



SPECIAL READERS' ISSUE

Featuring Letters, Poems, Puzzles and Drawings by our Readers

New Orleans

The growth of the revelation in New Orleans and the surrounding area is proceeding substantially. We held a workshop with members of the Foundation Faith of the Millenium recently and were pleased by their receptivity to the personal message of religious illumination and liberation which we attempted to convey. We have also been successful in persuading a book-store in the French Quarter to stock the Book and display it in the window. And our study group continues to grow in the light of spiritual development and the warmth of fellowship. We await the times of the spread of the revelation to all peoples of the planet, but in the meantime we are busy building a firm foundation for the future development of spiritual consciousness here in New Orleans.

With love and wishes for a great eternity,

—JOHN LINCOLN

Monterey

Our Monterey Peninsula study group is bursting at the seams. There are almost twenty of us and we are about to form (split) two groups. One will be mid-week and one on the weekend to better accommodate all. Soon we will send you a photo of us.

Barbara and George Thornbury, Josh, Jackson, Tim, Sharon and Mike, Martha, Jan, Thecka, Bill, Cindy, Larry and Carol, Ray and myself send greetings.

We meet, by the way, once a week on Saturdays and invite visitors when they are here on the peninsula. It is not uncommon for us to have a six hour meeting on a Saturday night. You would be amazed at the accomplishments of social, personal and spiritual value at these meetings.

Enclosed is a check for a year's subscription. Also addresses of some enthusiastic new readers. Please send them a copy.

In closing, I would like to tell you who I am. I recently moved from Southern California to the Monterey Peninsula. I am a self-employed manufacturer's representative in the polyethylene packaging industry. I have a background in Psychology and I like people and get along with them well. I am so interested in truth in relation to personality that I found I was evaluating these truths years before I picked up a URANTIA Book. Can you imagine my surprise when I read the Book and had confirmed numerous truths that I had long believed? It was beautiful, exciting, profound and the real beginning of my eternal existence. I'm thirty years old and it seems incredible that in such a short period of time a revelation of such wisdom was (or can be) revealed.

—BOB DEMATTEIS

Reno



James and Rebecca George, study group leaders in Reno, Nevada. Their son, Kailyn inspects the Concordex as sister Jedo looks on. Jim has been reading The URANTIA Book for almost seven years.

Oregon

I'm happy to tell you that Urantians are alive and well in Eugene and Marcola, and that since we are, it would be nice to write and tell you so!

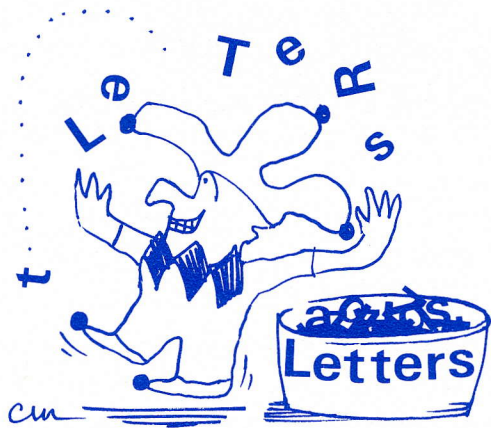
It's taken a while to get stabilized, but we've been meeting fairly regularly, usually Mondays. We started with the Foreward and have been progressing slowly through the Central Universe. We have a way to go, but we've made a good start!

We all have read the Book for two or more years, but reading it together, from the beginning, has brought new insight that we've all noted, and it seems to be a group consensus that we all desire more to get our lives right and to study harder so that we may be trustworthy bearers of this information.

Here in Marcola, my neighbor and I have been reading regularly together and there are several others nearby that are reading the Book too. But getting them in one place isn't always easy. Happily though, another friend said, "It's time to stop saying Wow! and really get to know that Book!"

I agree completely, and the idea that the best way to study is together seems to be taking root in one or two other minds as well. A study group in Marcola is in the process of hatching!

—JANET QUINN



Here are excerpts from a few of the wonderful letters we have received in recent months. We wish we had space to print them all, and we wish we had time to answer them all...but we don't. So to those of you who have sent letters and have received no answers, we now say Thank You!

