THE MESSENGER

Conference Planning Committee Kevin Goodman, Coordinator c/o 2116 Carroll Gardens Lane Tampa, Florida 33612 January 13, 1978

Dear Friends,

We are very happy to invite you to register to attend the Fourth Conference of the Florida <u>URANTIA Book</u> Study Groups. The conference will be held March 16th - 18th at the Christian Retreat in Bradenton.

This conference has been designed to offer more time for individuals to get acquainted and enjoy each others company. We feel the presentations will augment this fellowship as well as provide inspiration for future reflection.

The conference theme is "Religion as an Institution and as Personal Experience."

The tentative program format is as as follows:

Friday, March 16th

4:00 - 7:00 Check-in and register at the Fellowship Center

7:00 - 9:00 Fellowship and music

Saturday, March 17th

8:00 - 9:00 Registration for those arriving Sat. morning

8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast

9:00 - 9:15 Welcome - Joycee Law MC

9:15 -10:00 URANTIA Foundation/Brotherhood Update

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15-10:45 "Origin and Evolution of Religion" by

Jay and Demaris Klafs

10:45-12:15 Discussion Groups on "Origin and Evolution of Religion" and various selected topics

12:15 - 1:00 Lunch 1:00 - 2:00 Recess "Social Problems of Religion" by Dick Bain 2:00 - 2:30 Open Group Discussion on "Social Problems 2:30 - 3:30 of Religion" 3:30 - 5:00 Entertainment - Individuals participate in Gong Show 5:00 - 6:00 Dinner 6:00 - 7:00 Rest 7:00 - 9:00 "New Age Film Festival" Sunday, March 18th 8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast 9:00 - 9:30 Check out of rooms "Prayer" by Sharon Beasley 9:30 -10:00 10:00 -11:30 Open Question-Answer Session led by Jim Mills 11:30 -11:45 Break 11:45 -12:15 Talk by Vern Bennom Grimsley 12:15 -12:30 Closing remarks 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch 1:30 Departure

We would like to suggest that before coming to the conference, individuals write down questions they have or concepts which need clarifying concerning the teachings in <u>The URANTIA Book</u>. The open question and answer session will provide the opportunity for anyone to ask or answer these questions.

We ask that those of you who have the time look over papers 85, 86, 91, 92, and 99-103. This will augment group participation in the discussion groups on Saturday morning. The alternative discussion groups include: "Origin and Evolution of Religion," "The Role of the Mind in Spiritual Growth," "The Influence of Religion on Great Scientific Thinkers," and "Developing Religious Habits." Participants will sign up for the various discussion groups when they register on Friday afternoon or Saturday morning on a first come - first serve basis.