News and Opinions for Readers of The Urantia Book Messenger

2009 Study Session:

God-Consciousness: A Living University

OMGC Service!* Service Opportunities Abound at Fellowship's 2009 Study Session.

Who: The Fellowship's newly designed 2009 Study Session entitled "God-Consciousness: A Living University" needs you. "God-consciousness, as it is experienced by an evolving mortal of the realms, must consist of three varying factors, three differential levels of reality realization." [5:5.11] (P. 69) What are these three levels? What do they mean? How do you experience their value?

What: Serve your fellows through such in-depth study of the teachings of *The Urantia Book* as a presenter, workshop facilitator, on-site student, pre-conference participant, musician, worship leader, program leader for children and youth, conference helper, or off-site participant and contributor. We are looking for first-time participants and facilitators to work with our program committee and experienced facilitators to prepare for future study sessions.

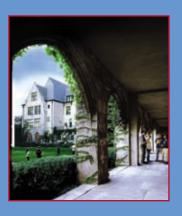
Our new advance study feature allows individuals and study groups to participate even if not everyone can attend the conference. Each workshop will have recommended reading for those who want to prepare and contribute to the program in advance. Study groups take note: you may sponsor a workshop as a study group. For details, go to urantia-education.org, the new Education Committee website.

When: The pre-conference programs and the three-day session are as follows:

Thursday, July 30 Pre-Conference Programs

- Spiritual Retreat, beginning Thursday at 8 a.m. and ending Friday at 8:30 a.m.
- Education and *The Urantia Book*, Thursday morning and afternoon, a meeting for educational professionals and those who have a special interest in educating and training teachers and leaders.
- City Tour, a day in Chicago guided by *Urantia Book* students of truth, beauty, and goodness in the "city of this visitation": Lakefront architecture, Millennium Park, and the Art Institute.
- Study Session Registration and Social: Thursday, July 30, afternoon and evening.

Spring-Summer '09



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Friday, July 31: God-Consciousness: God the Father This day will include the establishment of the

Temple of the Father to enhance our study experience.

Saturday, August 1: God-Consciousness: Our Brothers and Sisters This day will include God-consciousness

in our spiritual brotherhood and world religions.

Sunday, August 2: God-Consciousness: Michael, Our Master Son This day focuses on our relationships

with Michael, our Universe Sovereign and our friend and elder brother, Jesus of

Nazareth.

Each day will begin with music and worship and a plenary session on the theme of the day. Morning and afternoon workshops follow with a summary plenary at the end of the day. At the time of publication, workshops include "A Sense of Dependence on God," "God-Consciousness in Life," "Resting in the Arms of God," "God-Consciousness in World Religions," "Power of Unconditional Love," "The Religion of Jesus." Two special workshops are "Telling Your Story in Public," a workshop to develop public speaking skills, and "Race and the Consciousness of God," a workshop that explores a pedagogy of conversation based on text with required reading in advance. (All other workshops will have recommended, but not required, advance reading.)

Where: Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, USA, and your homes and study groups around the world.

Why? In-depth study is one of the purposes of our ascending career. Start now!

How: If you are not already involved, there is still time. For planning purposes, please register no later than June 12th with the form in this issue or on the Fellowship website. Off-site participants may register at the Ed Com Web site.

Join us in becoming more real as we launch our living university, truly a university without walls, with the indepth study of God-consciousness.

* Note: In the language of global text messaging, OMGC means "Oh My God-Consciousness."

Truthseekers* Unite

"Cosmic Reversion in the Cascades"

Truthseekers, prepare for another adventure of the Truthseekers family! Last year when we gathered together for our memorable event at Catalina Island, we decided we needed to meet

more often than every three years.

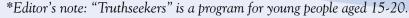
So we are planning another event in a beautiful wilderness setting at the Kindred Spirits Retreat Center, near Eugene, Oregon. In just a few months (July 28-Aug 3) we will be gathering together for an adventure to rival all others! Five days spent whitewater-rafting, kite flying and skim boarding on the Pacific Beach, rock climbing or mountain biking in the gorgeous, nay, spectacular Cascade mountains, and much, much more.

Most importantly, as "Truthseekers", we will be taking time to explore our personal growth and help one another to gain a deeper understanding of our commitment to embracing truth

in our lives, and allowing that truth to help transform the world around us. Trust us, this can be done.

The cost per person will be \$390. All it takes is a visit to our website at www. mytruthseekers.org to get all of the information you need to contact us with questions and register to come play and grow with us.

"I commit myself to a life long search for truth. To the best of my ability I will be a living example of the truths that I find. I will honor all other truthseekers, understanding that there are as many paths to truth as there are people who walk them."





Triennial Delegate Assembly to Meet in Chicago

The 16th Triennial Delegate Assembly (TDA) will convene at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois, on July 29th, just prior to the start of the Fellowship's Study Session. For the past three years, the TDA of '06 remained in session to enable local societies to participate in Fellowship deliberations by conveying resolutions to the General Council. This summer a new cycle begins with the TDA exercising its most important constitutionally defined function. Every three years, the 9-year terms of twelve General Councilors end, and the TDA must decide who will take their places.

