

Grace United Church of Christ

307 Plymouth Street

Culver, Indiana

MEREDITH J. SPRUNGER, MINISTER

May 31, 1958

Dr. William S. Sadler  
533 Diversey Parkway  
Chicago 14, Illinois

Dear Dr. Sadler:

I feel constrained to write you the letter which I have wanted to write many times. From the moment in which I understood the significance of the Urantia Book, I have had a deep and unshakable conviction: "For this my life has been prepared and will be dedicated."

Some time ago I wrote saying I planned to enter clinical psychology work. Upon investigation, under present day requirements I would have to take or retake two full years of training. What I have been searching for, of course, is a vehicle which will enable me to both earn a living and be free to promote the Urantia Book. Now I am considering a combination of teaching and preaching. Am enclosing material which I have sent to school superintendents of the State. All of the superintendents I have consulted have encouraged me in this direction.

What I would really like to do, however, is be a field secretary of the Urantia Brotherhood. Months ago I had a plan all worked out for such a position. It would involve contacting colleges, universities, seminaries, ministerial associations, and progressive groups in the Mid-west. I even had some ideas about financing it.

The reason I did not make the proposal to the Urantia Brotherhood was because I thought it was premature. But I know I shall be unsatisfied until I am approaching full time activity in the goals of the Urantia Brotherhood. What ever I do in the mean time will only be a means to this end.

Therefore, I should like to offer my services to the Urantia Brotherhood in such promotional or missionary activity as I have described. The intensity of my interest makes me impatient and in danger of being tempted by what might be viewed as "short-cut" activity in the light of eternity. Probably such activity should be delayed until the Urantia Book receives national publicity - as it eventually will.

The time element and whether or not I can be of service to the Urantia Brotherhood is entirely in their hands. But I would not feel right if I failed to write this letter offering my services when and under such conditions as the Brotherhood considers wise. Would you please convey this offer to the Executive Committee of the Brotherhood.

Cordially yours,

*Meredith J. Sprunger*

Meredith J. Sprunger

June 3, 1958

Dear Marian:

I am enclosing communications from Dr. Sprunger and a copy of my reply thereto, and trust that after perusing the same you will pass them on to the President of the Brotherhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature, appearing to be "W.S.S.", is enclosed within a hand-drawn oval.



June 3, 1958

Dr. Meredith J. Sprunger  
307 Plymouth Street  
Culver, Indiana

Dear Dr. Sprunger:

I was very much interested in your letter of May 31st received this morning, and not being an officer of the Brotherhood, I will not hesitate to write you fully concerning my reactions.

I don't know of any one who will be better qualified to function as Field Secretary of the Urantia Brotherhood than yourself. In fact, I don't know of any one who is qualified even in a small degree approaching yourself. Only a few days ago I had expressed myself along these lines with the additional thought that if the organization of the Brotherhood Seminary were not delayed too long you would be the ideal man to function as its President.

I fear that the Brotherhood is not sufficiently developed to be able to support a field secretary at the present time, and I doubt if the field is sufficiently ripe to be responsive to such an effort. At the present time, all of the officers of the Brotherhood are "tentmakers". They are all self-supporting workers. I suppose we could regard Paul as being the first Field Secretary of the Christian movement, but even with a considerable constituency, he found it necessary to "make tents".

Of course, some wealthy convert may show up who would be glad to support a field secretary. That could happen most any day. Needless to say, I am glad to learn of your feelings in such matters, and you may be assured of my understanding co-operation.

I was interested in your letter to the Indiana School Superintendents and would be pleased to know what developments might arise therefrom.

I am passing your letter along to the President of the Brotherhood and I am sure that you will sooner or later receive an official reaction to your suggestions. In the meantime I am sure you will string along with the rest of us at "tentmaking" while awaiting future developments.

With all best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

WSS/ar

William S. Sadler