To the Editor,

I've been locked down in our local sneezer [solitary confinement cell] for over three weeks and will remain locked down until my transfer to Leavenworth sometime in January. 'Pears that my "ministry" here is completed and Father wants me to introduce The URANTIA Book to a tougher nucleus of convicted felons.

It may be that when the men of Leavenworth have learned of the U.B., I'll then proceed to Marion, Illinois, where exist the hardest, baddest men in the land.

McNeil Island is a medium security prison and the general population is comprised of young first offenders who just aren't ready for the U.B. (That's a gross generalization. I've reached about fifteen people here, some of whom are ordering their own copies.)



Give my love to all your lovely constituents right after skimming off your abundant ration.

Yours in brotherhood,
Lawrence Hildonen

I attended the "Northwest Get-Together" in October, [Washington] and it was one of the best experiences of my life. There was so much love and fellowship.

Steve Johnson

Greetings from Utah! There are no "known" readers here so we are in ultra-isolation. We spent this past summer up in Anchorage, Alaska with Pat & Tuckey Hayes and had a wonderful experience of learning and growing. The Alaska study group has so many great folks. Hopefully a study group will evolve here.

John & Jane Roper
Salt Lake City

DEAR URANTIAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

I want to take this time to express my love for all of you, no matter where you may be located on this planet of ours. I want to express a few thoughts that I have been thinking on for the last few weeks.

To do the Father's Will

First, many people that I have come into contact with have expressed that they don't really know what it means to do the Father's will. Let's examine the reality of the Father. The Universal Father has been described as a God of Love. God is Love. To simply put it, to do the Father's will is to put Love into every action we make throughout our lives. Then to do God's will is to imitate God who is Love, and Love is the desire to do good unto others.

Worship the Father in world-wide unity

On another point that I feel needs attention: the act of Worship. I feel at this time it would be very beneficial if we would set aside a five-minute period each day in which all of us, at a set time, could join together Spiritually and Worship the Father in world-wide unity. It could be any five-minute period at any hour, so that all the participants could in their own way express themselves as a part of a whole body functioning throughout the world, all at the same time. I feel that much good can and will come from this type of worship. All that is needed is an agreement as to the time to be set for such an activity, so that anyone throughout the world could coordinate the time in that locality to unite with all others in group Worship.

Translating the book into other languages

Also, on translating The URANTIA Book into other languages: Did not the the Universal Personalities upstep the English language to such a degree that it literally takes on a new phase of communication? Also, English being a major international language on this planet, it may be that the Universal Personalities are trying to show us that English might just be that one World Language that the planet needs. If one looks at the problems of translating the book into other languages, one begins to ask: "are we meant to translate The URANTIA Book, or is it meant to be read in the versatile English language in which the authors gave it to us?"

These are a few thoughts that have been on my mind, and I felt it time to share them with others to get some feedback on them.

Your brother in time and space,
J. Zabriel, 822 'B' Street
Ashland, Oregon 97520

The Agondonter is published quarterly by the First Urantia Society of Los Angeles.

Donations are appreciated and should be in the form of a check, payable to FUSLA.

Items of mutual interest are welcomed from Societies, study groups or individuals. Shorter items are given preference.

Editor:	Charles Montgomery
Editorial Board:	Julia Fenderson Charles Montgomery Scott Forsythe

Have we misspelled your name?
Is your address correct?
Please let us know.

It is very worthwhile our having and your producing the Agondonter. Thank you for all your efforts. I like to hear of what is going on in the movement, and I like to hear the thoughts of others who love the Book. I have been reading it for over twenty-five years and always find spiritual and mental food, enlightenment and inspiration. It never disappoints when one seeks help—perhaps because it is Truth and Wisdom.

Grace L. Walker
Naperville, Illinois

Reading the Agondonter gives you the intensive feeling of closeness to all the URANTIANS around, and that you do not stand alone in your love of and devotedness to the wonderful messages of The URANTIA Book, especially when one lives in an isolated space...

Olga Unverzagt
Palm Bay, Florida

I appreciate the Agondonter, to keep those of us who are off the beaten track informed as to what's happening throughout Urantia land. And I hope the editor will always strive to present many different views on issues concerning all of us.

Deborah Foster
Talkeetna, Alaska

Note: Debbie is a member of Pat and Tucky Hayes great group in Anchorage. Recently she took a special course (as did another U.B. reader, Ruth Flanders) to become an air traffic control officer, and works way out in the Talkeetna Mountains of Alaska where she is having her own cabin built. This fine young woman is an avid scholar of the U.B. —ed.