Your local society will be holding its annual meetings to determine who will represent your perspective in the TDA. This process for selecting a delegate and alternate is a solemn obligation for your society. The delegates you send to Chicago will be tasked with reviewing and deciding who will sit on the GC. Fully one-third of the Council may change, and a fresh vision of our task to bring the Urantia revelation into the world will be revealed. To participate in this process is an endeavor worthy of your full participation and thoughtful deliberation.

Delegates should be chosen for qualities that match the tasks of the TDA. They should have knowledge of the Fellowship constitution and how the organization functions, and hopefully to have observed Council meetings to appreciate the kind of volunteerism the Council needs to be effective. The Assembly can select the best candidates for the Council when the delegates themselves know the candidates personally and are aware of their contributions to the revelation. Finally, society representatives who are level-headed and fair-minded contribute greatly to the TDA's deliberative process. And of course, each delegate must have read *The Urantia Book* in its entirety.

The success of our Fellowship is directly related to the real time labor of members in the field. So prior to and during these society meetings it is hoped that you will take the time to discuss this work that we do and remember that we do this voluntarily. Therefore, not only is it important to seek out and find good candidates for leadership, but more, that they be leaders willing to lead by example—willing to put in the labor equity, tending to the details, to be first in line to make the phone calls, time to assemble and stuff the envelopes, greet the new arrivals, and offer to sit and listen for as long as is necessary.

Local societies need to notify the Fellowship office of their choice of delegates within 15 days after their election and at least 60 days before the TDA convenes, giving the Fellowship's Committee on Credentials time to assemble the documentation necessary to constitutionally seat the delegates.

Intelligent and trained representation. The survival of democracy is dependent on successful representative government; and that is conditioned upon the practice of electing to public offices only those individuals who are technically trained, intellectually competent, socially loyal, and morally fit.

The Rising SSUN

Lenny Cowles, Membership Chair

This past February, I had the honor and pleasure to participate, in the installation of a new Fellowship Society. Oh the rarity of it and what a magnificent bloom of colorful delight! As you may all recall, several months ago the announcements were made and the process begun, finally culminating on Feb. 21st with an Installation Ceremony for the Sunrise Society of Urantians in Nevada.

The weekend was most pleasant in the desert climate of Boulder City, Nevada. Florence and Gard Jameson opened their home and provided a stunningly beautiful setting for this special occasion. Along with Robert Burns and John Hales, we were honored to represent the Fellowship and meet a wonderful assembly of Urantians ready



Fellowship officers present the SSUN charter to Marvin Gawryn. Left to right, John Hales, Lenny Cowles, Marvin Gawryn, and Robert Burns.

to make the commitment, answer the call, and step up as a community to further the dissemination of *The Urantia Book*.

Marvin and Francyl Gawryn, along with a core group of readers, have been working very diligently to inspire the local study group to grow and organize into something more and how beautifully they have all succeeded. Following the ceremony, we all enjoyed a wonderful Urantian tradition of a pot-luck meal and a most pleasant evening of fellowshiping.

The following Sunday we were invited to worship services in Boulder City's oldest church (now being patiently inspired by a few faithful Urantians). Later that afternoon we re-grouped, gathering in the Las Vegas version of Urantia Central, a modest abode converted and dedicated to the spiritual uplifting of Nevada. We then enjoyably participated in the local study group. These folks are diverse, organized, and have been blessed with a special core group of dedicated

Urantians that deserve our heartfelt thank you's and sincere rounds of congratulations for a great beginning.

These folks of SSUN should serve as an inspiration to those Urantians in areas where a society has yet to be formed. They now have the collective benefits of group strength to draw upon and a direct line to the resources of the Fellowship. We welcome the SSUN and look forward to their creative contributions to the forthcoming TDA and we hope that one of their members will seek election to the General Council.

Volunteer For Service On The General Council

Have you ever felt you had some great ideas for spreading the Urantia revelation? Now is your chance to participate in Fellowship activities as a General Councilor. As a member of the Council, you will have a chance to help direct the course of the Fellowship as we bring this epochal revelation to the world. Will you volunteer to join us in this adventure as a member of the Council?

Every three years one-third of the 36-member Council is elected by the Triennial Delegate Assembly. This summer the election will be held at the Study Session 2009. We welcome new faces to the Council, people who will help us expand our vision. It is a privilege to stand for an individual point of view that is listened to, tolerated, and respected while seeking the group wisdom.

The importance of volunteering is emphasized in *The Urantia Book* at least 80 times. At every level from the mortal life to Paradise this is the model of the universe to volunteer to serve others because it is an honor to do so. If you would like to serve with us, please fill out the application form which can be found on the Fellowship website at http://www.fefadmin.org/forms/ under "Organizational Forms" and select "Application for Organizational Service."



The Urantia Book Fellowship's 2009 Study Session "God-Consciousness- A Living University"

Friday, July 30 – Sunday, August 2, 2009

Dominican University Summer Conference Center, River Forest, Illinois U.S.A.

