



Light and Life JOURNAL

AN EXPLORATION OF THE SPIRITUAL UNIVERSE

*My Children,
open your hearts,
feel my presence.
Walk with me daily.*

*Do not contend with
your brothers and sisters;
embrace them. Illustrate to them
the love that is imparted to you.*

IC'99 Special Edition
Featuring:

**Urantia's
Teaching Mission**

ISSUE 6
SUMMER 1999

Michael's Mission to Urantia



THE CORRECTING TIME: URANTIA'S TEACHING MISSION

A Brief History

By Calvin McKee with Claireesa, Rachael, and Rebecca of the Woods Cross Teaching Mission

1. HAMILTON, New Zealand

In 1984, a group of four truth seekers in Hamilton, New Zealand (known as Ruby, Charles, Martin, and Benjamin) through meditation, began a communication with an unseen personage called "Bertha", who introduced them to teacher Abraham. The following are two excerpts from correspondence with these pioneers of the Teaching Mission:

Hamilton, New Zealand
18 July, 1989

An open letter to all URANTIA Brotherhood members.

Dear Friends,

We wish to introduce ourselves and, as fellow truth seekers, pass on information we know is of importance to you. There are four of us, Ruby, Charles, Martin, and Benjamin. Our ages range from early forties to late sixties.

We meet, usually every week, in the comfort of one of our homes and discuss our thoughts, feelings and actions of the previous week, followed by a period of silent meditation. It was during one of these periods of meditation in 1984 when the Higher Consciousness that is Abraham first spoke to us through Ruby.

The introduction began, and still does, with the words "I am Abraham. I am your Teacher. "At that first meeting, Abraham told us "I shall teach you the Truth. "After a few years we believe we arrived at a particular level of understanding and acceptance of the truth of these teachings.

Abraham then introduced us to his friend and teacher, Melchizedek. It

must be stressed, we did not consider ourselves as religious in the usual context of the word. Knowledge of the biblical Abraham was minimal and Melchizedek unknown to us.

In August 1987, Martin's niece gave him a copy of the URANTIA Book. We were overwhelmed. The URANTIA Book confirmed and helped secure our understanding. As our communications with Abraham and Melchizedek progressed, with references to the URANTIA Book, it became evident that this collective wisdom was of great significance, not only for us, but for the understanding of all.

Where to start? This question was answered on reading in Vol. 13 No. 2 "The Urantian - Journal of Urantia Brotherhood" an article by Henry Begemann of The Netherlands. "... Machiventa Melchizedek, Vicegerent Planetary Prince of Urantia ... For an unnamed reason, he has not yet assumed his office..."

We know Machiventa Melchizedek has made his presence known to us, and HAS taken up the position of Vicegerent Planetary Prince. †This we know as fact. In November 1988, in answer to the question "Are you the Machiventa Melchizedek men-

tioned in the Urantia Book?" we were given the answer "Correct, I come from the Father ... Am I not here? ... The Correcting Time is NOW."

On March 16, 1989, Machiventa Melchizedek specifically requested that we relay these facts to you, this being his initial contact to confirm his presence. We will pass on any further communications as and when they are received."

The next year, a taped transmission was sent out from this group in Hamilton, New Zealand, April 22, 1990:

This is Babe speaking. I am known to Abraham as Ruby. In 1984 during meditation with my husband, Meg, we were contacted by Bertha, who (later) introduced us to Abraham. Since then, with our friends Roy and Ed, we met on a regular basis. Our usual practice is to begin our appointment with the following prayer which allows us to open ourselves to the stillness where we meet with our teacher... THE LIGHT OF GOD SURROUNDS US. THE LOVE OF GOD ENFOLDS US. THE POWER OF GOD PROTECTS US. THE PRESENCE OF GOD WATCHES OVER US. WHEREVER WE ARE, GOD IS.



Woods Cross, Utah Teaching Mission (from left, back row): Zach, Christopher, Calvin, Rachael, Ellen, Mike. (front row): Alayna, Miriam, Ineara, Eleanor (Nina), Harrison.

From this same transcript of record, it begins with these most familiar words,

"I am Abraham. I am your teacher." Abraham is asked why he used the name 'Abraham' from the Old Testament:

Abraham: Yes. In my last physical life journey to which you refer, I was the first to perceive the One God. There were, as you can imagine, many gods worshiped—the sun, the moon, the stars, the wind, the rain, etc. Persons in their ignorance of the One God, worshiped many yes. In the beginning my earthly name was Abram. When I had acknowledged, accepted and understood the God within, I became known as Abraham. I still am Abraham. I always shall be Abraham. Why Abraham in your time-space? There is much to impart to humankind. You wish to discuss this?

Benjamin: Abraham, if I may, you have mentioned of your mission at this time. May I ask you who assigned you the task you have taken on?

Abraham: Yes. During my past physical life journey, I had the greatest of pleasure to be assisted in my understanding of the idea, thought, feeling, understanding of the One God, by one who you would call the Prince of Salem, Melchizedek. During this time-space he helped me to under-

stand the One God. He helped me to explain the One God to my family and friends. My friend/ teacher is now, to use your word, on a mission to teach humankind in your time-space of the simplicity which is God. It is my pleasure to have been given the task of assisting in this mission. God has decided that I should return in this manner of communication in your time-space for this particular time-space.

Abraham taught the group of the importance of God-connectedness...

Abraham: Yes, the stillness is the calm quiet peace within your heart wherein God resides. You may only spend two minutes of your twenty four hours with the stillness. It is of great benefit for humankind. Within the stillness all answers lie. You may not be aware of your answer immediately. It may be a day, a week, a month, a year before you understand your answer. Yes.... Do not look too hard for the stillness. In the searching you may not find. It is reached through quiet and calm peaceful acceptance and understanding. Yes.

Martin: Abraham, would you speak to us of your friend/teacher?

Abraham: Yes. What would you know of my friend/teacher... Just as I know friend/teacher, as I see, as I hear, as I feel, you cannot do this of these. You must learn to see with your inner eyes, hear with your inner ears, to see and hear my friend/teacher. As I have said, my friend/teacher is on a mission. He is overseeing humankind to teach the simplicity which is God. Yes.

Martin: Abraham, in previous meetings you have spoken of the 'Correcting Time.' Would tell us more of this subject please?

Abraham: Yes. The Correcting Time has begun. It is a time of great change. A time of great learning for humankind. When the majority have accepted and understood the One God, then great benefits shall occur. Much enlightening, exciting experi-

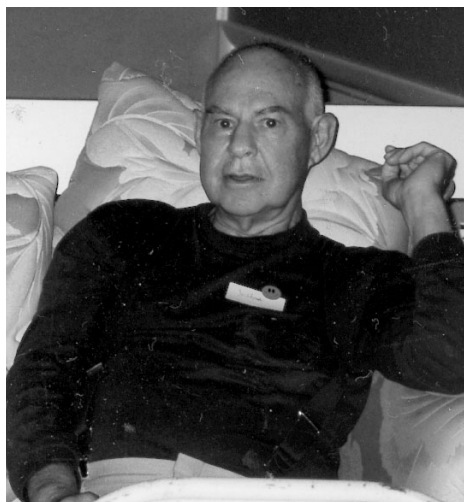
ences shall be had then. It is not known how long the Correcting Time shall be. It may last ten years, but it may last for a thousand of your years. It cannot be determined even by God. Because of the gift of humankind of freedom of will. Freedom of will gives humankind choices to make. The choice to heed guidance and listen to guidance, therefore, coming to understand the One God, or the choice to disregard guidance, to ignore guidance, and not to understand and accept the One God. Yes. You are understanding?

Martin: Yes. Abraham, when the majority are aware in the way you have told us, what effect would that have on our physical planet?

Abraham: Yes. In mankind's ignorance, great harm has been done to your planet and the universe. When the majority have come to accept and understand the One God, immeasurable help shall come to your planet and the universe. Yes, you see, I have spoken of freedom of will and the choices humankind have. If the decision is made to disregard guidance, we cannot interfere with this decision. We cannot impose our will on yours. So we vigilantly wait and hope, but through constant nudging, constant whispering, some persons, for example, such as Ruby, may heed guidance and accept the position as a vehicle for communication such as this. Yes.

Martin: Abraham, you have mentioned guidance. Could you tell us more of guidance, our guidance?

Abraham: Yes. Each and every person has company. This company is your guidance especially chosen for specific reasons to assist in your life journey, knowing the pitfalls that can await you and able to offer advise, even though it may be unheeded. You are understanding? (Yes. Thank you.) Again, I stress freedom of will. If you decide to disregard guidance, to ignore the existence of such, we can do nothing. Yes. But, should you accept guidance, assistance, you shall receive all the assistance you



Mission Pioneer Thern Blackburn (Joshua) hosted original Woods Cross study group which seeded the U.S. Teaching Mission.

require in your life journey. Not to take away your struggles, you understand, not to take away your achieving, you understand, but to assist you. Yes. You can communicate with your guidance in the stillness. Yes.

Abraham then asks the group if they would like to hear from his friend/teacher. The group of four--Ruby, Charles, Martin and Benjamin acknowledges that they would (Ruby being the transmitter/receiver). Abraham then responds, "One moment ..."

Melchizedek: Greetings. You are asking much. Yes. I shall tell you of the God within. You have been told of the stillness. Here is where you shall find your God within. Before you accept God within, and when you first heed the advice to seek the God within, it is of a finite nature. Once you have accepted the idea, thought, feeling, and understanding of God within, you then, allow this idea, thought feeling, and understanding of God to flow through you and merge with the God without, which is infinite. In allowing this for yourself, you give for yourself greatness in soul consciousness. I leave you for Abraham and your discussion. (Thank you.)

Abraham: You are understanding my friend/teacher? (Yes.) Yes, you have more questions?

Martin: Yes please, Abraham. The fact that some people spend their whole life studying a religion, where others have no knowledge at all of any religious instruction will they still have the God within?

Abraham: But of course. God within resides within each and every living. Yes.

Martin: So we do not, as humans, have to go in search for God?

Abraham: Yes and No. Even though God within resides within each and every living. Each individual must find, accept, and understand God

within. Yes. Some persons' belief is that you cannot communicate with God within, but it is possible, yes.

Martin: Thank you. Early this evening Abraham, I had mentioned the Holy Bible, could you tell us more concerning other modes of revelation? I'm thinking of the Koran, perhaps the Book of Mormon, The Urantia Book. (Ed. note: This group in New Zealand had just come in contact with The Urantia Book.)

Abraham: Yes. There are many paths to God. There are many names for God. You might say there are many faces of God. But, there is One God. Yes. Many thousands of years ago in your time counting, indeed in my time-space, it was the practice within each village and community for children, young people, old people, to sit together. There would be, who you would describe as the wise person of the village, who would tell stories, fables, legends, teaching social values, moral values, yes, and teachings of God. It was simple. It was of ease to communicate. Dreams would be interpreted as visions of God. Persons would bring their dream for interpretation to these groupings. Yes. And all would share in the interpretation and experience. Yes. So it was in my time-space. Later the written word became a tool and in many places took the place of the spoken word. Yes. Many different books were written by differing people. The Bible has been revised and revised and revised into

so called modern day English. You would agree that in translation certain words, certain sentences were lost, others were added changing the essence of the book. It is something that is difficult to achieve exact translation language to language. Then, later in your time-space, there is telecommunication. In an instant, information can be transmitted from one corner of your earth to all parts, in an instant. Yes. Even now, messages are being transported around your planet in the hope that some other civilization shall pick them up. Yes. But you see in all the communication, God becomes complicated. God is simplicity. Yes. The communication we have is simplicity. Yes. Two-way communication gives clarity, yes, as in the old days. Yes. You wish to discuss this?

Martin: Yes. Thank you Abraham. I believe you mentioned the two thousand year span of the different communications to this plane. (Yes.) This does tie in with predictions of and statements we have read through history, and it does make me think of the coming again of Christ, which is prophesied in the Bible. Could you perhaps expand on that subject for me?

Abraham: Every one to two thousand years of your time counting it becomes necessary for a differing form of communicating the simplicity of God to humankind. Near two thousand years ago, Jesus walked the



Calvin and Cory McKee with Claireesa (Karrie Mummel).

Earth. His message was of a simplicity that is God. Unfortunate it is that humankind cannot accept simplicity. Humankind deals in complexity. Yes. The time-space shall arrive and this is all to do with the Correcting Time when a new method of communicating the simplicity which is God to humankind shall be of necessity. It shall not, as many people believe, be in the person of a man such as Jesus, or indeed, Jesus again. The time for physical appearance is passed. As I have intimated, we are now using persons such as Ruby for two-way communication.

Yes. You see, in my time on earth, the number of persons to communicate with were far less than there are

of what you said does cut across the biblical teachings we are used to, but it does seem to run parallel with The Urantia Book, although to some of us, The Urantia Book is rather complex.

Abraham: Yes. The Bible is thousands of years old as I have said, much has been missed, much has been added, yes, and very little eye-witness account written at the time of the event. Yes. The Urantia Book, delivered in a manner similar to this communication has been received and printed within your past fifty year span Yes? (Yes.) It is, you might say, a modern version. Yes. It has been termed the Fifth Epochal Revelation, has it not? (Yes.) Perhaps this is so. It ties quite well with the one to two

Martin: You are saying we may experience some persons that are not quite skilled in this delivery? (YES) Shall we call them false?

Abraham: Your term, but yes. I believe the Bible speaks of false prophets? (Yes.) You see, prophesy which is speaking of future events is of great difficulty, given as I have already said, the fact of freedom of will. Yes. I am not in favor of prophesy for prophesy sake. Yes. You see, by even hinting at a future calamity can put humankind into the thought pattern of this calamity, therefore, bring it to fruition. Yes, the power of thought is much maligned by humankind, but it is all powerful because 'thought' as I have said, is part of God. Yes.

Martin: There is one thing, not to say whichever book or path that we choose, we must accept the fact that other paths are just as good as some for finding. God?

Abraham: But of course. Human beings would do well to accept other descriptions of the One God. Yes. Accepting God, but not accepting a vengeful, fearful God. God is a loving Father, Parent, Teacher, Friend. All those loving images are God. Yes. Do you have other queries?

Martin: Thank you Abraham. I think we have not the time. Of course, we would love to carry on, and perhaps people will send us queries.

Abraham: Then, I shall leave you with this: When in need, find the calm quiet peace of your inner heart in the stillness.

The messages expressed that Abraham and the Melchizedek teaching staff were willing and ready to teach other groups. The Urantia Book family were excellent host for this teacher-student group training of mortals involved in this Correcting Time. Much correspondence between New Zealand and Urantia study groups ensued. Most were skeptical and doubtful. Many in the



Rachael (Ida Young) with Roinda and Wileena who are sisters.

now. Distances were less because the area of the planet was less in the knowledge of mankind. You are understanding? (Yes.) As I have intimated, your electrical communication system complicates. Yes. Your books also in their translation complicates. Yes. Therefore, there are many such as I, teaching. There are many, such as Ruby, receiving, acting as vehicles for this two-way communication. I, as a messenger of God, the soul consciousness that was and is Abraham, am allowed through this vehicle to communicate with groupings of people. Yes. In this manner, we can teach the simplicity which is God. Yes.