Your well-written little journal is a worthy effort on the part of a group of fairly young URANTIANS! We are glad to see the active members of the organization are not "oldsters" such as we, for it insures continuity into the future!

Gregory Vincent
Windsor, California

The spirit of David Zebedee lives on in the Agondonter! Bring us together! (I am constantly amazed at how many different kinds of people read The URANTIA Book.)

Lee Armstrong
Iowa City, Iowa

I am writing for a small but steadily growing study group in southern Vermont. We have been meeting weekly for over two years and are growing in size and solidity. We hope to charter someday. We would like to receive the Agondonter. It makes such a difference to see and read about God's unfolding in so many different places.

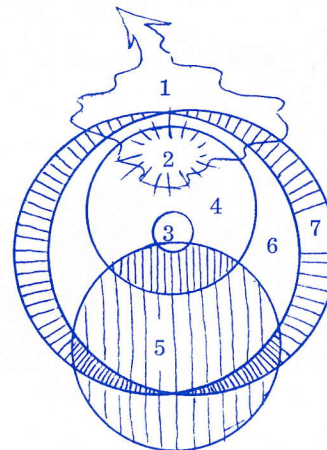
Donald R. MacLean
Putney, Vermont

Our best regards to all of you wonderful URANTIANS. Our Atlanta study group numbers close to twenty members but only about 6 or 8 show up for any given Monday night meeting. Last spring we began meeting in different members' homes and this has worked out real well. We had a group "project" through last spring (helping an elderly widow) but since doing all we could and a changed environment, we've really not been involved in an "outreach" type project for several months. Soon we hope to resume this type of activity of serving our brothers as well as learning more of the Father through our study group. We would welcome any and all of you to visit our group if ever in the "sunny south". Warmest regards,

Cap Van Valkenburgh
495 River Valley Rd.
Atlanta, GA 30328

ANALYZING THE SELF: AN INTERPRETATION

Virginia Ryken has submitted the following diagram and accompanying notes on the personality dynamics of the self, based on her reading of The URANTIA Book. She would be interested in seeing similar interpretations by other readers.



KEY

1. Soul
2. Spirit
3. Ego—temporary identity
4. Mind systems
5. Physical systems
6. Room for growth
7. Personality

DYNAMICS

- Interaction of mind and spirit causes growth of soul.
- Area between personality and spirit in soul constantly changes if soul is progressing. (See U.B.1226)
- Ego—seat of temporal identity—transfers to soul for survival. (See U.B.1229)
- Soul—grows to include spiritual aspects of mind.
- Mind—may become more spiritual for survival or more material if survival rejected.
- Physical systems—eventually turn to energy.
- Personality, spirit, soul—are eventually reconstituted in a new body on another world, if personality so chooses.

Virginia Ryken
W. Amherst, N.Y.

Dear Reader,
Faith is a very personal thing.
There are so many ways to say
"I believe."

Here are two
examples —
statements that
are URANTIA
inspired, but
which could be
read in any
local church
group.

How about
sending us
your "I believe
statement"?

- I believe that we are sons and daughters of a loving Father who cares for us.
- I believe that our Father gave me free will so that I can personally choose to follow the Father's way.
- I believe that Jesus came to show me the way, to do the Father's will.
- I believe that I must continually try to choose that way, or the Father's will, in each act of my daily life.
- I believe the Father's spirit indwells me, to help me day by day.
- I believe that all men are my brothers and sisters and that I am to love and serve them.
- I believe that unselfish love and service are the greatest things in this world.
- I believe that I show my love for the Father by loving and serving my fellows.
- I believe that love implies forgiveness and prevents holding grudges.
- I believe that life on this world is the "testing time", the "shakedown cruise" to see if I am ready to start on the long, eternal adventure.
- I believe that anyone who sincerely desires to do so may take this voyage.
- I believe in the progressive evolution of my soul Godward if I so choose.
- I believe in the joyous wonder of it all—the truth, beauty and goodness which equal love.
- I believe that someday I will attain Paradise and stand face to face with my heavenly Father.
- I believe that all of this training through eons of ages will enable me to sometime love and serve with joy on other, greater worlds.