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	The r	etreat beg	gins Thursd	ay at 8:0	tend the Pre-Conference Spiritual Retreat by Gard Jameson and friends. 00 a.m. and ends Friday at 8:30 a.m. (20 people maximum).
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	See C Pay t Senio	Chicago la he day of ors (65 an	ake front ar the tour. A d up); Chile	chitectur rchitectur dren und	ded "Art in Chicago" City Tour on Thursday, July 30 th , 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. re, lunch in Millennium Park, and spend afternoon at the Art Institute. ure tour: \$30. Art Institute: Adults \$12; \$7 for Children, Students, and der 12, Free. There may be a cost of \$10-15 for transportation.

Please make a copy of completed registration for your records and FAX, SCAN or MAIL the completed form to:

The Urantia Book FELLOWSHIP • P.O. Box 6631 • Broomfield, CO 80021

Phone (877) 288-3772 toll free • Fax (303) 403-4091 • Email: Fellowship@Urantiabook.org

Pipeline Of Light News-Spring 2009

The Fellowship has recently seen an increase of activity in India. Paula Thompson received this letter at her office from a person who received one of the Pipeline books after sending in a coupon:

GOD IS LOVE

To: Sir Paula Thompson

I am CG J****. I doesn't know who are you. I didn't meet you, but I received a gift. *The Urantia Book* from your end. Very, very thanks for the same. I hope this might be God's plan.

Firstly, I was surprised to see the address a book from USA as it was my first letter/gift from a country like States.

Sir, pray for me, and for my parents. Shortly I will be going to Saudi Arabia for a job. Rest everything is fine, and hope the same with you. Even though we are far, but through this (letter) medium we are still nearer thanks be to God.

Nothing more to pen at present, closing with lots of love and good wishes to you and your team.. A line in reply is anxiously awaited.

thanking you, sir, yours affectionately, CG J****

I always enjoy hearing from the people who ask for and receive the revelation through the Pipeline efforts! These contacts are made possible by the hard work of our International Committee led by Buck Weimer, Paula Thompson at the office, and generous donors like you.

We deeply appreciate your continuing financial help. If you would like to contribute to this work, donations can be made online at: www.urantiabook.org/support or by mail to:

The Urantia Book Fellowship, 9190 West 90th Place, 80021

Thank you so much for your support. Michelle Klimesh, Pipeline Coordinator

A Virtual Society?

It all began with a study group formed in 1955, immediately following the publication of *The Urantia Book*; and following a petition for a charter, on June 27, 1961, the Orvonton Urantia Society of Chicago was installed as the seventh society to be chartered by the Urantia Brotherhood.

For many years the society was quite active, but as members moved away the numbers dwindled, and by the 1980s few members remained in the Chicago area. Members who had moved away formed study groups in their own areas, however, and stayed in touch with each other.

In 2006, a number of members who were now in Indianapolis decided to resurrect the society and inducted a number of long-time readers from study groups in the area. Some members living at a distance also wanted to take an active part in society activities, and the society decided to go "virtual."

The fact that active members were widely scattered presented some problems however. The issue of the annual meeting was solved by holding it at the yearly summer conference, and in 2006 twelve members from four different states gathered for their first annual meeting. Almost all of the society's business is conducted by e-mail.

Each geographically distant study group elects their own membership chair, and is self-determining as to its own internal affairs and activities. Last fall the Baton Rouge group participated in the Louisiana State Book Fair and plans to do so again this year. And the Indianapolis group has several study groups within the city and is sponsoring the growth of a study group in Lafayette, Indiana, 50 miles away. This "virtual" type of society represents a somewhat experimental approach. So far, it seems to be working well, and may prove to be an example for some societies of the future.



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"...man's nearest and dearest approach to God is by and through love, for God is love." [3:4.7] (P. 50)

This 'n That

- July 31-August 2 2009 Study Session, Dominican University, River Forest, IL. Pre-conference programs begin July 30. See the article and the registration form in this issue for further information.
- July 28-August 3 Truthseekers adventure for youth, Kindred Spirits Retreat Center, Eugene, OR. For further information see article this issue or website mytruthseekers.org.
- December 3-9, 2009, Parliament of the World's Religions, Melbourne, Australia. For further information: www.parliamentofreligions.org.

New on the website

- "A Study of the Master Universe" and its related Appendices by Bill Sadler, Jr., are now available from the Fellowship webstore. Go to http://webstore.urantiabook.org/SearchResults.asp?Cat=32 to place your order.
- Don't forget to notify us of your postal address and e-mail address changes. We will be as prompt as possible in making the changes so that you can continue to receive our publications.
- Blog Talk Radio Tune in on Saturday mornings for this lively and entertaining discussion of religious issues with Andre Traversa, Paula Thompson, and guests. Go to www.blogtalkradio.com/cosmiccitizen or dial our call-in number 646-716-815.

The Mighty Messenger Staff

Published by Uversa Press for the Publications Committee of The Urantia Book Fellowship.

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