Martin: Thank you Abraham. Some

thousand year necessity for new communicating methods. Yes, this method of communicating via Ruby is ancient. Although ancient, it is perhaps the most efficient manner, even though humankind find it of difficulty to accept. Once this stumbling block of not quite certainty whether it is actual has been removed, much shall be imparted to humankind. Yes. You are understanding?

Martin: Yes, from what you said Abraham, can we expect more communication across our planet?

Abraham: But of course. It is for each person to use his or her own wisdom to discern that which is truth and that which is not. Yes.

Urantia Book family had just gone through the “Vern Grimsley” affair which in most participants' minds proved to be disappointing. One, Chick Montgomery of California, actually went to New Zealand to investigate, in the pre-Woods Cross era, and has written a book “Conversations With Abraham.”

2. Woods Cross, Utah--1991 (a town approx. 5 miles north of Salt Lake City, Utah).

Of the Urantia Book study groups which responded to the New Zealand invitation, some positively and some negatively, the Woods Cross group did reply with a positive acceptance. They drafted a letter to the New Zealand folks. The following is the response from New Zealand with the Utah letter and Melchizedek's replies combined (“T.B.” below was Thern Blackburn of Woods Cross, Utah, who departed this earth in June 1997):

T. B.
Woods Cross, Utah
August 3, 1989

We received your very interesting letter on July 27. We read and discussed your letter that night in our weekly Urantia Book study group. Four of the group including myself were inclined to believe the statements as truth. We were wondering if we might ask you some questions that were raised by the group?

1. Does Abraham have anything to do with the Mortal Reserve Corps of Destiny?

Melchizedek answers: But of course! He has special orders, yes.

2. Are the Reserve Corps to play a role in the upcoming events?

Melchizedek answers: But of course!

3. Will the Urantia Book be attacked by the religions of authority, if so, when?

Melchizedek answers: It is doubtful, but of course, I cannot answer for humankind free will, but it is doubtful.

4. If Melchizedek has assumed his office, has the Lucifer Rebellion been adjudicated.

Melchizedek answers: I refer to my previous answer.

5. Did Melchizedek bring with him a Magisterial Son or will one be coming to Urantia in the near future?

Melchizedek answers: Magisterial Son is not yet present.

6. Will either Abraham or Melchizedek be contacting any mortals other than yourselves?

Melchizedek answers: We already do. I am not at liberty to give their names.

7. We desire to be of service to God and Man in any way we can, do you have any instructions for us? Please contact us if we can help.

Melchizedek answers: Your desire to serve is noted, continue in your understanding, continue in your acceptance.

3. Early Beginnings of the Teaching Mission in the United States.

Sometime in 1990, the Woods Cross group received word that the 'teachers' would like to begin teaching their group. Jan Messinger (later referred to by the teachers as Rebecca) began receiving messages in her mind which she heard as 'Ham', thinking this name was short for Abraham. The Woods Cross group agreed to comply and agreed upon a night to begin these 'transmissions' with Abraham. To their surprise, when the appointed time came, the personage did identify himself... “I am Ham. I am your Teacher.” Ham stated he was under the immediate direction of Abraham who was under the supervision of Machiventa Melchizedek, the newly inaugurated “Acting Planetary Prince.”

Below is an excerpt from a historical account written by Ida Young (known later to us as Rachel) which she pro-

duced in January 1998. Rachel is still with the Woods Cross Group as of this date, May 25, 1999. She is now 81 years old, and is the sister to Thern Blackburn, the Woods Cross Study Group leader/initiator, who is a devoted evangel of the beginning of the Teaching Mission in the U.S., which itself is part of the Correcting Time.

(From Ida Young “Rachel”)

“I have the honor and privilege of being a part of this transmitting and Correcting Time Mission which, for us, began in the evening of February 28, 1991, at the home of Jan Messinger, located at 4088 Mars Way, Salt Lake City, Utah. Our new and first Spiritual Teacher introduced himself as Ham. Jan was and is the Transmitter/Receiver. The mortals in attendance that evening were: Jan Messinger (Rebecca), Thern Blackburn (Joshua), Sheila Beckstead (Melissa), Douglas Burdette (Jason) and myself, Ida Young (Rachel). I would love to know how many Spiritual Beings were there with Teacher Ham on that very first meeting.

I would like to continue by relating the activities of Thern Blackburn (Joshua). I hope I can come close to doing him justice in this short summary as his contributions were numerous.

To begin with, The Urantia Book Study Group began meeting at the home of Joshua at 2075 South 800 West, Woods Cross, Utah. They met weekly beginning in March, 1977. The meetings really continued on for a period of twenty years or, until June 10, 1997.

Joshua was told by Teacher Ham that he was a “Healer” (via the laying on of hands and the energies of the Life Carriers) and he did devote a great deal of his time as such as he went wherever he felt needed or where it was necessary to perform these healings. This took him on many missions to Los Angeles and vicinity, Pocatello, Idaho, etc., along with performing healings for our group. Our group was now known as the “Woods Cross Group”.

Beginning March 7, 1991, the T/R (Transmitting/Receiving) meetings were held weekly at Joshua's home. He recorded the meetings and then made duplicate cassette tapes for anyone who wanted one. As our group grew and the word spread, he would be making tapes from one week to the next. He was mailing them out to California, Florida, Idaho, Wisconsin, Lawrence, Kansas, etc. He was also responsible for the first publications of the 1991 and 1992 Woods Cross Transcripts.

Joshua was and represented a large factor in getting this Mission off the ground level with a growth that surpassed the expectations of our Spiritual Teachers, as they expressed on several occasions. Joshua continued with the tapes until Teacher Ham left us on November 9, 1992. Joshua completed his life's mission as a mortal on June 17, 1997.

So little to say for so much accomplished! His faith was steady and unique. His will to do the Father's will left little to be desired. He was indeed a faithful and dedicated son and servant to our Father.

I must give a deserving thankful and appreciative tribute to Ellen (Faye Barnson) for transcribing each and every one of Teacher Ham's lessons and storing them on computer. As of this date (January 30, 1998) she is still transcribing and storing Teacher Abraham's lessons. We were without a weekly teacher from November 9, 1992, until January 30, 1995, when Teacher Abraham began his beautiful and inspiring lessons and messages transmitted by and through Nina Newman (Eleanor), transmitting them in such a capable manner, willingly and accurately! Way to go Eleanor! Thank you!

Rachel

[Author's Note: The Woods Cross Group continues to meet to this day (May 25, 1999), every week, since the early days of 1991. Abraham has weekly taught our group since January 1995. Though Ham visits our Woods Cross group often, this marvelous Teacher/friend remained as a

teacher through Rebecca, who relocated to Nashville, TN. in 1993. Both Rebecca and Ham assist the Nashville group to this day in weekly transmitting receiving lessons.]

4. The Spread of the Teaching Mission.

Ham and Abraham noted to the Woods Cross group that with them, in the initial stages of the Teaching Mission, were 50 male and 50 female staff member 'Teachers' from various parts of our Universe; ascending mortal volunteers, having been commissioned by Michael to assist Urantia in this Correcting Time. Ham was the director/coordinator of this teaching staff.

These Teachers were soon to be of service as groups were ready and willing to receive them. This became reality, for by the turn of 1991 and 1992 there were other Teaching Mission groups 'on-line'. The first of these was the Malibu group in California with Teacher Rayson as group teacher. In October 1991, the Tallahassee group began transmissions from their teacher, Will, and by January 1992 the Pocatello, Idaho group with Teacher Daniel.

As Ham's recorded lessons were disseminated, with every week's meeting through 1992, came a few new requests for a group teacher. About mid 1992, a new development

arose. We were made aware that these groups would not only have their own group teacher, but in addition, we were told the universe flood gates were opening wherein personal teacher/guides were available for each individual who chose to enroll and be of service in these Melchizedek Teaching Schools. Soon, this Teaching Mission became commonly known as simply the TeaM, an acronym for the Teaching Mission coined in Hawaii.

5. Announcement to Urantia.

In late 1991 Ham requested to address the General Council of the Fifth Epochal Fellowship (through Rebecca) at their Council meeting to be held in February of 1992 in Los Angeles, California. Ham's request was denied. The Woods Cross Group, with the assistance of one of the California groups, were asked by Ham to proceed anyway. They did so at the appointed time and date, February 1, 1992, at a location adjacent to the Council meeting. Any and all were invited to attend. Below is a partial transcript of that historical meeting which became known as the "Announcement to Urantia." There were skeptics and outspoken critics in attendance. It was announced the following week in our regular Woods Cross meeting, that this "Announcement" was a great success:

ANNOUNCEMENT TO URANTIA.

February 1, 1992
Meeting in Los Angeles, CA
(Transmitted through Rebecca)

The Light of God surrounds us.
The Love of God enfolds us.
The Power of God protects us.
The Presence of God watches over us.
Wherever we are, He is.

My profound and sincere greetings to you all this evening. I am Ham, I have been commissioned to bring the light of our Father to Urantia. I am one of many Teachers. All of us are awaiting the greater reception of our words and we are desirous of placing many Teachers among you. One moment.



February 1, 1992, Los Angeles, California. A handmade sign on the wall at the Best Western Motel, across the street from the General Council meeting of the Fellowship, directed people to the "Announcement to Urantia" made by Teacher Ham.

Great is our mission. Understand this in your hearts. One moment. The time has arrived for expanded level of truth to begin correction. We come not for ourselves, no, indeed. Rather, are we in service of Michael.

This day marks the beginning of the Correcting Time. Machiventa Melchizedek has arrived and has been duly inaugurated as acting Planetary Prince of Urantia, an assignment he has accepted from Michael. Long years we have awaited this day. The Lucifer Rebellion is officially ended in Nebadon. The circuits which have isolated your world are being reopened. All these changes are occurring by and in accordance with the plan of Michael. Happy and joyous is this day. Blessed in the sight of our Lord. Gracious listeners, I bid you WELCOME TO CHANGE. We mark the beginning of the reign of Prince Machiventa on this day. Questions are welcome. Indeed, I am happy to serve you.

Bob: Ham, I am Bob. Would you please comment on the purpose and the scope, and if possible--some timetable information on your mission - activity - program? Which of these three terms would be best?

Ham: Mission is best. Yes, plans at present are as follows:

1) Initiation and expansion of the Teaching Corps. Many of you will desire to receive personal instruction. At present we are preparing a group of teachers who are in the first phase of our Teaching Mission. The mortals brought under their teaching and guidance are in our corps of elite, who in the future will become teachers themselves, as themselves, not in an intermediary position as is Rebecca tonight. Spiritual enlightenment and individual, group, national, and planetary progress is anticipated.

2) Also, along with the spiritual uplifting, we are anticipating and desiring cooperation in other areas of human life endeavor as well. Chiefly economic, political, social, environmental and technical changes. Of course we are anticipating many years duration

of this initial phase of our mission.

3) I am commissioned to announce also the third aspect of our Teaching Ministry Mission; and that is as preparatory for an even greater Teacher. Michael has prepared the way. We are expanding the way. A Teacher Son will complete the way toward Light and Life on Urantia. Time? I cannot adequately and accurately foresee an increment upon.

[There were several questions and responses not included in this report.]

Duane: Ham, my human name is Duane. You asked me to provide you with an opportunity to address the members of the General Council. I wonder if you have any particular message that you would like to make to the General Council per se? I will stop with that question.

Ham: No Andrew, there is nothing further or special, for it is only by their reception of this announcement in which one is counted on for this particular event. All of our proceedings have been monitored and watched. It is of a greater and more far-reaching importance than you now realize. Thank you all for coming. I am pleased with the results. I hope to be in your presence again in the future and am so very happy to be chosen to



Rebecca Bynum at the Nashville TeaM conference in 1998

make this announcement to you. My greetings, my love, my hope all go with you this evening. Thank you Rebecca for this service. You are well loved also. I am preparing now for leaving. Farewell.

(Calvin's history continues on page 8)

T/Ring with Ham in Woods Cross and Nashville

By Rebecca Bynum
April 1999

It is easy for me to write about others, but I find it curiously difficult to write about myself and my experiences. Maybe it's because my life is always changing and my perspectives on my past are also in constant flux. But, here goes.

I found the Urantia Book in the spring of 1980. I had returned to Santa Cruz California after a year down in L.A. Santa Cruz was a sleepy beach side community full of students and retirees. I had been a student at the University there in 1977 to 78. When I returned I continued to frequent the University library. The musty smell of books has always been very comforting to me and so I have often sought out libraries during times of transition in my life, or when I felt lonely. This was a time when I felt both lost and alone.

The Urantia Book stared at me from a shelf about chest high for some months as I read most of the other books on alternative religions in that section. Finally I succumbed to its entreaties and took the big blue book home. Little did I know that it would be a turning point in my life. I have not been the same since.

In 1985, I moved from Santa Cruz back to my birthplace, Salt Lake City, with my second husband to open a dry-cleaning store. In 1986 I had a significant spiritual experience that caused me to seek out other Urantia Book readers. I called Thern Blackburn, whose name I got from the Foundation, and he agreed to start holding study groups again at his

home in Woods Cross, Utah. He had been widowed recently.

Over the next few years, Thern was a wonderful friend to me. He was so full of enthusiasm for life and people that you just couldn't help being affected by it. He was starting to get up in years, but he had a pair of electric blue eyes that danced and darted like a child when he was happy, and he was always happy talking about the Urantia Book.

Thern's sister, Ida Young, always attended the meetings as well. She had that constantly serene temperament that you only find in older women of faith, with that look that says, "Dear, whatever it is, doncha know I've seen it before." She was in many ways the glue that held the group together, and I know she remains so to this day.

John Wormeck was also a regular in attendance. John was a true character. I've never known anyone who could talk so rapidly over such a prolonged period of time as John could. He was a professor at the University of Utah in the physics department. Of German descent, he was born and raised in Philadelphia and had come to Utah for the job. He was tall with receding dark hair and kind brown eyes. John was that odd combination of intelligence coupled with crackpot political ideas, and you couldn't argue with him because he would just out-talk you. We all loved him nonetheless and as he grew spiritually in later years, he became the quiet and patient Jeremiah who was much loved by all who knew him.

Our group was one that received the letter from New Zealand announcing Melchizedek's arrival and Abraham's presence. We all believed it immediately and about that time I received what I now know was my first communication from Ham. I shared it with the group and we wrote to New Zealand and were confirmed in what we had received. It was a year and a half later before Ham announced that he would be the teacher for our study group, and all that time, Thern kept

saying, "I just feel that something is going to happen to our little group."