--Julia K. Fenderson

DRAWINGS by Felice Long

FUSLA member, Felice Long, has created a leather-bound collection of drawings which she whimsically calls "URANTIA Triviata." The collection contains several dozen cartoons depicting her conception of some of the ideas presented in The URANTIA Book. Four of her creations are shown on these pages. Keep in mind that these are one person's interpretations; you undoubtedly see things somewhat differently.



"... You can depend upon being translated from sphere to sphere, from the outer circuits ever nearer the inner center, and some day, doubt not, you shall stand in the divine and central presence and see him, figuratively speaking, face to face. ..." (U.B. 63-4)*



"We, the Life Carriers on Urantia, had passed through the long vigil of watchful waiting since the day we first planted the life plasm in the planetary waters, and naturally the appearance of the first really intelligent and volitional beings brought to us great joy and supreme satisfaction." (U.B. 709)*

I believe in God, the Father of all universes, almighty, all-loving, ever-present and omniscient, eternal and everlasting, the Creator of all that is, from the greatest galaxy to the smallest atomic particle, from the mightiest angel to the lowest form of life.

I believe that the vast creation has been made for a divine purpose of magnificent proportions.

I believe that by aligning myself with the divine purpose I can achieve enduring significance in the universe, become an eternal entity, a living, knowing, loving, growing, learning, revealing, dynamic, creative and everlasting personality.

I believe that it may not get easier, but it sure gets better.

I believe that love is the key to growing. I believe in the manner of living taught and revealed by the Master: adherence to the Will of the Father, and all-encompassing love for our neighbor, be he friend or enemy.

I believe that I determine the quality of my life moment by moment by the choices I make. I can choose to move Godward, or I can choose otherwise.

I believe that evil is a necessary by-product of free-will operating in a choice-rich environment. I believe that fear is the root of all selfishness, the seed of all evil. I believe that faith is the antidote to fear, and love is the well-spring of goodness.

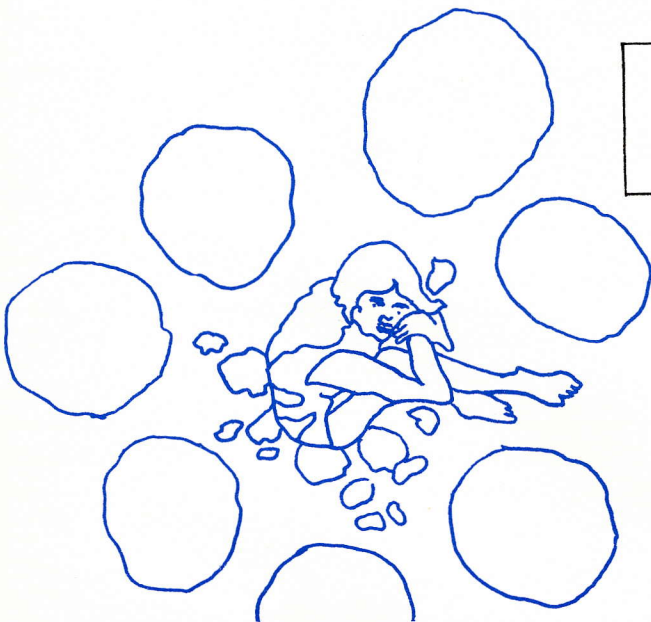
I believe that God loves me a thousand times more than I can know, that he is a God of salvation, mercy, forgiveness, understanding, tenderness and infinite love, as well as a God of righteousness and power.

I believe that death, like birth, is a door, an emergence into light and new freedom. My spirit welcomes the birth of new life that is death.

