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URANTIA BROTHERHOOD
INTRA-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

FROM John Hales, Resident Director
TO Members-Executive Committee
Trustees-URANTIA Foundation
Scott Forysthe
Mike Painter

DATE November 6, 1987

SUBJECT Clergy Network--The Christian Fellowship of Students of The URANTIA Book--Meredith Sprunger

In a recent letter, Meredith Sprunger included a copy of a new program of The Christian Fellowship, "A Clergy Network Interested in The URANTIA Book as a Resource in Preaching, Teaching, and Living."

In his letter he also says: "Our project the 'Christian Fellowship Prize in Religious Research' is on schedule and in five or ten years I hope we will open large segments of the academic community to research involving The URANTIA Book."

I know each of you is interested in Meredith's outreach activity.

JH/mp
Attachment



The Christian Fellowship of Students of the Urantia Book
A Clergy Network Interested in the Urantia Book as a Resource
in Preaching, Teaching, and Living

Guiding Network Principles

1. We believe the Urantia Book can make a significant contribution to the stimulation of spiritual creativity in the Christian Church and its people.
2. We believe that at the present stage of spiritual development it is wise for ministers to use the Urantia Book as a resource for preaching and teaching rather than referring to the book itself or directing attention to it. Almost every concept in the Urantia Book can be associated with some theologian, philosopher, or scientist in the past or present.
3. We believe that, although one should not be secretive about interest in the Urantia Book, one should use discretion in recommending it to people. The light of enhanced truth can frighten and blind as well as guide and illuminate.
4. We believe the Urantia Book's claim to a revelatory source and status is not germane to its usefulness in the presentation of spiritual truth. Truth has an inherent appeal, regardless of its source, and can be used to enrich one's preaching, teaching, and living.
5. We believe the Spirit of God works among us in a differential and evolutionary manner; therefore, we recognize that for whatever reason some clergy may not wish to read and critically evaluate the Urantia Book. This diversity should, in no way, stand as a barrier to our mutual respect, fellowship, and love.
6. We believe the leavening process of creativity stimulated by the Urantia Book should be ecumenical in nature. Already we have pastors from most of the mainline traditions of the Christian faith in our network.
7. We believe the Urantia Book will eventually be recognized by the great majority of the world's religious leaders as the most constructive spiritual message our world has received since Jesus' ministry on earth.

Network Recommendations

1. Read the entire Urantia Book to get its sweeping universe view of reality. Many of us started reading the book at Part IV The Life and Teachings of Jesus. If you should like to get a quick overall view of the book, you might read "The Gift of Revelation," a thirty-page summary of the basic facts and truths of the Urantia Book.
2. Have the Concordex of the Urantia Book available to help in researching topics on which you are preaching or teaching.
3. Use the Paramony, which is a parallel and harmony of the Bible and the Urantia Book, to locate Urantia Book material on the Biblical text you are using in sermon preparation.
4. The Urantia Book needs scholarly study, criticism, and evaluation and we should promote such activity wherever possible.