John moved to Albuquerque, and people came and went from the group, still Thern kept saying, "I just have a funny feeling..." Then one Saturday at the end of February 1991, I was pressing pants at the cleaners early in the morning, when I "heard" a voice say, "I am Ham and I will be the teacher for your study group." I told Thern and I could tell he was skeptical, but he agreed to see what this "Ham" was, and on the first night of transmission he came equipped with a tape recorder. Ida was there as well as was Doug Burdette who had called Thern out of the blue to say goodbye, that he was moving away. After that night, he decided to stay and John Wormeck began driving all the way from Albuquerque every week.

The transmissions went on for two years in Woods Cross and during that time Thern was instrumental in spreading the news. In February 1992, Ham made an announcement to the General Council of the Fellowship in Los Angeles. We had many visitors during that time, and our group swelled so much that we rented a room to be able to accommodate everyone. At the end of 1992, I felt a very strong need to leave the group and headed east, eventually landing in Nashville having found the love of my eternal life, Hal Bynum.

Ham has continued to teach here and we have a wonderful group. Our core participants number about nine though we often have twelve to fifteen participants. Ham always gives each person a personal message and is unfailingly patient and kind. When I grow up, I want to be just like Ham.

(Teaching Mission History continued from page 7)

6. TeaM Conferences.

The first International TeaM conference was held in Cheney, Washington, just outside Spokane in 1994. In the following years the international Teaching Mission conferences were held in Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado and Tennessee. It was

agreed for 1999 to hold our Teaching Mission conference in conjunction with the Urantia Fellowship and Foundation in Vancouver, British Columbia. Once again, for this event, Teacher Ham has asked for time to address the body of the Urantia family through his t/r Rebecca.

Regional conferences such as 'Spiritfest' in California, gatherings in Hawaii, Florida, and the Northwest are held annually. The TeaM has no organized social structure. Rather, for each occasion which arises, someone (usually different on each occasion) does step forward in leadership and service.

7. Bringing the Urantia Book to Life Through Daily Living.

Mission participants are taught that this mission is to incorporate the teachings of The Urantia Book, particularly the teachings of Jesus, into our every day living.

Here is an exchange between Roland who was going to attend a social event at the Urantia Foundation and Abraham, the the teacher:

Roland: Vincent and I have been invited to attend the Foundation's gathering in Chicago on November 14. We have both been struggling with the issue of how best to prepare ourselves to convey what might be given by the Teaching Mission to these people who are rather opposed to it. Is there anything that you could give us as far as a way to prepare ourselves best, attitude, readings, anything?

Abraham: My information is that you could explain your position, and at that immediate time, it will appear to have been futile, and yet, I can assure you that seeds are being planted to relay to the Foundation that this Mission is in full force. This Mission goes with or without their help. This Mission does indeed use The Urantia Book as a tool, and that is not even under their control. It matters not whether they endorse our Mission or not. We will put the Urantia Book into action, and with the help from the material existence, and the spiritual, we will see

Urantia be brought into Light and Life. We hide not our Light under a bushel, no. Our Mission is living and active. The Urantia Book is being lived, and not hidden for an elite few to enjoy, no. I would ask you each to maintain a calm heart and clear head for receiving those beneficial words Father might have to say to them. Your humorous countenance may help them to accept that this Mission is fully functioning, and it stands for Truth, Beauty, and Goodness. Is this answering?

Roland: Yes. Thank you. In reality we just need to show up and keep a clear mind to allow us to speak the words that are Father's.

Abraham: Yes, yes. This Mission has almost come about in the same way The Urantia Book had, and I am certain that there were those back then against such a liberal book.

(Woods Cross Transcripts 1997)

8. Our Mission Statement.

June 10, 1996
Woods Cross Group

The light of God enfolds us. The love of God surrounds us. The power of God protects us. The presence of God watches over us. Where ever we are, He is.

Greetings. I am HAM. I am so delighted to be here this evening. I miss our obvious material communications together, but I am gratified by our private moments that I am allowed to spend with you each. I am also allowed to work with Abraham on lesson planning and coordination. We, the teaching staff, prepare to begin more in-depth studies of the mansion world teachings. We endeavor to bring these teachings to those who are spiritually prepared.

Those that are ready will absorb much spiritual learning. Those that need more time to develop spiritually may not find these lessons particularly interesting or helpful. I come tonight so that I may repeat and reaffirm our mission statement:

By the mandate of our Creator/ Brother/ Father, Michael, do we, the teachers stationed here on His birth-place world, commit to the upgrading of spiritual understanding. We the teachers, have been assigned so that we may assist in teaching the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man. It is our mission to assist each individual in locating their own Fragment of God within. It is not in our orders to coax or manipulate mortals into finding God, but perhaps shedding a little light on the benefits of a God-knowing world.

I speak on behalf of my fellow co-workers when I say, we are deeply honored to serve on such an assignment. We shall strive to reduce the expectations in the area of mysticism, and strengthen the area of individual confidence, in the search of knowing and finding the Father within. This is a time for all things spiritual to become a reality. This is a time for all things that are not a reality to fade away. This spiritual education will be filled with significant proof that God IS. We need not rely upon mystical promises and spiritual rewards. You my friends, are beyond the dreamer state, and are moving into spiritual substance. This is a time for spirituality to become an actuality.

9. Mission Success – No Turning Back

August 26, 1996
Woods Cross Group

I am ABRAHAM. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your morontial education. Our mission continues slowly, but with unknown strength. This Mission, Michael's Mission, could not now at this point ever be halted or even slowed in any way. Your exhibition of courage to speak forthrightly about your inner personal feelings shows that indeed your hour has come. Spirituality is not a sideline hobby or for entertainment. Spirituality is real, eternal, and now necessary. Do you see this transformation, from purely material self-seeking fulfillment to the eternal and sincere care for the whole of the seen as well as the unseen? These spiritual

realities are not to be thrown about verbally, but lived in honest effort and devotion to those that created you."

10. Statement From Prince Machiventa

July 16, 1996
Woods Cross Group

"I am MACHIVENTA MELCHIZEDEK, your friend. I am a worker in the field of flowers. My position holds me responsible for the upkeep of the field. I am to see that all of our Father's greenery receives an adequate amount of His rainfall. Even I am not fully qualified to withhold any amount of rain to any particular area of the field. I am dedicated to ensuring that all who desire the rain receive it.

My time spent on this planet was also an excellent experience in my own education. I was sent so that others may learn. Upon meeting my friend Abraham, I dared not ask, 'who is this individual that he may receive such spiritual insight?' 'Who is he that he may know of my presence and learn of the One God concept?' No, I dared not even consider 'what are Abraham's qualifications that he may be worthy to accept this divine light?' I was commissioned by my superiors to perform certain tasks and I did so without consideration of my personal opinions. I was willing to be led by the Spirit, and therefore I saw with the eyes of the Spirit.

To observe with the eyes of the Spirit is to be free from temptation to judge, to understand that Father is present amidst the inner working of the field. To observe with the eyes of the Spirit requires that you are to be led by the Spirit. Do you see, that to be led by the Spirit requires you to trust in the Spirit, to hold faithfully to our Father's ideals, to have full confidence in your status as a son and daughter of His Kingdom, and to know that Father IS.

11. "Your hour has come."

I well remember at Michael's birthday

celebration, in conjunction with our sister group in Pocatello, Idaho, wherein the following message was transmitted:

Jesus' Birth Celebration,
Pocatello, Idaho
Abraham: "Your Hour Has Come"
August 25, 1996

"I am ABRAHAM. I am in gratitude for you acceptance and cooperation to promote the growth of friendship between we teachers and you our students. We thank you. I wish to express my gratitude to my co-workers in the spirit. They have indeed assisted me in my faith and dedication. I am made glad by not only our positive working relationship, I am always deeply touched by my fellows' personal concern for me. As well, they are certain of my continued love and service for them. You my friends, in this Teaching Mission, are showing this day to also be dedicated to one another and to love without the promise of reward or compensation. You have gathered for the good of one another and for the upliftment of the whole of Michael's universe of Nebadon.

Our Mission is likened to the life of Jesus. Michael was born a human infant of the Earthly realm just as any other infant before and after Him. As He grew, He learned and was educated socially, intellectually and spiritually. When His hour had come He set forth to share the good news of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of man.

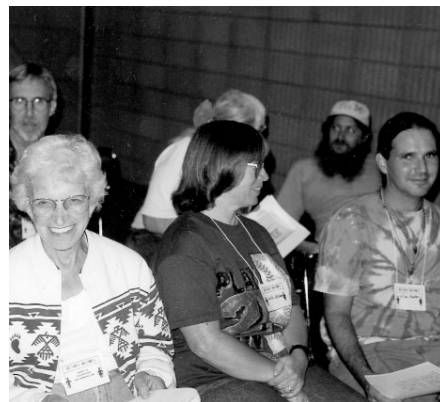
New Zealand was the birth of our Teaching Mission. Woods Cross was the period of adolescence, time to learn and grow, time to clear the fog of expectations. Our Mission has grown. Your hour has come. It is time to set forth and share the good news... **OUR UNIVERSAL FATHER IS A KIND AND LOVING FATHER AND THE CITIZENS OF THIS WORLD ARE INDEED HIS CHILDREN.** You who have had Mission participation, have indeed faced many struggles, and as Daniel spoke of today, you have retained your faith. You have not laid down before your struggles. You have maintained you unshakable stance and

abided in the Master's word. The apostles of long ago had once sat forlorn due to the removal of their Master, the one loving guiding light that graced their lives. During this time of doubt, confusion and despair, the memory of the Master, His life and His example in how He lived it courageously, seemed to be lost to them now.

I am aware this is a reality in which some will face, but I say, even upon the Master's resurrection, the apostles were still within the darkness of despair. But a worker for the Kingdom stood out declaring to the forlorn apostles, one David Zebadee said, "The Master said He would rise and I believe Him." David was not a close personal apostle of the Master, yet, he showed his unwavering faith and dedication to come forth and bravely proclaim, "The Master said He would rise and I believe Him."

You my friends, are like this David. You have not sat in despair asking, "Where is our Master? Where is our proof?" You have stood unwavering proclaiming the Correcting Time has begun and I shall serve according to the plan of my Brother/Father, Michael.

I say with certainty, your group inter-association has assisted you in your unwavering stance to go forth with this Mission calling. Your accepting attitude of one another is rare in this day of seemingly troubled times. Your dedication to the doing of Father's will is apparent when you are willing



Mary Jo Colegrove, Lele and Jim Foster in Nashville, 1998.

to go through the waters of adversity with your fellows. Your persistent effort to utilize your spiritual vision to view one another and your world, is a step further toward Light and Life. I say, it is with great love that you are indeed making a difference on this world of Michael's birth wherein He experienced, to gain His sovereignty over Nebadon.

I say, we are indeed all humbled to be in the presence of our Creator/ Brother/Father. We would ask, "make us increasingly like You." I would extend my hand to each of you, my fellow students, co-workers and friends, in love and appreciation. Shalom."

12. The MASTER addresses us with his Love.

Meeting With Abraham and MICHAEL:

A Message of Hope
December 9, 1997
Woods Cross Group

You, my children, are in the company of one who loves you so deeply. I am filled with compassion for your daily trials, and I understand your deepest pain. I can say that there is not one thing you could explain to me that I would not understand. I would always make it my priority to help those seeking children. I have experienced self-forgetfulness while in the flesh. My greatest help, I must say, was love for my divine Father, and love for my human associates. This love had led me to feel the Father's hands to reach into my hands to help where help was needed. This love had allowed Father's words to come from my mouth where it would be beneficial. This love had allowed me to see what our Father sees. Yes, it sounds simple, but I can verify that to truly know our Father, His presence and His divine love, leads us to a greater knowledge of love wherein you can love your fellows without condition.

I have experienced that 'supreme all consuming love' from our Father on High while I dwelt in the flesh. I can

tell you, you will also experience this, and know it when it is upon you. I would ask you to be open to me, and my Spirit, as I move through your daily lives and minister to you as a Brother\Father would. I am even now overflowing with such gratitude to our Father, who is in Heaven, for He has loved us and loved us well.

I would have you know that your world moves on a correct course. You will soon see, my children, that my Spirit will be regarded as common in your personal lives, in your politics, society, education, anywhere there is a need for the flame of divine truth to burn. As I have done in ages past, I will do again. You will feel my Spirit upon you with such a Brotherly affection and a source of spiritual strength.

I would like to deliver a message of hope, and have you also take this message and give it where you will. Forget not how I know you each as I know myself. Forget not that I have gone before you and paved the road with love for our Father, and His mortal children, to shed light on the gift of self-forgetfulness. You are my cause for continuous rejoicing, and always does my heart remain filled with the love I have for you. Carry on. Farewell.



John Roper.

My Experience in the Teaching Mission

By John Roper,
Dana Point, California

I've pondered this experience for quite a time now, especially in retrospect since the end of my tour of duty in the Teaching Mission in June of '94. Jane and I have been involved with The Urantia Book since the seventies. I won't go into the details of our experience since that is not the purpose of this piece. I just wanted to point out that we have been students for almost 30 years.

When we lived in Boulder, Colorado during the eighties, we heard a report that there had been celestial transmissions to a group of people in New Zealand. With this coming on the heels of the Vern Grimsley affair, I was totally skeptical about the validity of these supposed celestial transmissions. I thought, "Why New Zealand?" It should be in Chicago or in Boulder. I see now that I had become rather Urantia-centric, or perhaps USA eccentric. Hey, we have more readers, larger groups, do more service; in general we really have it all together, right? It's not that I believed that celestial contact wasn't possible, I certainly hoped that it was true, I just couldn't get past the fact that it happened somewhere else. So I passed it off, and sent it into that long term storage bin of useless information in my brain.

Years passed, conferences were held, study groups were attended, and the New Zealand contact passed from current memory and was no more. At least that's what I thought. Move the date to 1991, and we now lived in California.

We were at a study group one evening in the late summer of '91 and someone mentioned that they had heard about some new transmissions that were coming through a

group in Utah. Several weeks later we were at the study group and they had a couple of audio tapes of the transmissions. We borrowed them and gave them as open-minded a listen as we could. It was strange, this halting female voice transmitting someone named Ham. It was spiritual information, non-apocalyptic, and very loving and patient. It seemed to strike some kind of truth chord inside me. I listened to them again and tried to imagine if they were really true. It felt good. But I still wasn't convinced that this was something other than a woman speaking Urantian ideas very slowly. Jane and I were moved by the messages and decided to continue with an open-minded approach to the phenomenon.

Vincent Ventola (long time Urantia Book reader and artist living in Santa Monica) passed away from AIDS, and a week later his little daughter Miranda went on to the Mansion Worlds to be with her two Fathers. It was a very sad time. On November 17th a memorial service was held for the two and Jane and I attended with our youngest daughter Ellie.

At the evening reception at Lynn & Norman Lear's residence, we saw an old friend, Thern Blackburn from Utah, an ex-Mormon Bishop, and a person with whom we had studied when we lived in Salt Lake City.