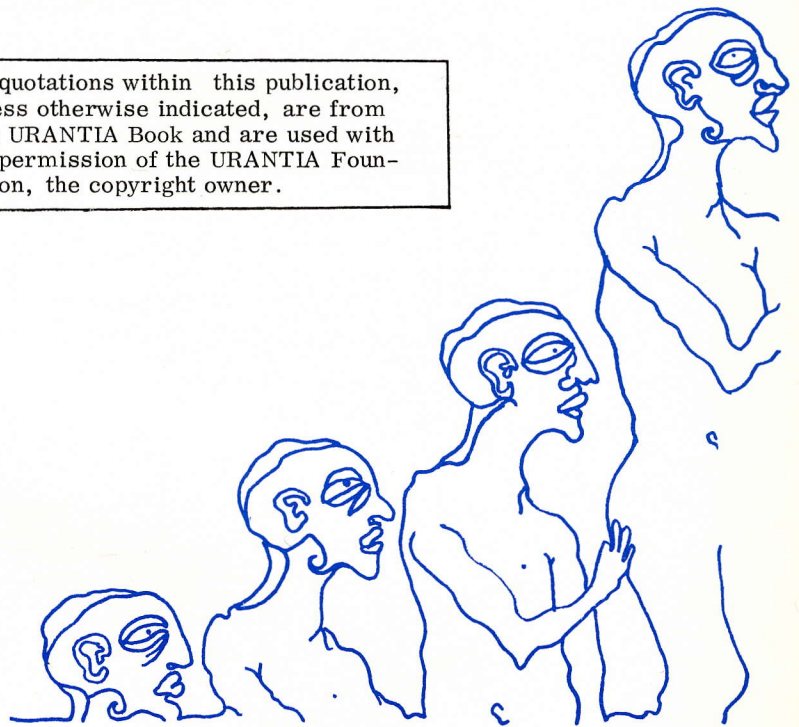
I believe that I have unimaginable adventures of joy, service, discovery, and love ahead of me in an unending future, that God is expressing a fraction of his infinite nature through the eternally exploding reality that is me.

--Charles M. Montgomery

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"Mortal death is a technique of escape from the material life in the flesh; and the mansonia experience of progressive life through seven worlds of corrective training and cultural education represents the introduction of mortal survivors to the morontia career, the transition life which intervenes between the evolutionary material existence and the higher spirit attainment of the ascenders of time who are destined to achieve the portals of eternity." (U.B. 540)*



"... Loyal persons are growing persons, and growth is an impressive and inspiring reality. Live loyally today—grow—and tomorrow will attend to itself. The quickest way for a tadpole to become a frog is to live loyally each moment as a tadpole." (U.B. 540)*

For all our Little Brothers and Sisters

Some day all men and women will LOVE each other! The world will be transformed into one vast Family of God! And even though you may now live in a world of confusion, DON'T WORRY! Just like the first rays of light on a new morning, the dawn of a new age has come to our world, URANTIA. Some day all people will learn about truth, beauty, goodness, faith and LOVE.

If you "tune in" to the positive "vibes" and if you learn to LOVE with all your heart, wonderful things begin to happen. And get this: If you rap with God, our Universal Father, and ask Him to Guide you, teach you, and Show you the way—He will! (Listen, this is no comic book story, man, this is the Cosmic Book Story, and it is Real!

The Spiritual Age has begun to shed the Light of Truth on the hearts and minds of all truth seeking men and women! What a wonderful time to be alive! You will live to see some incredible and amazing things. But most of all you will DISCOVER for yourself—you will learn what Jesus really taught almost two thousand years ago—

because TODAY people are Growing and Realizing that all churches and temples and all the world's religions WORSHIP the SAME GOD (Hooray!)

And God LOVES us more than we can imagine. He craves to commune with us but He never forces us to LOVE Him in return. This must be of our own choosing because God has given us a Free Will.

Perhaps when all people find God in their own Hearts they will be able to see Him in EVERYONE! And on that blessed day all church bells will ring and all voices will sing one glorious song in praise of the greatest teaching of all time: The Fatherhood of God and The Brotherhood of Man! ...and that's just the beginning!...

P.S. And keep on smiling; you look so nice when you do!

—Vince Ventola



Pueblo Colorado study group: Buck Weimer took the picture. His wife, Arlene, holds little Jonathon, center. In the foreground George Samarus and his wife Lucy with baby Loriel.

At the birth of a soul,
The universes gently sparkle
And the Creators smile
While a new life begins its race
With time and space.
The interception has begun,
At the birth of a soul.

Eva Sepp
Kailua, Hawaii

It's so good to hear from fellow URANTIANS and share in their growing awareness of knowing God and doing his will. Much love,

Janet Volpe
Toluca, Illinois

Three years ago on Kauai we didn't know if others knew of the U.B. Our prayers were answered and now we are able to hear of other readers everywhere. I pray for the success of the Book, and for spiritual freedom worldwide.

