March 6, 2026, #140

Dear Brethren and Friends:

<u>Special Announcements:</u>

Sickness and Distress: We have been informed of the death of Rober L. Karr on January 17, 2026. He was 79.8 at the time of his death and was a member for 50.3 years. His funeral was January 23, 2026.

March 7 (Saturday) – Chili Cookoff. $10 to enter your chili, $10 to taste and vote. Starts at 11 am. Fundraiser for Rainbow Assembly #74. Rainbow will also have a Bake Sale. We have a very active Assembly, and they need funds for travel expenses. You can make donations on line to them as well at https://balodge243.square.site/ .

March 10 (Tuesday) – Two EA degrees with slides. Dinner at 6 pm. Please try and be done with dinner by 6:30 pm so we can get started. This will be a late night so plan accordingly.

Continue to pray for W:. Jim Parham. He is home recuperating. He can accept visitors, but please check with his wife first. He has a ways to go in his recovery, but being home should help him be more comfortable.

We always have brothers who have a need for prayer, even if they haven't let us know. Please hold a spot in your devotions to God for them.

<u>Membership Update:</u> If we want to see our lodge grow, our current brothers and friends need to be looking for men who we think might be interested. For our current brothers, if you have a friend who you think might make a good Mason, invite him to have dinner with us. We don't invite them to join, but we give them the opportunity to find out what we are all about. All you have to do is ask them.

<u>My Ramblings by W:. Scott A. MacDonald © 2026</u>

<u>I am who I am!</u>

In the Old Testament, the phrase "I AM" refers to God. It is a statement of his self-existence. Not dependent on anything or anyone else for His existence. It is also a statement of self-sufficiency. His existence doesn't rely on any other external circumstance. This is also called "First Cause".

I AM also hints to his eternal presence. He didn't say I was or I will be, I AM!

Finally, the phrase describes something outside of human categories or control. God is by definition supernatural, unable to be described or proven using natural laws. He can't be weighed or measured.

Atheists want a scientific measure to prove existence of God. But being outside of our natural laws, that request is futile. God is not defined or constricted by his own creation. That is why he can move through our universe outside of natural laws like time, space and matter.

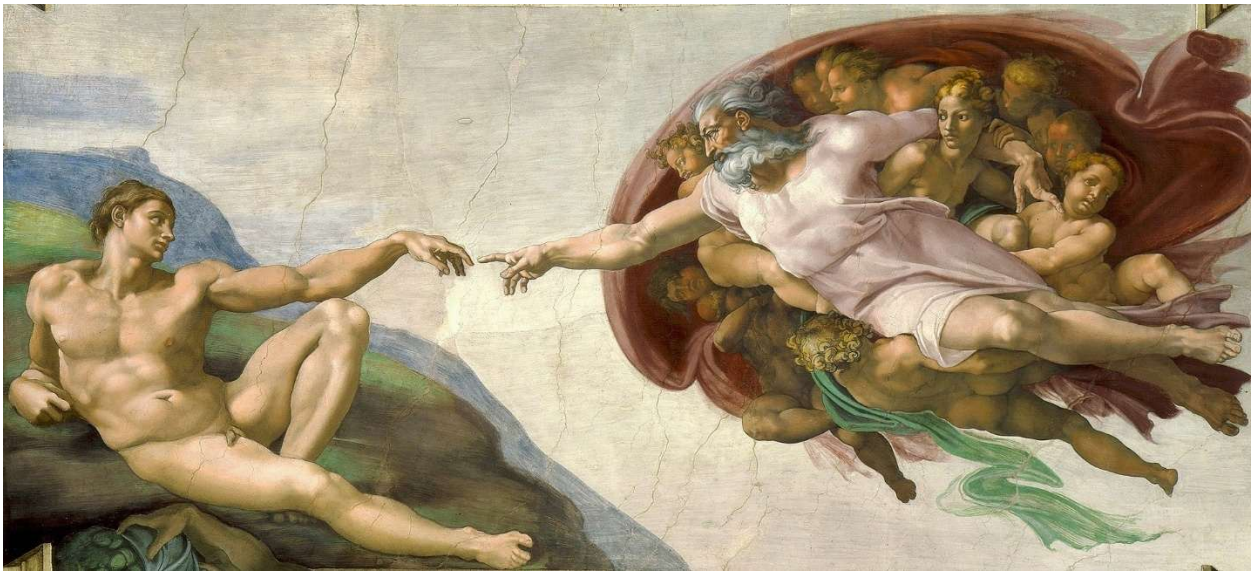
By simply stating "I AM", it is the ultimate declaration that God is outside of our complete understanding.

But the fact we may not completely understand the nature of God, does not mean he does not understand ours. It is clear from his Word (the Bible) that he does understand us. It is also clear that He wants a relationship with his creation.

However, to have a relationship with God, you must first submit yourself to him. This is a problem for some. Our pride gets in the way. We think we are in charge. We ignore the wisdom He can give.

It is up to you to find that path to God. Through Bible study, through listening to spiritual/religious scholars, through diligence in seeking him.

The Sistine Chapel, Michaelangelo painted "The Creation of Adam". You have no doubt seen the picture https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Creation_of_Adam. In the picture, God and Adam's hand are outstretched with a slight separation between their fingers. A closer look at the two fingers in the painting show that all that is necessary for Adam and God to touch if for Adam to slightly raise is finger. God's finger is already fully extended.



What an interesting feature. God is there; all we have to do is stretch our finger.

Lord, give us the strength to reach out to you today. Amen.

<u>Lodge Calendar</u>

March 7 (Saturday) – Chili Cookoff. $10 to enter your chili, $10 to taste and vote. Starts at 11 am. Fundraiser for Rainbow Assembly #74. There will also be a Bake Sale.

March 10 (Tuesday) – Two EA degrees. Dinner at 6 pm. Please plan on being done eating no later than 6:30 pm so we can start. The slides will also be presented.

March 17 (Tuesday) - Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

March 18 (Wednesday) – Broken Arrow Easter Star Chapter #140 is holding a fundraiser at Smitty's Garage Burgers & Beer, 7104 S. Sheridan Rd., Tulsa, OK 74133 between 5 pm and 8 pm. The OES will receive a portion of proceeds from your order.

March 24 (Tuesday) – District 12 meeting at Broken Arrow Lodge. Dinner at 6 pm, meeting to follow. Meeting is open to all, including family and friends. Door prize drawing for the Ladies.

March 31 (Tuesday) – 5th Tuesday. Trivia night. Bring friends and family for a fun night. Lodge will provide the protein, please bring a dish to share.

April 7 (Tuesday) - Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

April 14 (Tuesday) - Student and Teacher of Today. 7 pm Kirkland Theatre. 808 E College St, Broken Arrow, OK 74012. We need Brothers to work the event. Please be there by 6 pm to get set up. We will also need to pick up trash after. Dress is coat and tie with Apron.

April 21 (Tuesday) - Stated Meeting. Dinner at 6 pm, lodge at 7 pm.

April 25 (Saturday) – Master Builder School – 8 am breakfast, 9 am start.

April 28 (Tuesday) - Fellowship night. Dinner at 6 pm.

See you at Lodge!

Sincerely,

W:. Scott A. MacDonald, Treasurer and Membership Calling Chairman

PS – I will be posting the weekly newsletter on our website at https://ba-mason.org/newsletter .