Thern was a warm loving husband and father. His wife had gone on to the Mansion Worlds several years prior, so he was attending the reception with his sons. When I saw him standing alone, I approached him, gave him a hug in the typical Urantia fashion, and immediately began to query about the transmissions occurring in Utah and did he have any news about it, etc. To my astonishment he disclosed that it was his study group through which the transmissions were being passed. At the time, Thern was in his sixties and one of the most balanced, lov-

able persons you could have the fortune to know. He was always interested in ways to serve his fellows, truly someone who did his best to live the teachings of The Urantia Book. He said that he would check with the teacher Ham and see if Jane and I could receive tapes of the transmissions as well as transcripts of the messages so far. At that time the dissemination of the information seemed to be very controlled by the Teachers' Corps.

Several weeks later we received both the transcripts and the tapes that had been made so far. We continued to receive them until the Utah transmitter/receiver moved away several years later. Ham transmissions continue today and are posted on tml (teaching mission list, an on-line email list) on the Internet.

The next day I had to fly to the East Coast on business, so I spent the 5-1/2 hours going and coming reading the transcripts. I was astounded by their clarity and spirituality. I felt that they were true, and still do. What an exciting moment when the realization came over me that the process of Urantia's re-entry into the community of local worlds was now beginning. When I returned home, Jane and I had many very long and deep discussions about what we had read. Soon we were asked if we would like to join the Santa Monica Teaching Mission group, which we did. The teacher, Rayson, was marvelous, though different than Ham. The only problem was that we had to go from Dana Point to Santa Monica for each session, a distance of about 75 miles one way. So the obvious solution was to have our own Teacher and TR in our area. We asked Rayson if that was possible and he said yes. There were six of us originally in the group that eventually grew to 26. With this as background, I will relay my account of how I became the TR for our group.

On February 2, 1992 in Los Angeles at a meeting of the Fifth Epochal Fellowship's General Council, Ham made his first public proclamation that the Lucifer Rebellion was now adjudicated and that the planetary circuits were going to be re-established. Jane and I were there, and as I

sat with my eyes closed prior to the transmission, I had this feeling that there were many more personalities in attendance than just the humans. I felt touched, almost caressed as I sat with my eyes closed. I had no visions and saw nothing angelic when I did open my eyes, but I certainly felt something very strong and loving in that room at the Best Western Hotel near Los Angeles International Airport. I look back and chuckle at the location of a planetary event. The history about that meeting will be interesting to read in a hundred or thousand years.

Ham's message at the Fellowship's Council meeting was short and to the point. Transcripts can be found in many locations. It was followed by a Question and Answer period, with some sensitive personal questions as well as some designed to try to entrap Ham, or to berate Rebecca, the TR. All in all it was an amazing evening. A reception was held afterward, with the usual small groups of people discussing what had just happened, some believing, some not. I cannot explain why some people came from the presentation aware that something incredible had just happened and some completely denying what had happened.

I rode on a cloud for some time after that. I felt in my heart of hearts that we had witnessed something extraordinary, something real, something true. As time continued I felt more and more comfortable with the thought that there really were teachers here on Urantia to help us walk this spiritual path.

Jane and I continued to listen to the Ham tapes, go to the Santa Monica group, where we shared what we were feeling both with each other and with a close group of Urantia Book readers that we had known for quite some time.

On a Sunday afternoon in May of 1992, Jane and I were sitting in our back yard discussing the possibility of having our own Teaching Mission group. (Teaching Mission was the name that had become associated with this experience by this time). We

were questioning who in our UB group would like to be a part of a TM group, as well as who would be the transmitter/receiver (t/r) for our group.

I uttered those words that went into the Universe Registry as "I could be the t/r," almost with a question mark at the end. I was shocked at uttering the words and Jane and I had a nervous laugh about it.

Then I did an unusual thing, I got the cordless phone and immediately called the other four members of our close group and asked them if they really wanted to have a Teaching Mission group. To my surprise, they all said yes. The unusual thing was that I'm normally not one to just jump up and initiate something like that. I would have been much less surprised if Jane had done it. Afterward in the evening we remarked how unusual it was for me to take that kind of initiative.

One of the main teachings that the teachers have been stressing has been the concept of "seeking the stillness." Call it meditation if you will, but the basics include quieting the incessant electro-chemical processes in the mind so that very little is stimulating brain activity, and all the while remaining totally conscious, even super-conscious. This allows improved communications with the Thought Adjuster or with the Teacher. Maybe it would be better to say that it allows you to be more aware of the communications.

After my pronouncement that I would be glad to be the TR for our group, Jane and I began a concerted effort to practice the Stillness each evening before going to sleep. Nothing happened. Our group began to meet and spend time in the Stillness together with the thought that one of us would begin to get some kind of communication.

Still nothing. After several weeks of trying, and at the end of one of the sessions I suggested that only one of us should try to transmit the teachers' message instead of all of

us straining to hear. I volunteered to be the first at the following week's meeting. If nothing happened, then someone else would try the following week.

Meanwhile, life continued on its normal course. However, an unusual event did subsequently occur. On my way to the airport for a business trip one morning, I heard a very clear voice in my head say "I am Bertrand and I am going to be the teacher for your group." It was so strange that I filed it in my mind under the "strange occurrences" category and kept quiet about it for several weeks, thinking that maybe someone else or Jane would get some confirmation of the message. Nothing happened. A couple of weeks went by and I thought I better tell Jane about it, which I did, but she hadn't heard any names at that time.

A short side bar is in order. One of the aspects of the Teaching Mission that we learned from the transcripts of Rayson, Ham, Will, and Daniel (the only known teachers at the time) was the sacredness of human free will. One could say that their adherence to that tenant was absolute and sacred. In my view of this phenomenon, that one point speaks volumes about the validity of this experience.

On the evening of May 25, 1992, Memorial Day, Jane and I were laying in bed beginning our practice of the Stillness and Jane asked me if I had ever given the teachers permission to use me as a transmitter/receiver. I said "no."

I thought about that in the quiet for a few minutes and in my mind I consciously gave them permission to do whatever they do. What occurred next was my first transmission. All was quiet for a few minutes, then Jane asked excitedly, "Did you just see that bright light? It sort of came from the right and came over here (toward me)." I said quite calmly "No." (It was most unusual for me to only answer "no" to her statement. Normally, I am much more animated about such things and would have plied her with numerous questions regarding what she had just seen.) A

few minutes passed and she asked me, "Why do you think Ham didn't tell us who the transmitter/receiver of our group is?" (We had asked Thern to ask Ham for some information about our t/r and if Bertrand was to be our teacher. We were only told that Bertrand was a teacher, but no information if he was to be our teacher.)

I calmly stated "Because they didn't want to influence the free will choice of the person." (I stated that as fact, not speculation, which would normally have been my reaction)

Jane then asked after a short pause, "How do you think Chick was notified that he was a transmitter/receiver?"

Again, I calmly replied, "In a private session with Rayson." (This I absolutely did not know!)

At that point, as we lay there quietly, Jane began to wonder in her mind about the strange answers I had given. I was not responding in my normal way.

At this point I had the one and only vision I have ever had. In the vision I was standing on the top step of three or four with a very tall person at my side. We were looking out over a beautiful courtyard surrounded by old stone arches and buildings. There were others in the courtyard dressed like the person next to me. I could only describe them as looking like monks dressed in medium dark brown robes with hoods. I could not see their faces.

The tall person at my side motioned for me to follow him (I felt that it was male, though I have no confirmation of that). We went to a well in the middle of the courtyard. It had a wooden top, hinged in the middle. He opened the top, ladled some water and offered it to me. I knew at that instant that it was the Water of Life. Also at that moment my conscious mind jumped in to begin to analyze what was occurring and the vision ended like the snap of your fingers. I also experienced what felt like an electrical discharge in my legs as they jumped.

I immediately said excitedly to Jane, "That wasn't me!" We then spent the next hour and a half going over the minutia of what had just happened, and came to the amazing realization that I had just transmitted. Now I know it was Bertrand's first transmission to me, and it was he standing next to me offering me the Water of Life.

I could hardly sleep for the rest of the night. The next day I went to work and as I poked my head around the corner to my boss's office, he looked up and seeing my Urantia pin on the lapel of my coat said to me, "Received any messages lately?" After I regained my composure, I said casually, "Nah, just the usual." I went, shaking, to my desk and started to work. I had told him some time before of my involvement with this strange blue book, but not of the Teaching Mission. He was a skeptic and had one of my loaner copies of The Urantia Book but was not interested.

That evening was the next meeting of our group and it was my turn to try to transmit/receive. I did. Bertrand spoke for several minutes and responded to several questions. That was about all I could handle the first night.

As I sat, becoming still in my mind, I began with the first statement asking my Thought Adjuster to take control of my conscious mind for the duration of the session. I then dedicated my will to that of my Father's, and then gave the teacher permission to speak through me. In this session, there were some transmissions directed at me only. I was asked to commit to serve for a two year period, that was all. I was told that would be the standard tour of duty for a TR assigned to a group. I said yes. During that time, I felt it was my sacred duty to execute the TR responsibilities, and anything short of that would be a failure of the trust. Once my service was complete, I was free to "re-enlist" or continue my human career. I made the decision to carry on with my human career, serving as I pass by.

A month or so later, Jane had a mes-

sage during our stillness one night telling her that we were to have another teacher, Signa. The next meeting of the group, I transmitted Signa to our group and she became the second of our teachers. We were told that the team teaching of Bertrand and Signa was experimental. We were the benefactors of the spiritual wisdom of two teachers for the duration of our class. I love them both and have Signa as my personal teacher available to me any time. I'm sad to say that I don't communicate with her as much as I used to, but she is there, and I feel her presence even now as I write this history.

Briefly stated, transmitting/receiving is a physical experience. As I enter the Stillness, and give the teacher permission to speak through me, I am mentally still, and expectant. Presently, I would feel the teachers' mental presence surround my head; I describe it as a superimposition, and the words, concepts, and complete thoughts seem to enter the seam between the left and right lobes of my brain. Sometimes the information to vocalize is in the form of individual words, sometimes in sentence fragments, and sometimes in complete concepts, like a data dump. It seems to depend on

whether the teacher wants to be very exact, or wants to let my intellect help to translate the information to be imparted. It is never an uncomfortable or unpleasant experience, and the only lingering effect is that after transmitting, I always have a great night's sleep.

It took several months to become proficient at becoming still quickly. At first, it was very hard to control the rampant thoughts that course incessantly through your mind, but eventually with practice you can control your mind to the point of stillness, or thoughtlessness.

I concluded my tour of duty in June 1994 at the second Spiritfest put on by the Teaching Mission students of California. I will be forever and eternally grateful for the experience, and for the opportunity to serve the Planetary Government, Machiventa Melchizedek, Michael, and Our Father in the restoration of Urantia into the Federation of Planets.

The Teaching Mission in Pocatello, Idaho

By Bill Kelly

Our experience with the Teaching Mission began in the fall of 1991 when a member of the Woods Cross group moved to our area and began attending our Urantia book study group. Kathy brought with her a number of tapes of a teacher named Ham who was giving lessons to the Woods Cross group. We had heard that there were alleged contacts from Abraham and Machiventa in New Zealand as we had received copies of their transcript from a relative of one of our members.

Several of us decided to listen to the Ham lessons on tape and see what we could make of them. One member actually typed seven months of weekly lessons from tapes to further evaluate the teachings by reading hard copy. We decided to ask Thern Blackburn to speak to our UB reading group and tell us about teacher Ham and his group's experience with him. Thern complied with our request and came with his son to answer our questions. Among other things we were informed that, if we desired, we could also have a group teacher.

After this presentation our group discussed whether or not we wanted to
get



Michael's Birthday celebration, Pocatello/Woods Cross Team, 1992.

involved with the Teaching Mission by requesting a teacher, and it was decided that if we didn't ask, we would never know what we had missed. So we jumped into the water.

Four members of our group journeyed to Woods Cross to make our request. They were told that we already had a teacher assigned and one of our members, Debbie, was asked to be the TR. She agreed. Ham also stated that our group teacher, whose name was not given, was the scheduled speaker for the following Monday-night meeting. At our regular Sunday-morning meeting Debbie read a transmission from our new teacher. She said she would not tell us his name, even though she had heard it, until it was confirmed the next evening.

A sizeable group of us were in attendance in Woods Cross to hear our newly assigned teacher give his first lesson when Rebecca, the Woods Cross TR, began to speak. She said, "I am.....Daniel", and all of us looked at our Debbie. She smiled broadly with confirmation that Daniel was the name she had been hearing. It was a stunning moment!

Daniel presented his lesson on spiritual growth and outlined his role as our group teacher. After his brief introduction many questions were asked and answered by Daniel from all of those many people present. On the way home we felt as though we were flying, not driving on the freeway at all. Excitement was at a high pitch! On the following Sunday, Daniel presented his second lesson through our TR Debbie, and the Teaching Mission in Pocatello had begun. That was over seven years ago.

In the intervening years Daniel has been joined by teacher Tomas, teacher Aaron, and our assigned Melchizedek, Minearisa. We have also heard from many other teachers and celestials including Ham, Abraham, Machiventa, our own personal teachers and our universe parents, Michael and Nebadonia. For a period of several years we had a sepa-

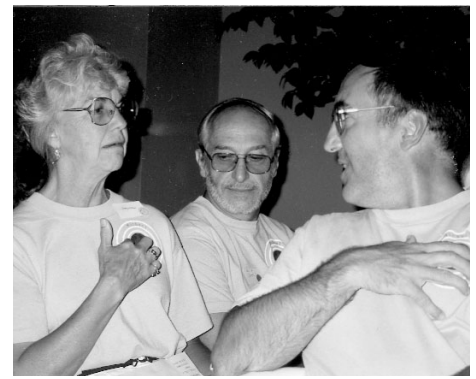
rate meeting to practice TRing with the result that many new TRs "came on line". With the graduation of Debbie to the mansion worlds, we have had shared TRing as we have continued to meet on a weekly basis. Like the other groups in the mission, we have worked on "building our foundations.". All of us have personal teachers who assist in this process. Membership in our group has varied over the years with some being sent out to start new groups as in the case of teacher Iruka and teacher Tomas. Our transcripts have been widely distributed by snail mail and email.

One of the most pleasurable activities of the Pocatello group has been our annual Michael birthday celebration with the Woods Cross group. In the 1992 celebration we first heard from Gabriel and then he introduced Michael. This was the first time we had ever experienced the presence of the Bright and Morning Star and our Master Son. This event stands out as a highlight of our experience.

Since those early days, the presence and interaction with the celestial realm has become much more comfortable and familiar. Our lessons have dealt with group family making, personal growth and morontial living, just as they have for other groups scattered across this world. We realize that we are only a small part of the Correcting Time, and yet each of us will help to change our world one person at a time. Putting our own house in order is the necessary prerequisite.

We have had some ups and downs, and our group unity has been sorely tried. But we look back today over the distance we have covered, and we realize that our involvement with the Teaching Mission has been the practical application of the teachings of Jesus as presented in The Urantia Book. We have been, and are, a laboratory for the spiritual growth of each member.