Cam Gardner
Kekaha, Kauai, Hawaii

J O Y T I N U S
M R T I R I P S
Y T I N R E T E
T U N H P R R N
U E I T E E U D
A V F I A W T O
E O N A C O H O
B L I F E P N G

OH JOY! Can you find twelve joyous words, each at least four letters long, in straight lines, (vertical or horizontal, backward or forward) in this joyous matrix?
--cmm

READERS' FORUM

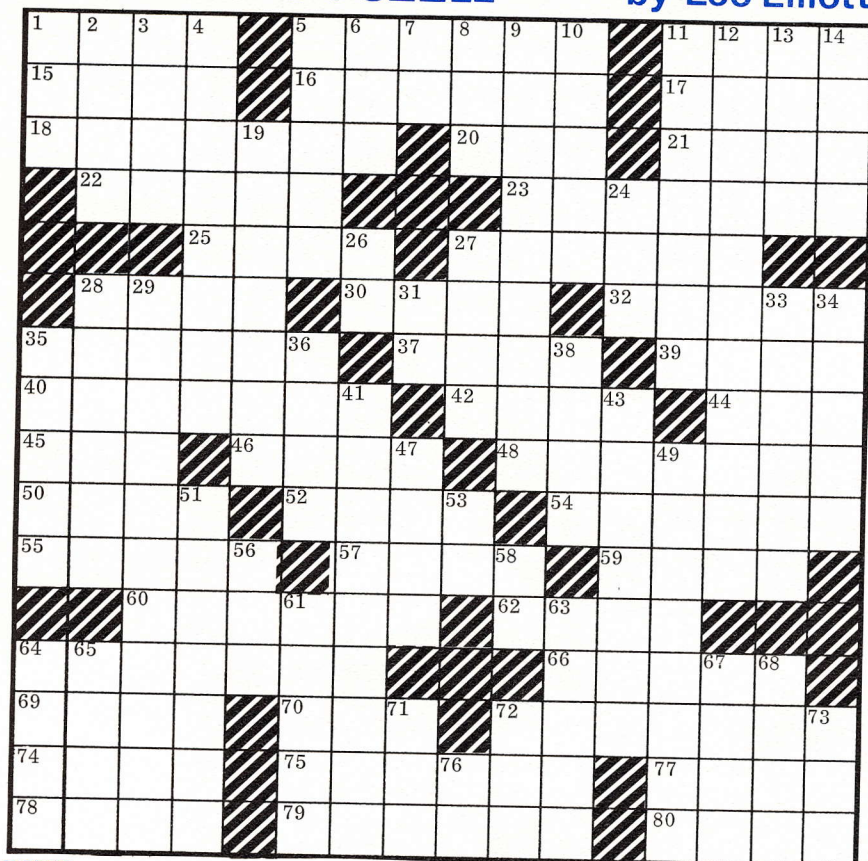
PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS...

On page 2049 of The URANTIA Book we read that Jesus, in a post-resurrection appearance, says to Philip: "There is but one law to obey—that is the command to go forth proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom."

What insights or experiences can you share with our readers to assist them in carrying out this commandment.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

by Leo Elliott



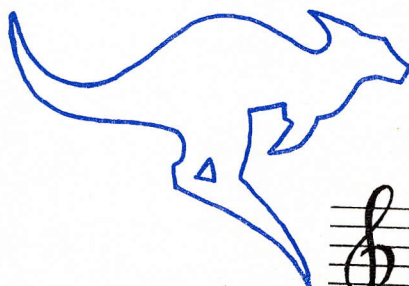
- 67. Askew
- 68. Wife of Cronus
- 71. Article (gr.)
- 72. Here, in Marseilles
- 73. Trader, (abbr.)
- 76. Supposed seat of instincts (psych.)

