is a big change for all of us, especially for someone like me who is always cold! Not these days, I'm not! I am excited to celebrate the 4th of July, America's birthday and then my birthday at the end of the month. Both of my Grand-daughters-in-law have birthdays this month, too! It is a busy month and hot, hot, hot!

I AM

Here are ten things you may or may not know about me.

- I am going to be 76 this month.
- I am a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, niece, and great aunt.
- I am a member of the LWML.
- I am a member of the Altar Guild at Grace in Modesto.
- I am dependable and competent.
- I am loyal to my family and friends.
- I am a Bible study leader.
- I am a Creative thinker.
- I am a Princess, a daughter of the One True King.

All that I am is because of the grace of the Great I AM, God the Father. In Exodus 3:14 we read, "God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: I AM has sent me to you.'" And He is still with us today!

In the beginning, I AM created Adam and Eve, see Genesis 2:7, "... then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature." And Genesis 2:22 "...and the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man."

When Adam and Eve chose to eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil in the middle of the garden, they brought sin into the world. Sin shows its ugly head in the crime, hate, and horror of today's society and in ourselves as we do the wrongs we do not want to do. I AM chose to send His Son, Jesus, into the world at just the right time. Jeremiah 33:15 states, "In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."

Jesus came to show us the way to live, how to treat others, and how to love our Father God, the great I AM. When it was time, Jesus was put to death on the cross and rose again, and sinners were forgiven! In Acts 10:43, Peter tells us, "To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

At that time I AM also sent us the Holy Spirit, Who dwells in our hearts and comforts, guides, and directs us. John 14:26 tells us, "...but the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you."

What a beautiful, wonderful, awesome story this is. I AM created us, redeemed us, and sent us a helper to guide us. In the future when you want to tell about who you are, remember WHOSE you are. Amen.

I am so glad that you read my newsletters every month and I appreciate all the responses I get. I love hearing back from you. Another reminder that the 2025 August retreat is shaping up to be a fun spiritual event. It will be at a different venue and the price is going up (what price isn't going up?), but it will be well worth it. Start saving now and I will get the info out to you in January. Enjoy your summer and remember to "serve the Lord with gladness"!

I love you all, Cathey