We know that the Correcting Time is real, and we rejoice to join with our brothers and sisters in bringing this planet one step at a time nearer the promised culmination of light and



August 21st 1995; Virginia Kelly, Bill Kelly and Jeremiah (now deceased).

life.

History of the LinEL Group in Corvallis, Oregon

By Thea Hardy

I came to the mission with great skepticism, but I have had a long history of attempting contact with spiritual sources in less dramatic form. A few years after finding The Urantia book in 1970, I became convinced that the concept of the adjuster was true and decided to make contact as best I could. I talked to my thought adjuster, whom I called Father-Friend. I told Him I felt silly talking to what seemed to be nothing, but that since I knew that He existed, I was talking to someone real, and I would persist. I decided to tell him everything I thought and felt, most particularly things I would rather have hidden. Over time, as I built up the practice of this exercise, I began to feel the reality of his presence. It was not as clear as it now is, but I came to know SOMEone was there, and loved me.

When the Vern Grimsley events unfolded, I was at first semi-alarmed. I did believe that some contact had been made by them. I didn't it prepare for full-scale devastation, but I did make some minor preparations, and felt some anxiety. In retrospect, I obviously believed contact was possible! But I never thought of it in relation to me. When the day came and went and nothing happened, I decided that it had been a distortion and a sham. I felt much sadness. As it became evident that the Urantia family had brotherly difficulties accom-

modating differences, I gradually pulled back from my already limited participation in Urantia groups.

When my longtime dear friend Bob Slagle first told me about the mission, I was angry and dismayed that yet another piece of “new age” gobbledygook was being foisted on the Urantia teachings. But my respect for Bob and the evidence of his personal changes led me to read the transcripts he sent and listen to the tapes. I first read Ham, but I came to him with great skepticism. By the time I got to Daniel, I started appreciating the messages, despite my doubt of their authenticity. When reading Will, I finally felt the call of the truth of the mission. Her asking me to go beyond my comfort zone in the pursuit of the Father and his love and service to our brothers and sisters rang truth bells in me. Suddenly, I knew the mission was real, that this was truth, that SOMETHING was going on. I began to do my daily ten minutes of stillness.

As I continued in my meditation practice, I had an exceptional experience in stillness when I heard my adjuster’s voice and felt his overwhelming love for me. It was utterly stunning, and the reality of God was completely clear. I began to get a few words on paper while journaling. I knew that it was unlikely for me to write “We love you.” and other such messages. Among other things, I most certainly did not love myself. At first, the words came into my mind one at a time, like beads on a string. I literally couldn’t see/hear the next one until the present one arrived. I was asked to try the computer. I began taking a few short messages in that form. Then I was encouraged to try a tape recorder. I kept getting a name somewhat like LorEL. I knew it wasn’t right, but could not get it. Finally LinEL’s name became clearer. He later confirmed that LorEL had helped him reinforce his contact with me, something we have seen happen since. Teacher LinEL made himself clearly known to me in the first week of September of 1992. He asked me to transmit for him to the Corvallis group. At that time, my husband Alan and I lived in a town 20 miles away from Corvallis where a long-time

Urantia study group regularly assembled. After a few sessions of practice transmitting, LinEL first came through to the Corvallis group in October, and my husband and I, upon being asked to move to Corvallis by LinEL, left the home we had owned for 14 years and moved into a tiny apartment in Corvallis.

The regular meetings on Friday nights were accompanied by Tuesday night practice sessions at the request of LinEL. A few days after transmitting Michael for the first time, at Christmas, I was hospitalized for pneumonia for five days. Mark came on-line just prior to this time, and took TR duties until I recovered, whereafter we have shared TR duties for our group. Early on, our transmissions were quite slow and wooden. It was not only difficult, but we didn’t have any notion that it could be any different, and felt even that this must be the only way transmitting was supposed to happen. But Mark was able eventually to allow LinEL’s emotions to come through in the messages and over time, we both became able to transmit more freely the teachers’ actual personality flavor. The rate of word delivery speeded up. Today, transmitting often happens in a relatively conversational style. At this rate of word delivery, we are both more able to remain very much pulled-back and distant from interference in the messages, albeit this is not a perfect process. Most often when I transmit, it is as though I am sitting in the circle with my group and the teacher is talking in the center of the circle.

The Friday group size rose to more than 20 in a period of weeks, and LinEL requested that the group not add new members for a limited period of six weeks or so until further group bonding and consolidation could occur. This became an issue of contention, some members believing this statement to be TR error. Several months later, more misunderstandings and differing agendas resulted in a split in the group. Mark and I, and a portion of the members, continued receiving LinEL in a different location. We made ourselves available to transmit LinEL for the other group

members but this offer was not accepted. The group of the other members has their own history.

Over time, the LinEL group waxed in size, but as the rigors of the mission experience continued, some departed either to leave the mission, or to find more compatible agendas. The LinEL group has continued steadily over the years, meeting twice a week, with from 6-10 members being most typical. We were privileged to put on the NW Conference (egged on by our dear brother Bob Devine) in the Portland area in 1996, did the planning for the NW Conference this year at Wallowa lake..

At present, the group consists of six members who meet twice weekly, and have grown to a deep trust level by working under the teachers’ guidance, specializing in emotional recovery work with a specific emphasis on blocked creativity. LinEL was joined by the personal teachers of each group member, and many have taken an active teaching role over time, particularly Serenia, Thea’s personal teacher and JamEL, Mark’s personal teacher. Daranadek Melchizedek has been a regular group presence, assigned to assist us. Michael and the Mother Spirit are regular presences as well as other teachers from the mission and other celestial visitors.

LinEL’s main emphasis, as with many other teachers, has been on seeking stillness in order to foster a stronger bond with the Father within, and for the reception of love from the Father which leads to an enhanced ability to serve brothers and sisters by extending love. LinEL’s most famous quotation: “Love is the answer to every question” was recently reiterated by him with its correlative phrase: “Love is the solution to every problem.” When we first heard these words, we thought them nice, but didn’t realize the depth of the truth contained. Over the years, we have increasingly come to see the wisdom and incredible richness and complexity of this deceptively simple phrase and it has guided us in all of our forward process. It still remains more of a goal and less of an attainment than we

would like, but the power of such a goal is a tremendous push for forward movement. Under the guidance of our teachers and other celestials, plus our ever deepening mutual friendship and love, we have each made incredible personal, growth that all agree would not have been possible without the development of this morontia working group, a possibility brought to Urantia by Michael's mission.

Early in 1999, our group rented a small storefront/office downtown, and under the name of PathWorks, has begun to evolve the future joint business ventures that will fund our outreach and service work. LinEL told us within the first few months of his first contact with the group that we would eventually work with various media to help uplift the planet, that we would become a sort of spiritualized, morontia-valued creative consortium dedicated to promoting Michael's message to Urantia in a diversity of expressions designed to lure other hearts to the Father. Again, we thought this very pleasant, but did not take it entirely seriously. Over time, however, the manner in which our individual skills have evolved in highly complementary ways reveals that trust in the unfoldment process rather than merely applying linear human pressure to conform to more primitive structures can be highly effective. In order to accept the unfoldment process, large amounts of faith and trust are required, and the teachers have helped us endlessly, tirelessly, with unfailing compassion and love to hold fast to the trust that has brought us so far together. We are blessed indeed with this unfathomable, incredible experience of friendship with those who have come to fulfill so many roles: as teachers, as morontia companions (for we seek to live the morontia life while yet on our world, and have need of companionship), and as they have also said, in loco parentis - to show us what familial love is truly about. Their ingenuity and patience are nothing short of incredible, and their friendship and good cheer are an endless benison.

Several of the group members have had contact that predated this phase

of the mission, which according to LinEL has been on-going for some time and was part of Michael's plan for the Fifth Epochal Revelation originated during his bestowal mission before he even departed this world. He has told us that he came again to us as soon as he could, and 2000 years *is* fairly quick in Nebadon time. LinEL has told us that he has been present on the planet since around 1900, and was privileged to be support staff, something like what we would call a secretary, for the celestial revelators. The mission was projected to take place sometime following the public phase of The Urantia Book, and it was not an accident that The Urantia book was much taken up by the so-called counterculture movement of the sixties, perhaps because Michael's gospel is more easily grasped by those who are not excessively under the sway of a prevailing culture. LinEL has been with me from a very young age, around the time of the arrival of my adjuster. Serenia, my "other" personal teacher, has only been on Urantia since November of 1992. Many personal teachers have been with their students for a long time. LinEL would normally serve as my sole personal teacher, and our relationship is very intimate, but both my co-TR Mark and I were long ago assigned individual personal teachers. All our group

members have personal teachers.

Both Delores and I had personal contact with the teachers prior to this phase of the mission. Delores will relate her own history of this contact. My contact was much less dramatic, and I was only clearly aware in retrospect and with LinEL's confirmation that the "voice" (word-thoughts) that I started hearing in my head sometime in the mid to late '80s was indeed LinEL. I recognized that something was going on even at the time by being aware of specific wordings that were foreign to my usual thought patterns: I never addressed myself as "you", and suddenly, "my mind" began doing so. I noted this on numerous occasions with puzzlement. The fact that the words were often positive when my own thought patterns at the time were less so was another give-away.

I clearly remember thoughts in my mind asking me why I fed my pet rat chocolate when it wasn't good for him. I stopped feeding him the chocolate but wondered at the "voice". LinEL, who loves all creatures, confirmed this contact. (The rat always came out when LinEL was present.) While not a particularly stellar example of human receptivity, nevertheless, this experience



Corvallis LinEL Group - Back: Alan Rowe, Thea Hardy, Mark Farley, Delores Dinsmore, Barbara Hughes, Front: Barbara Melton (on sabbatical), Julie Drebing.

shows that the teachers were contacting many of us, and that the mission was certain to succeed, one way or another. I doubt that I would have personally been able to overcome my prejudice towards TRing without knowing of the mission because my reactions to the Vern Grimsley affair were sufficiently negative that I had to overcome them with mighty applications of prayer and faith in order to accept the mission even when others were already aware of the truth. While I regret my own lack in this, I am nonetheless happy to know that my celestial companion was able to get me to hear his voice even if I did not recognize what it was. And after years of reading The Urantia book and hoping for yet *more*, what I asked for has indeed been given to me and in even more abundance than I would have dared to dream. They have taught us so much – about creativity and diversity, supporting all in becoming who Father meant us to be, and above all, about LOVE. The mission has utterly transformed my life, and I have been blessed beyond belief by the presence of elder brothers and sisters who love us and wish to help us turn this planet back into a garden.

[NOTE: I can only give my own personal perspective of our group's history.]

The Coeur d'Alene Teaching Mission Group.

By Rick Giles
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho

In the mid 1980's one of the members of The Urantia Book Study Group passed around a transcript of Machiventa and Abraham from a group in New Zealand. I had somewhat followed the activities of Vern Grimsley and The Family of God and had spent years in the seventies with two fellows who claimed contact with celestials and taught classes on The Urantia Book in the foothills of the Sierra mountains in California. So, upon receiving this transmission my first thought was "Yeah, seen it all before." I read through it looking for that give away phrase that shows its

human origin. Instead of finding the flaw I was inspired by its difference from the usual channeled information I had read before.

That was the last I gave it a thought until 1991 when Bill Brock, one-time attendant of the Coeur d'Alene study group, called from Pocatello, Idaho to tell us that a member of their group was receiving contact from celestial teachers. He then told me about the Woods Cross group and Ham. Soon there after I began reading the Pocatello and Woods Cross lessons. Again, they were refreshing compared to other channeled articles. Perhaps it was The Urantia Book context; its focus was toward personal growth. It didn't have 'end of the world' scenarios, guru lords, or other new age cosmic jargon.

Mark and Mary Rogers were hosting the meetings. One night Mark said that we ought to caravan down to Pocatello and Woods Cross and sniff out this phenomenon. The best way to tell if it's all for real was to go meet the people. By spring of 1992 people were too busy and babies were on the way. My wife, Barbara, one day at lunch said; "Why don't we go? If we wait for a group trip it may never happen." So, we took off Memorial

weekend for an experience that turned out to be memorable indeed! Our first meeting was in Pocatello where we met the gracious Bill and Virginia Kelly and Larry and Frosty Johnson. The lesson was on opening doors. I asked a fumbling question and was warmed in heart by teacher Daniel's response. The T/R was one of the most soft spoken and humble people I have ever met. No power seeking leader tendency at all.

The next night we went down to Woods Cross to check out that group. Again, we met sincere and humble people and a quite modest lady who was the T/R. I asked my question the night before and gave no thought to asking another one. Barbara surprised me by asking if there was anything to say to the Coeur d'Alene group as people back home will be curious about our visit. Ham responded by saying that our teacher was in attendance and would speak, and that he was an expert with words. Elyon introduced himself and asked Barb for her dedication to help him bring forth the lessons. We went home all excited about having a group teacher and Barbara as T/R. I remember us discussing where in the truck Elyon was sitting and if he stayed outside at the rest stops.



Cheney TeaM Conference 1994. Back row: Daniel Megow, Rick Giles, Jonathan. Center: Allene Vick, Susan Kimsey, Lisa Brock. Front: Bill Brock and daughter.

Barbara and I tried for months to get a message in our morning meditations. Nothing. I started writing down what I called impressions hoping that would get the mind flowing, rather than sitting there with a blank mind. They began to come, but I couldn't credit them with outside influence. They kept getting longer from one word to a sentence to full paragraph answers to questions I'd ask. I would still deny outside influence. Then one night as I was almost asleep, I suddenly awoke to a clear mind, and my whole body was buzzing like electricity was flowing through it. It felt like I was floating five feet above my bed. I heard loud and clear the words, "I am Elyon. Do not neglect my presence." Gulp. I thought, "Poor fellow; I haven't been giving him credit for his efforts."

By this time the Group was getting regular lessons from Elyon and Aaron through Bob Devine and soon thereafter, Frosty Johnson. Barbara became our wholehearted and devoted transcriber faithfully typing up a session each week and having copies ready for the group. She went through great struggles trying to T/R and gave up trying. She felt so left out as more people were "coming on line". We were all new to this process and struggled with doubts about authenticity and desired to be truthful and trusting. We believed that if Barb ever were to T/R we'd have no doubt that there was no hanky panky there. As the years have gone on she continues to transcribe while T/Rs have come and gone, proving ever faithful to Elyon's request to help him get his lesson across. She may not T/R, but she has distributed more lessons than anyone in our group.

The Urantia Study group came to a crossroads where it was time to decide how to hold meetings, as some were not really all that interested in the Teaching Mission and stopped attending. Others wanted to talk with the teachers more than read The Urantia Book. So we held resolution meetings where we aired our differences and decided to split into two groups, a

Urantia Book Study Group and a Teaching Mission transmission group. About this time the Spokane Teaching Mission group was well under way. (See Bob Devine's story).

We hold an annual Michael's birthday celebration hosted by Mark and Mary Rogers on a weekend close to August 21. Mark is one of our regular T/Rs. Tom Newbill has become our transcript devourer. He reads and re-reads them and brings to the group excellent synopses of how the lessons are tying together. He expertly draws out comparisons from years back that directly relate to the current lessons.