ACROSS

- 1. What an infant might wear (2 wds.)
- 5. Where Jesus visited Malach (UB 1737)
- 11. _____ Father
- 15. Sound of a contented cat
- 16. Preceded Good Samaritan (UB 1810)
- 17. Consider, adjudge
- 18. "Sing the _____ of the Lord!"
- 20. Points, abbr.
- 21. What the apostles hands often were
- 22. Dissenting religious bodies
- 23. _____ Son
- 25. "always a _____ and a right way"(UB 230)
- 27. Testing
- 28. W. Ind. hog plum
- 30. Zone
- 32. Belonging to a famous Roman fiddler
- 35. Smudges
- 37. Belonging to Mr. Steadfast
- 39. Opposite of origin (abbr.)
- 40. _____, the wanderer of space
- 42. Shoo!
- 44. Prefix for -sphere or -logy
- 45. Rantulan Service Corps (abbr.)
- 46. Boathands
- 48. Panoptian leader (var. sp.)
- 50. U.S. Tennis pro
- 52. _____ College, English public school
- 54. — be — not to be that — the ?
- 55. Certain bills
- 57. Means and _____
- 59. Places for weary travelers
- 60. Jesus' brother Jude was one
- 62. College in Santa Barbara (abbr.)
- 64. Thin
- 66. You might have this in your eye or in your coat (2 wds.)
- 69. "Stuck in _____ again" (Calif. sm. town)
- 70. The _____ falls of progress
- 72. Precedes foresight (UB 1228)
- 74. Aid and _____
- 75. Interpreters of _____ (UB 300)
- 77. Important to distinguish from want
- 78. What Jesus did most mornings
- 79. What some have done to Bible
- 80. In high _____

DOWN

- 1. Approximate (abbr.)
- 2. Bursar (abbr.)
- 3. Dies _____
- 4. -a- _____, odds and ends
- 5. "_____ the little children"
- 6. Fifth letters
- 7. Jesus' third year: _____ B. C. (Roman)
- 8. Mr. Van Winkle
- 9. Statement
- 10. Irritable
- 11. Bedecked
- 12. Spiritual regeneration (2 wds.)
- 13. Mr. Lugosi
- 14. Isomer of C₅H₁₁
- 19. Kind of acid
- 24. Kind of "stein"
- 26. Indwelling guide, synonym (abbr.)
- 27. Celestial Seasonings makes these
- 28. _____ fortune (2 wds.)
- 29. Third epochal revelator
- 31. Boat or camper (abbr.)
- 33. Egyptian goddess
- 34. Porticos
- 35. Piece
- 36. Certain
- 38. "You are the _____ of the earth"
- 41. Chunk of arriving space matter
- 43. Followers of Lao-tze
- 47. Negative contraction
- 49. Fate of survival rejectors
- 51. Resident of the Garden
- 53. U.S. state adjacent to Canada (abbr.)
- 56. _____ sack
- 58. Supreme Ultimate (abbr.)
- 61. Healed by Jesus in first intentionally performed miracle (UB 1644)
- 63. Can (archaic)
- 64. Cole _____
- 65. Wolf (Sp.)



from Western Australia...

THE UNIVERSAL BROTHERHOOD THEME SONG

Arranged by Peter Carthew

Peaceful Kingdom

Words and music by Francyl Streano Gawryn
© 1975

1. I am wor-king to build a king-dom
in my heart Lord in my heart
brick by brick stone by stone
in my heart Lord in my heart
I can see there's a lot of people lost
Some are look-ing for di-rec-tion
and I'd like to say I know there's a bet-ter way
that's gon-na lead you on to per-fec-tion

2. I am working to build a kingdom
In my heart, Lord in my heart
With the tools, that I've been given,
In my heart, Lord in my heart.

There's peaceful patience, loving my brothers
Strength and courage, through the night,
Watchful waiting, endless giving,
Faithful striving, for what's right.

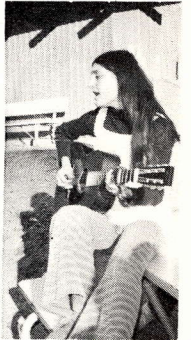
3. I am working to build a kingdom
In my heart, Lord in my heart
Brick by brick, stone by stone,
In my heart, Lord in my heart.

Look to the light and see the shining
Of the goodness that comes through you
And stay by it, peaceful and quiet,
Knowing that it's going to be good to you.

4. I am working to build a kingdom
In my heart, Lord in my heart,
And it's nowhere to be found
But in my heart and in your heart.

You won't find it in the city
Or in the country, or deep down in the sea,
'Cause it's only something living,
And it's living in you and in me.

5. I am working to build a kingdom
In my heart, Lord in my heart,
Brick by brick, stone by stone,
In my heart, Lord in my heart.



Francyl

agondonter

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