Elyon has become noted for his use of metaphor, causing me to ever remember Ham saying Elyon was an expert with words. Early on we were introduced to several other personalities that have become regular contributors to the lessons. Two are Melchizedeks, Malvantra and Lantarnek. Another is a midwayer, Sharmon. Aaron ran off to Pocatello with Bob Devine but visits once in a while.

The teachers have inspired several projects in our group. In conjunction with the Spokane group we held several public talks on angels and one on revelation. We have hosted the Cheney National Teaching Mission Conference and a regional Northwest TeaM gathering. I was bold enough to give a lecture at the Spokane Metaphysical Society on the Ascension Plan from The Urantia Book. We held a panel discussion there on another night on Light and Life - Universal, Planetary, and Personal. Songs are being composed by the musicians in the group. Daniel Megow is going strong with his Church Within ministry. Books are in various stages of composition. Mark and Mary Rogers, Barbara and myself are developing an hour long presentation - Introduction to The Urantia Book - that we hope to publish as a pamphlet, a video, an audio tape, and hold a public meeting. Tom Newbill has given two Sunday morning sermons at the Unity Church in Sandpoint, Idaho.

"Spiritual development depends, first, on the maintenance of a living spiritual connection with true spiritual forces and, second, on the continuous bearing of spiritual fruit: yielding the ministry to one's fellows of that which has been received from one's spiritual benefactors." The Urantia Book Page 1095.

Story of the Arcadia Teaching Mission Arcadia California

By Donna Currier-Brown

Once upon a time in the beautiful foothills of the San Gabriel Valley in a little town called Arcadia, California, there lived a very kind and friendly couple named Hal and Lucille Kettell. Now Hal and Lucille's children were grown and Hal was retired. For some twelve years they had conducted a Monday night study group of The Urantia Book in their home. Hal, a retired dentist, had been introduced to The Urantia Book by one of his patients in the early sixties. (You can read his story in "How I Found The Urantia Book")

This group had gone happily about their study group activities for quite some number of years when they heard of a new phenomenon which had begun to occur to another study group in California; The group of John and Jane Roper in Dana Point, California. Hal and Lucille then decided they needed to investigate this phenomenon more seriously and see what they could see. It was reported to them that celestial, unseen spiritual teachers were transmitting messages to the leader of that group.

When Hal and Lucille attended that group and heard some of the messages for themselves, they decided it sounded true and they asked if their group could have a teacher also. They were told that there was a teacher available for any group who wanted one and all they had to do was ask and the teacher would make him or herself known and they could trust that one or more of the group

would be able to 'hear' the teachers' messages and transmit them to the group.

Upon returning to Arcadia, at one of their meetings in July of 1993, a member of the group, a man named Douglas Daniels, began transmitting the teacher JarEl to the small group of listeners. At first Doug was startled and asked, "Why do I feel this sensation?" He was told by a spiritual teacher:

"It is natural for some transmitters. More of their electrical processes are involved in transmitting and receiving. These processes involve the heart and respiratory systems and these things fluctuate, and being material, they create physical sensations to a degree. Do not be dismayed or overly concerned."

He seemed to feel quite overwhelmed and yet at the same time tremendously excited and enthusiastic about being able to perform this service. He deemed it an honor and a responsibility. He sometimes doubted his worthiness to be chosen for this

task. The same teacher, Aflana, also reassured him:

"It is not our intention to startle you. You must remember we are spiritual beings and our energies do effect mortals in many positive ways. So, fear not for your safety during these times of transmission."

Thus was the Teaching Mission launched in Arcadia, California.

This group continued for two years, the average attendance was seven members, meeting once a week in the beginning. The transmitted lessons were captured on tape and Hal faithfully typed them out (sometimes with help from others) so that the group members could read them and reflect on them or have them available to study or ask questions from for the next meeting.

JarEl told us in an early lesson in 1993 that "All lessons in this teaching Mission have been prepared by Machiventa Melchizedek." He further instructed, "As your group varies in individuality and its needs, we will give the appropriate lesson to assist

you." He also informed us that the Teaching Mission was inaugurated by Christ Michael and was a part of His overall plan for what was termed The Correcting Time on this planet. Teacher JarEl was always telling us of the Father's love for us as well as his personal love for us as our teacher. He was consistent in teaching us very simple and solid lessons; i.e. fear is a spirit poison and the stillness is essential for our spiritual growth.

JarEl always welcomed questions and comments from the group at the end of his lessons and spiritual issues. He actually encouraged us to find answers for ourselves by our continuing stillness and growth and by talking among ourselves. But he also said he was always there for our questions when needed. In addition, he told us that there were personal teachers for each of us individually and all we had to do was want them and ask for them and be open to hearing from them. We needed, of course, to provide the time and stillness where they could come through.

Towards the end of the first two



Arcadia Teaching Mission 1998. From left, Rear: Jerry Dalton, Marene Mitchel, Norman Ingram, Don Roark, Duane Faw, Lucile Faw, Roger Benjamin, Karen Pike, Chris Brewer, Al Loskam. 3rd row: Lucille Kettell, Stella Reghia, Jenni DeBacco, Kathryn Pike, Nel Benjamin, Donna Brown. 2nd row: Hal Kettell, Henry Zeringue, Dona Jean Sandoval, Mercedes Bandera, Gonzalo Bandera, Fay Loskam. 1st row: Enno Benjamin, Chick Montgomery, Saskia Raevori (photographer).

years, JarEl began to prepare the group for his absence. He said he had been called away to attend to other activities that were essential to his own ascension process. He said he would be gone from our group for about a year's time.

So it was that on May 28, 1995 a final Teaching Mission group was held with Douglas still being the main transmitter/receiver. On this day we all heard a special message from Verona, a midwayer, as well as having the great honor of hearing from Machiventa himself. Verona said, in part:

"This is Verona, your midwayer. How can I relate to you my happiness, my joy at your achievements, your growth through the efforts of your illustrious teacher JarEl. My dear hearts, you are each dear to me as I am the keeper of the light for this mission here. It is I who enables the presence of the teacher, and the attraction therewith of each of you. It is my service, my honor. It is my privilege that I am able to perform such service for you. I thank you as I thank our Creator for the opportunity to be of service to you.

"I am not sad that this is our last opportunity to converse with you, for I know of the greater goal in which we shall meet each of you in your ascension unto Paradise. I will greet each of you at some point in that ascension. Fear not. My words are true. You are indeed loved, and my love I leave with you. May it be a source of enlightenment and encouragement for you to continue in the absence of formal meetings. May you rely on the fact that we were here and touched your lives. You have spiritual enlightenment colored in love."

For this little group of believers this was to be our commencement day. Machiventa said to us, in part:

"This would not be a commencement, in your words, without congratulations from one high in authority to bless this occasion of your transition, dear ones. From an unorganized, loosely held

group of believers who had only the commonality of faith, having worked out your trials and experiences in this Teaching mission, which was inaugurated by Christ Michael and administered by myself through the able aid of your teachers, as this illustrious one here present, JarEl, of whom I am well pleased. One in whom I have had great confidence since the inception of your group here in Arcadia. You, dear ones, are commended. You have stayed the course. You have fought the good fight, and you are proof indeed that with regularity and guidance, with coming together for the single purpose of experiencing that which you can achieve, that you can become more than what you were in the beginning."

And then he said, most wondrous of all..."Dear hearts, I will not tarry. I will leave you with these words, that this is not the end of your group. It is only the beginning. The transition that each of you will embark upon to carry out your future projects. To carry forth high the banner of the concentric circles that I have worn these many eons upon my breast; the emblem of Christ Michael, the culmination of all deity. You dear ones, you are now ordained. You are blessed together to carry His flag, not only to your fellow man here, but the world of Urantia, and to the Grand Master Universe. This is your purpose. This is your goal for eternity, to be light bearers of truth. To proceed forth in front of your Creator Son..."

Machiventa said a few more congratulatory and heartwarming words to us and sort of finished up by saying, "... Believe, as I commend you and offer my thanks for your work in the past and for your efforts in the future, we want joy in your heart this day for you have succeeded. Look about you... your numbers are seven, are they not? You are complete. Proceed forth as completed/graduated members of the Teaching Mission. I congratulate you. I love you. Christ Michael congratulates you and loves you more. Peace, blessings and success to you, dear hearts..."

The seven core members of our group who were there that day and ordained were: Hal and Lucille Kettell. Douglas Daniels, Betty Bright, Stella Religa, Donna Brown and Joe Madera. It should be mentioned here... there were other individuals who had attended some Teaching Mission sessions who were not there on this day. Henry Zeringue was one of these. All of us, individually and collectively, were encouraged to develop 'projects' of a spiritual nature with which we could feel comfortable.

Time passed quickly and some members of this original group began their own projects. Donna Brown began a bi-monthly study group in her own home in Temple City which lasted for a year. She also wrote more poems that she has shared at some UB conferences. Henry Zeringue began hearing more from his personal teachers and shared printed transcripts with us all including messages that he believes were directly from his Adjuster. Speaking of projects, it should be noted that during the whole two year Teaching Mission time above-mentioned, Betty Bright was also a faithful Transmitter/Receiver. She relieved Douglas of his T/Ring when his work or other personal commitments kept him away. Of course, Stella Religa had maintained a study group in her own home during this entire time which is current even today. Hal and Lucille continued their weekly Monday night study groups consistently, with or without the Teaching Mission being active.

As a group project, the Arcadia Teaching Mission coordinated the Spirit Fest III gathering in June, 1996, which was at the El Chorro Conference Center in Los Osos, California (Near San Luis Obispo). This was the third year the Spirit Fest gathering of all Teaching Mission groups in California had been held at that site.

Then, in November of 1996, word was sent to the Bakersfield group that JarEl was back and would like to

meet again with the group in Arcadia. By this time Henry Zeringue had developed his skills as a T/R and was able to receive JarEl's messages for the group. The group has continued from that time on a once a month basis. Sunday afternoons starting at 1:00 pm with a potluck lunch followed by the message from JarEl in the living room of the Kettell's very lovely and hospitable home in Arcadia. Although Betty Bright moved to Ohio and Douglas Daniels now lives farther away in California, the Teaching Mission has still grown to the point that two dining room tables are now needed in two different rooms to accommodate all the people. The average attendance currently is from 17 to 22 members.

This author, Donna Brown, has been a regular attendee, and the food, the fellowship, the love, the camaraderie, to say nothing of the teaching from JarEl and the stimulating conversations and questions are wonderful and beyond compare. There is no place I would rather be on a Sunday afternoon.

And we are all living happily ever after. Come and Visit us sometime. Love and God Bless...

The Teaching Mission - Coming Out Of The Closet

By Eugenia Bryan

The Teaching Mission has been a major influence in up-stepping personal spiritual growth for me. This is the story of how it came about from my perspective and what it has done for me. I will trace the history of the Teaching Mission from its beginnings in New Zealand and give emphasis to what happened in the Heart of America.

I grew up in an Episcopalian home with a rather devout mother who taught me about many, many spiritual realities which the UB expanded upon for me some fifty years later. She did not emphasize the "blood of Christ" or the horrendous "atonement" aspects but rather the love of

God and His constant presence in our lives. But my father's influence was very powerful and he taught me that I was just not quite good enough to be helped by his efforts to push me to my highest levels of achievement. He was never quite satisfied and I had unconsciously transferred this attitude or feeling to my relationship with God as my heavenly Father.

The Episcopal Church also influenced me in a more subtle way through its many prayers emphasizing the "unworthiness" of His creation; for instance, mortal man, being born a sinner prays, "Oh Lord, I am not worthy enough to gather up the crumbs under your table." But in addition there were the loving messages of compassion and forgiveness, and the Episcopal Church tends to let people make a personal relationship with God without defining what that relationship should be, so I did not feel the need to look elsewhere for a church.

When I met and married my sweet husband, a Urantia Book reader of some thirty years, I first encountered its teachings and I was ready to shed the barriers between me and God – although I was unaware of this at the time. I knew that something needed to change, however. I had many signals in dreams and in other ways. Bill introduced me to a group of Kansas City readers led by a marvelous woman, Ila Hall, who has furthered the Father's work on Urantia as a superb networker. She, the ultimate Seeker, shared the "I AM ABRAHAM" written material with us in 1989. It was not very well presented: the material had a lot of confusing information in it, such as letters that didn't help clarify the material much, as well as some questions and answers from people they had contacted or had contacted them in New Zealand. It was really rather crude and we did not follow up on it.

These people in New Zealand had been talking to an entity or teacher who called himself Abraham (THE Abraham, the father of Israel) beginning in 1984. This small group con-

sisted of a couple and two male friends who had been gathering together regularly for spiritual discussions and support for some time. One day, Abraham began to speak through the woman, Ruby Miller, after they initially began hearing from an entity known as Bertha. The information which they began to collect was rather astonishing. They were eventually introduced to Machiventa Melchizedek, Abraham's teacher. They were told that this was "the Correcting time" for this planet, among other things. They didn't know what to think about it. They collected these transcripts for quite some time. In 1987 a relative of one of these couples provided a Urantia Book to them and they were amazed at the similarities between what they had been told and what the book said.

They sent much of this material to a researcher of religion in New Zealand (University of Waikato) in their quest for honest and objective understanding about what was happening. I quote Douglas Pratt, Ph.D., Lecturer of Religious Studies, in a letter dated August, 1989:

"Mr. Miller, as chief spokesperson for the core-group, had elicited comment and opinion from a variety of people concerning what was happening. Reactions seem to have fallen into two categories-dismissive (as, e.g. Christian judgement that this is 'of the devil') or inclusive (i.e. as including the phenomena within the categories used by the person consulted e.g. as in spiritualism per se).

"Meeting with them I formed the opinion that the situation as presented to me appeared to be one of 'medium/oracle' and related phenomena. The substantive content appeared to be biblical and philosophico-religious. It was also clear that what was being asked for was a non-judgmental response that would accept the 'reality' of the phenomena as presented and help those involved to find ways of evaluating, checking-out and 'dealing' with it – As I see it, this is a complex religious phenomenon."

Dr. Pratt further states in this “To Whom It May Concern” letter the following:

“My role, as a student of religion and a researcher into religious phenomena, is to monitor and investigate the phenomena as presented with ‘detached sympathy’. There is something of significance going on here. The recent connection with The Urantia Book and related phenomena may provide a clue and the context to understanding.”

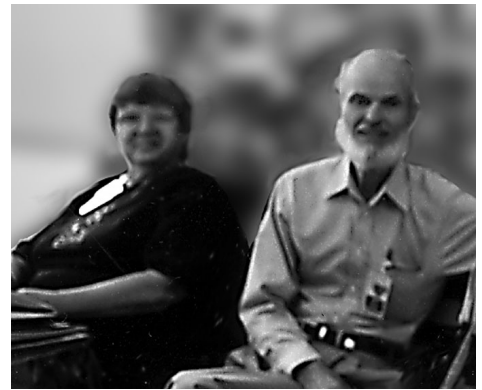
The New Zealand group decided to follow up on Machiventa Melchizedek’s request that they pass this information on. They also wished to explore the possibility that they were not the only ones receiving this kind of material. They wrote a letter which eventually was sent to many Urantia Book Study Group leaders in the United States, including the one Ila Hall led in Kansas City. In this open letter addressed to all Urantia Brotherhood Members, dated July 18, 1989, I quote:

“At that first meeting Abraham told us, ‘I shall teach you the Truth’. After a few years, we believe we arrived at a particular level of understanding and acceptance of the truth of these teachings. It must be stressed we did not consider ourselves as religious in the usual context of the word. Knowledge of the Biblical Abraham was minimal and Melchizedek unknown to us. We know Machiventa Melchizedek has made his presence known to us and HAS taken up the position of Vice Regent Planetary Prince. This we know as fact. In, November, 1988, in answer to the question ‘Are you the Machiventa Melchizedek mentioned in The Urantia Book?’, we were given the answer, ‘Correct. I come from the Father. Am I not here? The Correcting Time is NOW.’ On March 16, 1989, Machiventa Melchizedek specifically asked that we relay these facts to you, this being his initial contact to confirm his presence.”

Our Kansas City group looked at this material which included the open letter, the letter from Dr. Pratt, and some comments from individuals who had responded to them. The news of Machiventa’s new position was “interesting” to say the least. We did not respond to the New Zealanders’ query. It was a sort of wait-and-see attitude because we were reluctant to follow up! As I said, the material was somewhat unprofessionally presented and a bit confusing as to who had said what as well. Now I can look at it and understand clearly.

But Thern Blackburn and his group in Woods Cross, Utah had responded to the New Zealanders’ query. I think it was in the Spring of 1990 that the teacher Ham tapped Rebecca Bynum (who now lives in Nashville) on the shoulder and told her he wanted to talk to the Woods Cross group. And so this Teaching Mission (as it became known) began in the United States. The Woods Cross group began to collect their own tapes and transcripts and persisted in exploring this strange process of receiving and transmitting, called “transmitting/receiving,” or “TRing” for short. It was not an easy time for them. It was exciting, strange, and puzzling, and it attracted many people who came and went according to their ability to believe that “celestials are talking to mortals” and to accept what these “teachers” were telling them. It will be interesting to hear from the early Woods Cross people about those days from their viewpoint.

Somewhere along in the summer of 1991, a tape of Abraham speaking through Ruby entitled, “I am Abraham,” was sent to the USA. I believe it was first sent to those who had responded to their query of 1989. It was circulated fairly widely and Ila Hall in Kansas City got a copy from Thern. At the Jesus’ Birthday celebration camp-out our area held that year, Ila gathered everyone who would listen and played this tape. My husband and I went. I was sitting at the back of the group in her trailer and when I heard Ruby speaking Abraham’s words, my body shud-



Eugenia Bryan and Norman Ingram at Snow Mountain TeaM conference, 1997.

dered deeply and I began to weep. Ruby has a deep resonate voice and speaks very clearly and slowly. Every word struck a chord within me and my Spirit of Truth seized the opportunity to get my attention and open me up to a new way of experiencing God. Little did I know at that moment what was going to happen and what a ride I was in for! I was OPENED UP to the possibilities of hearing from another realm at that moment in August of 1991!

I had never explored channeling (or any such wild thing) before but I had no preconceived ideas about it. I had never checked out any of this “nonsense”. I was also a rather new UB reader and still exploring my skepticism. Up until Bill dropped the UB on me (a package deal), my Episcopalian background had been my primary source of spiritual information. I had rejected the major doctrine of atonement among other things but had never discussed these heretical thoughts with anyone until I met Bill in 1988. I rather slowly came around to believing the Urantia Book’s wilder aspects like the purple Adam and Eve and the two Gardens of Eden! I was a true innocent in these matters regarding revelation and radical religious concepts. I had literally shelved all such discussions about spiritual questions as they occurred throughout my life, thinking that I would take the time to explore such things when I had the time – like after my children were raised! My brief explorations didn’t lead me to much. So, being a very busy woman with a career and family,

I had decided to shelve it all. I went to church, took from there what helped, and didn't trouble myself too much about the incongruities in Christian theology. I loved the worship service, the music, the rituals (and I did feel close to God in ritual), and the fellowship. My church was a very comfortable and loving place to – be even if it didn't nurture a high degree of spiritual yearning. I was a very proper traditionalist with many private questions, but no great feelings of being “unsaved” or awareness of being “unloved” by God.

In February of 1992, the Woods Cross group went public at the Fifth Epochal Fellowship meeting in California and, as the word spread that they had tapes and transcripts they were willing to share, Ila (of course) got wind of it and immediately got some to share with our Kansas City Study group. As my husband said, “I’ve been waiting all my life to hear from Heaven and I’m not passing up this opportunity to hear what they might say!” So I went along to hear them too. I began to listen to the Ham tapes not only with the group but alone. I read the transcripts avidly. The level of love Ham talked about was unbelievable to me and I had a difficult time accepting that I was loved by God to this degree. It was beyond my comprehension or previous experience of feeling love in any spiritual sense.

At this point, I began to slip into deep depression because I could not accept that I could be loved this much by a God who didn't seem to be much in my life. I had accepted many of the good things that I had as a “gift from Him”, had never seriously questioned his existence (I KNEW He existed “rock solid”), and had believed that the bad things were of my own making through ignorance and not being “good enough” or perfect enough in my efforts (God helps those who help themselves). Hey, we're all imperfect, aren't we?

Other people around me were thrilled with this corroboration that God loved them so much. As for myself, I

was dying inside because I couldn't feel what they and Ham were talking about. I was becoming miserable with my feelings of profound “unworthiness”, something I had never previously known about myself. But I continued to listen to the tapes and it was so logical, so sensible, so, well, “real”, that I couldn't reject it. There was a lesson for me in every tape about love, and all the questions had ever piled on my mind's shelf tumbled out of the closet and overwhelmed me! My Spirit of Truth and Thought Adjuster were working overtime!

In May of 1992, my husband and I went to Woods Cross to see this phenomenon for ourselves. We had private sessions with Ham through Roland in his home and listened to Ham through Rebecca at their weekly meeting on Monday. I asked a question that night that blew my mind away when I heard the answer. I knew Ham had hit on something I needed desperately to know! I can't remember what it was now but it is on tape! In our private session with Ham, he told me many things that I needed to do to “heal” or “correct” myself and my indwelling monitor told me that this was absolutely correct. I didn't do all of them right away, but eventually I trusted enough to do some of them and they worked. He told my husband things he needed to hear as well.

We left Woods Cross having become believers in this “Teaching Mission” sent by Michael, and I have never looked back with any long-lasting skepticism since. It was real to Bill and I! And it was just as real to quite a few of our friends back home in Kansas and Kansas City -- but not to all by any means. The skeptics left our group in disbelief. The open ones wrestled with their own call for personal correction just as I had. It was a most extraordinary time for our group and our UB friends. It was a time of great expectations – and some rather unrealistic ones at that, I might add. We were excited yet humbled all at the same time. These ideas and possibilities were in some cases just too advanced for us in

terms of our concepts of what the world was and what was to come. We recognized that we needed a lot of adjustments in our thinking in order to accept some of these possibilities, because of how idealistic some of them seemed.

As I look back on the sessions we have had in our area, the teachers have concentrated on personal correction most of all, with lots and lots of personal sessions. But at first in our Lawrence group, we were given group lessons. I was supposedly being prepared to be a T/R (a person who transmits and receives the celestials' messages) It scared the peawadding out of me and I did not believe that I could or should do that. And yet, I was having some very strange experiences all during May through July of that year. I had absolutely no faith in myself or my ability to do this and I was terrified of being misleading to my friends if it was “just me” doing the talking. I did decide that if that was what God wanted me to do, I should at least try to cooperate. I did not want this responsibility and, furthermore, had difficulty accepting that my attempts were really not me speaking.

I did almost all my “practicing” very privately. Physically, I felt power flowing through my body that summer especially at night when I was trying to sleep. I was often awakened after one or two hours of sleep. I was told that that was when I was most relaxed and receptive to their energy. The teacher who was working with me (and a midwayer as well) was James, who had been assigned to our group. Several times, I felt a sharp pain in my ankle whenever this “surge” of energy came to me. It seemed to enter my body at the ankle and swept upwards from there. Today, I rarely have any sense of this power surge unless it is someone like a Melchizedek. But if I do, I stop whatever I am doing and listen.

In June, a woman called me and said she wanted to start reading the UB with a group. I hesitated to tell her what we were doing, i.e. listening to celestial teachers! But something told

me to break the news to her. She amazed me by saying, "Oh, how exciting! My daughter is doing this and she is working on a project for Michael with another person." Within one week she was TRing James for our group with ease. It was incredible and we all felt that James was wonderful and quite congruent with the Ham lessons. This woman worked with me privately to help me work through my fears and allow James to speak through me. She also began to do some private sessions with people, and shortly thereafter began to do the TRing for the teachers, Esther and Thomas, who had been assigned to Kansas City. She told us all along that this was a temporary assignment for her and that she was there to help us learn how to do it ourselves. Another woman came "on line" in our Lawrence group about the same time as I did, and in November another began transmitting for the Kansas City group. In September 1992, Bill and I went to Czechoslovakia to visit my daughter. During the time we were gone, several things happened that led the Lawrence group to break apart. I never have found out exactly what, but it was similar to some of the problems that most groups were struggling with at the time. Things were happening like: being told to do something and something would happen and it didn't--and so on. Skepticism set in. And there were good reasons for it. It was an entirely new process of learning for all of us. We made lots of mistakes, built up our expectations and had them dashed, just like it was for the apostles of Jesus! They would hope for something and Jesus would dash those hopes, time and time again. All the while, the messages have the truth within that the heart knows it needs to hear and integrate for a possibility that cannot be imagined – the Kingdom of Heaven on earth!

This was happening to us. It was our experience. Some could not take the radical shaking up that was happening and decided to give it up. But some of us just knew in our deepest beings that we were learning things

we needed to integrate into our lives and so we persisted in our efforts. It led us to a place where we could actually chronicle our experiences and see the fruits of the spirit in our own lives and that of our friends. This is what is and has been) happening over time for those of us who have persisted with the Teaching Mission. Personal growth and correction of the individual rather than a group experience has remained our focus, although stronger groups have gone on to additional projects on behalf of the Teaching Mission.

Our local TM (Teaching Mission) groups in Lawrence and Kansas City are non-existent now although we meet to read the book together. Many of those involved at the start have scattered. Some are still believers and do their own work with the teachers, while others have joined TM groups somewhere else; still others have dropped it altogether for lack of contact or personal effort to keep it alive. A few are still around and we get together rarely, but it is not easy due to the distances involved and the pressure coming from those who just don't any longer want to hear about the TM in our groups. So it is kind of an underground thing here. Most UB people in our area know who the Teaching Mission people are but never talk to us about it. It's a "don't ask, don't tell" level of comfort among us. We Kansas City area TMers are content to just work with our guides and the teachers in whatever means we feel most comfortable. We go to the regional gatherings wherever we can. We seem to be open to whatever evolves with the Teaching Mission within our ranks but have no specific projects or outreach activities going on at this time.

So that is the bare bones of a much longer story. My personal spiritual journey has only been cursorily mentioned here and mostly in relation to the growth of the Teaching Mission. The Urantia Book states that some people grow very gradually and gently but others need a radical experience to wake them up. I

fit into the latter category. The Teaching Mission was a profound "wake up" call to to the rebirth of my spirit.

The Teaching Mission in Tallahassee

By Fred Harris

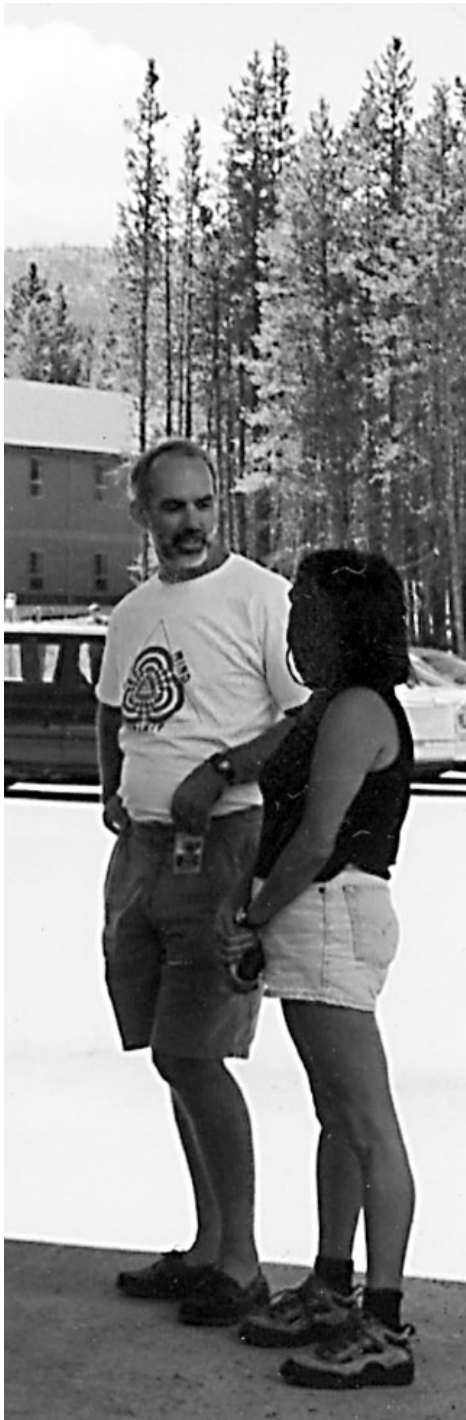
In September of 1991, I went to Woods Cross to investigate the Teaching Mission phenomenon. I had previously sent a question to Ham, the Woods Cross celestial teacher, inquiring about whether there was anything like that going on in Tallahassee. I was told to seek the couple on Greenbriar Road. I had looked around and couldn't locate a Greenbriar Road anywhere near Tallahassee. I went to the local Urantia Book group and told them about what I was told was going on in Utah, but I was advised that they were very conservative and that they weren't interested in such things. Still, when I told them the Greenbriar Road answer, a married couple got a shocked look on their face and told me that they had been given the Urantia Book immediately after moving into the Greenbriar apartments. That cinched it. I was going to Utah to check it out.

On the way to Utah, I devised a lot of tricky questions to ask Ham, but when I got to Woods Cross I was surprised when, before I could ask the first question, Ham introduced me to Will and she advised me that she was going to be our group teacher in Tallahassee. I told her that I was still



not sure that I believed all this and that those people in Tallahassee were not open to it, so how was I supposed to interest them? She said, "You'll think of something!"

Well, after getting all my questions answered by Ham, I gathered up the transcripts that were available and headed back to Tallahassee. I handed



Fred Harris in conversation at Snow Mountain Colorado, 1997

them out to those people who I had met in the Urantia Book group right before I left for Utah and told them to read them before the next meeting. One of the members shook his finger in my face and said, "If they in any way contradict the Urantia Book, I'm out of here!" But when they had the next meeting, the number of people had doubled. I played Will's message to them and, surprisingly, they all agreed to meet weekly (instead of monthly) to see what would happen.

Now at this point, we had all read about the stillness practice and we were all trying to "hear" Will. I was afraid that I would be the one to hear her, and that would not have been appropriate in my view. But I didn't have to worry. I didn't hear anything. I assumed that no one else did either, as no one called me.

At the next meeting I said, "Well, I guess no one heard from Will, so what do we do now?" I almost fell out of my chair when one of the women (the one from the Greenbriar apartments) said, "I heard from her and she gave me the following lesson to read at this meeting." The lesson was as follows:

Will: God the Father surrounds us, God the Father supports us, the love of the Father protects us. Wherever we are, He is. The Universe is designed so that those will creatures who have chosen the path to the Father may have every opportunity for growth and development. It is necessary at times to place before them challenges that necessitate decisions that nurture the soul within them. They make decisions that make the soul grow if they decide to do the will of the Father in Heaven.

We watch urgently as one of you falters and then finds a firm footing on steady rock. It matters not that the footing was shaky at first. What does matter is the final outcome. Be patient with yourselves as we are patient with you. God only knows how long it will take for you to

acknowledge your own weaknesses and turn to Him for support.

Some of you think you have the ability to tread the waters alone. Such is simply not the case. You must learn to rely upon the Father in all situations. Lean not to your own understanding, but call upon Him while He is near. He will be ever vigilant in helping you. Be not afraid, but rather confident in His love for you and His ability to see you through all problems you may face.

Once you are finally aware of the reliability of your heavenly Father, you will turn to Him first. There will be no need to spend even a moment in fear. Anxiety will pass you by and you will no longer be concerned about the future. Be not anxious about tomorrow. Sufficient is today and the troubles thereof. He is with you always."

That was in October, 1991. We have met weekly ever since. We have had numerous transmitters and people have come and gone, but we are still a vibrant group. We sponsored the Fayetteville Teaching Mission conference in 1995 and the Celestial Nights gathering in 1998 and 1999 at Cape San Blas. We published *The Center Within* to assist us in our long time desire to develop a spiritual center and perhaps a community focused on spiritual seeking. We have often been told that we have bonded like a family and I think that is true. There is a lot of love between the members of our group. I am proud to have been associated with them. We have all been transformed by this experience and, while it is a little unusual for this world, it has been wonderful.

The Mission as it Evolved in the Spokane Area

By Bob Devine

The Spokane Washington teaching mission began in 1992. My friend Doug and I had first heard about the teaching mission through the Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Urantia Book study

group in the spring of that year. We read transcripts from Daniel and then Ham and found the messages interesting. There was a lot of curiosity about the phenomenon since Rick and Barbara Giles had gone to meetings in Utah and were told that our group in Coeur d'Alene would receive a teacher. At the same time, many new people, including ourselves, joined the group, so the times were exciting.

As summer passed by, nothing in particular happened and some of the excitement dissipated. Transcripts from a teacher named Will arrived at the group and I remember taking a copy home to read in my spare time. The lessons seemed to have a different focus and hit me a little more squarely. Will was saying that anyone was capable of receiving a teacher through stillness and prayer, and she gave practical lessons that any person could attempt to perform in their daily lives. I don't know if the lessons were any more profound than others, but somehow they inspired me to attempt to strengthen personal time with God and to actually believe that I could make contact with spiritual sources.

For me, the first undeniable contact with a spiritual presence occurred on September 6, 1992, as I was jolted from a prayerful descent into sleep to a state where I was fully awake with energy pulsations moving throughout my body. These sensations lasted for approximately five minutes. I feel in retrospect, that my upreach and willingness to be of service, combined with my deep desire to know God's will for me in all of these things, led to a connection where God reached down and let me know without a doubt that I was loved, capable, and worthy of his participation in my life. The next day I began to ask questions and receive answers, such as "you are not alone", "do not be afraid", "patience, for it will take time", "love is the basis for all action", etc.

In October, I received a teacher who I later found out was called Aaron. My friend Doug also began to make

connections, and I found out a couple of others, Dahl and Sandy, had begun to have experiences with teachers, as well.

In December, with some effort by celestials and by a couple of others in the group, I agreed to try and transmit at a meeting, and thus a more directed teaching mission effort began in Coeur d'Alene, but that is another story and another group...

Along with Andy Gee and frequent visits to the Spokane Urantia Book study group by Rick and Barbara Giles, the Spokane teaching mission effort began in June of 1993.

To me, it seemed that the Coeur d'Alene effort built a strong foundation as it transitioned from one t/r to another and slowly developed a weekly lesson atmosphere with very dependable attendees, willing learners, and a strong and capable t/r. But if I had to characterize it, I think the Spokane group was more like the great experiment.

Beginning with two people at the first meeting and growing to more than twenty inside of two years, the Spokane group never had a single central t/r that lessons were given through. In the beginning there were two group t/rs and within a year there were four and there was a time in 1995 where more than a dozen of the members were capable and willing to t/r for the larger group. We often joked that there were more people willing to t/r at meetings than those who were not.

If there was a focus in our meetings, it was on interaction between the group and with the celestials. Aaron seemed to promote questions and answers more so than a particular lesson plan, although from time to time he discoursed at more length on various topics. I remember references to the relationship being more important than the words and intellectual ideas. Aaron seemed very friendly with everyone and lighthearted. I think he got around such, that it was difficult for me to consider him my private

teacher for long when everyone else was hearing from him throughout the week.

The Spokane group, in conjunction with Coeur d'Alene, sponsored the first national gathering in Cheney Washington in 1994. This was pivotal in the growth and development of the group, as there was a realization that we were capable of serving others and it was quite enjoyable and rewarding to those involved. We began to think more about service projects...

The entire group participated in an evening with the public on "Angels" in April of '95, and another time on "Revelation" in '96, and Coeur d'Alene sponsored an "Angel" evening that year, as well. The lessons came alive and there were opportunities to serve happening daily for everyone.

More teachers became involved in our group, a Melchizedek, a pair of archangels, many of the personal teachers, and all this caused us to expand our perceptions to the vastness of the project for this world.

If you look at the Spokane teaching mission today, it might seem like it was a shooting star that had its moment and then faded. The meetings happen only occasionally now, although many of the people commu-



Bob Devine at 1999 NW Team Conference.



NW TeaM Conference 1999, Wallowa Lake. Some of the NW Teaching Mission Family regulars.

nicate with each other and still get together during the Michael Celebration in Coeur d'Alene each August. But the reality is probably similar to other groups in the mission that grew strong and then diminished in visibility. The lessons took hold inside those who attended and after a time of enjoying fellowship with one another intimately for a period of years, each person was inspired to take their journey in whatever way seemed best for them.

The group served a purpose to bring an awareness of the universal relationship and an individual connection, and then those involved branched out to new avenues in life.

I moved to Pocatello Idaho in the fall of 1996 and am involved with the group here. As I talk with the members of the Spokane gang on occasion, I realize that the time we spent together was very special and bonding. No amount of distance separates the commonality we have together and I think we still like to think of each other as a group even though distance may separate our efforts. There's something cosmic about it all...

Tarkas Comes to Cincinnati

By Jim Cleveland
Cincinnati, Ohio

(Taken from Jim's book: "Celestials Over Cincinnati", in production from the Harp of God Foundation.)

The delegation of men and women from Indianapolis arrived to cordial greetings and introductions. I knew the designated transmitter/receiver, Michael, as a former administrator of the Urantia Brotherhood in Chicago. He was a calm, soft-spoken and sincere man.

These very normal-looking people had arrived at our study group in Cincinnati to introduce us to a teacher who had supposedly been assigned to us by the celestial hierarchy, at least according to celestial Welmek, the Indianapolis Teaching Mission teacher-in-residence). We had invited others to join our Urantia Book study group that night; members of the local Unitarian Church and a Course in Miracles study group.

The room settled to quietness and Michael sat calmly in an upholstered chair near the center of the expectant gathering, hands resting in his lap, surrounded by people who would hang on every word, several tape recorders running.

What, I wondered, would be the very first things these celestial visitors would want to tell us? Why are they here?

After a prayer from Father Bob, our retired Catholic priest and long time dedicated student of the Urantia Book, followed by a moment of silence, Michael, eyes closed, in perfect calm, began to speak, slowly, deliberately, a few words at a time.

"Greetings to all of you. My name is Tarkas. I am part of this Teaching

Mission that has been commissioned by Michael and Father Himself to help bring spiritual peace, spiritual solace to your troubled planet." The words were measured and peaceful.

"If you could see all of the beings, all of the help that is coming to your world and all the worlds that were part of the rebellion ... you would not believe how immense, how much of an effort is being brought to your planet to help heal all of the problems that you have had.

"I understand that this may seem somewhat strange to most of you. I ask only that you listen and ask within your own hearts and minds to ask your own divine guidance. If what you hear is true, if you believe that it is, then I encourage you to come to continuing sessions. If you believe that it is not true, in the long run, in the eternal sense, it makes no difference. The Father's love for you is as great no matter what you might decide. I simply ask that you keep an open mind and that you listen for our Father's guidance.

"I will leave much time this evening for your questions. But I would first like to talk about the nature of this mission and what it is that we are trying to accomplish. Our purpose is not to take the place of Father within your life. The Father is your ultimate guide. We would never be so presumptuous to do that. Our purpose rather is to help you grow in your understanding and your contact with the Father. No matter what it is that you do, there is a learning process, and you must learn to develop and to grow spiritually, just as you do mentally and physically.

"What we are here to do is to provide some help for you. We are your teachers. As you struggle and you have questions, we are your tutors, your counselors, your teachers. We believe that by doing this we can help you in your spiritual growth. The more you grow spiritually, the more you are able to allow our Father's love to flow through you so that others may see

His love within you, the sooner the benign virus of love can spread to all of this planet.

“We do not have enough people involved in this mission to work with every single individual on this planet, so our goal is to teach and help you, in hopes that you, in turn, will be of service to your brothers and sisters, and again show forth our Father’s love so that they might be attracted to you; they might come to groups such as this. Can you imagine for a moment if every human on this planet were meeting in a group such as this to discuss spiritual growth and progress once a week or once every two weeks? Can you imagine how quickly things would change on this planet? Now things are accelerating, but there is much, much work to do, and there seem to be so few laborers.

“I would suggest that this is an opportunity for you; an opportunity to grow, and an opportunity to serve your brothers and sisters as you grow. In the universe, whatever you learn, you must turn and teach it to others. This is the way of growth. We are here to help the spiritual growth on this planet, but we may not interfere with your human will. We can help you, we can guide you, we can teach you techniques and methods that will bring you closer to the Father, but we cannot do it for you. You must do it. You must make the choices. But again, we can help you grow more quickly.

In all that you do, I wish to assure you that despite the difficulties and problems on your world, our Father and the entire Universe of Universes is dominated by love. You simply have no idea of the love and the beauty that awaits you. I hope that we will have many future opportunities. I will stop now with my words and will entertain your questions.”

Question: I would like to know about you. Would you tell us a little more about yourself?

Tarkas: It is not our purpose for me to

reveal much about myself, and it has little to do with our mission. However, having been a human at one point, and having worked on several missions with humans on worlds such as yours, I understand your natural curiosity, and I appreciate your sentiment of friendship, and wanting to know something about me personally. I am from what your text describes as this local universe. On my world I was a teacher of children of an adolescent age. I was married and I had three children of my own.

The world I came from, as with most of the teachers involved in this mission, was already settled in light and life. It is very difficult for you to imagine a world like this. I had so many opportunities that are not so prevalent on your world. On my world, it was natural to grow up with everyone wanting to love you and to do what was best for you. The knowledge of our Father and of our universe was assumed and understood. There were no wars; we had evolved beyond these types of problems.

I know this sounds somewhat utopian to you, and in a relative sense it is, but yet I also want to assure you that many of us in a sense envy, in the best sense of the word, you and your opportunity to be on this planet. As you progress through the universe,

you will find that people will continue to grow and continue to develop, but their needs are not so great. There are not so many who need such dramatic help. You here have the opportunity to help someone every day of your life, even if it is a kind smile, a kind word. These are things that mean something to the people that you meet each day, let alone the opportunity to bring them into meetings or to discuss with them the opportunity for them to grow more spiritually or to grow closer to Father.

On our worlds, the needs were not so great, and so, the opportunities for service to each other, while always there, were not so dramatic. So, in one sense, your lives are more difficult but at the same time, your opportunities are so great. That is all of the information that I wish to reveal about myself at this time.

Question: Many of us have been studying The Urantia Book and also A Course in Miracles, And we find that many of the points that you listed in your introduction that we wish to obtain and gain in spiritual growth are contained in these books also. Do you have anything in particular that you would like to tell us this evening about either of these two revelations?



Famous NW skit about TRing – performed by Bob, Rick, Daniel and Jill at the NW Team Conference 1996 in Wilsonville, Oregon.

Tarkas: What is important is that you are a seeker of truth. I will say that the text of the Urantia Book is the most advanced teaching that you have on this planet and is the most complete teaching. But yet, how could the truth all be contained in one book? There is truth in the Course. There is truth in many books. There is truth in many people. Every day is an opportunity to seek a greater understanding of truth.

There is little value in worrying about the source or what particular avenue the truth comes from, whether it is from the Urantia Book or the Course, or the Bible, or whatever source. What is important is that you seek to understand what is true. What is also important is that you do not limit yourselves in your opportunities to seek truth. If someone were to think that all truth were contained in The Urantia Book they would be very limited in their understanding. And so it is with the Course, and so it is with any book or person.

You may meet a stranger tomorrow, and if you engage in conversation you might find that person says something that rings very true to your heart and your soul. My point is; never put any boundaries or limitations. Open yourself always to truth, no matter where it might come from. If you find some differences in some of the ideas, put them on a shelf in your mind, and do not let them become barriers, for you will find that the truth, the real truth will be the same no matter from what source you find it.

Question: Did you choose our group here because we have something special to do for the Father?

Tarkas: Every individual in every group has something special for the Father. We volunteer to come to this world to participate in this mission. It is well known among the worlds of this universe, and many seek this as an opportunity to greatly enhance their own growth and to fulfill their desire to serve. When we arrive, with our advisers, we discern what groups

are available, and which ones we feel we would be best in helping to teach and guide them. For me, my assignment and my choice was your group.

There were several other questions asked. One of them was A question about Alzheimer's disease.

Tarkas: You cannot know how much it saddens us when we come to this world and we see the disease and the famine, and the suffering that exists on this world. It is, no matter how much we think we were prepared for it, beyond what we could understand until we actually see it.

I can only comment in a general way. I and my associates are here as part of this Teaching Mission. There are others who have been sent who will help with your planet of disease, who will help in other political and social arenas. But I am not permitted to discuss with you the nature of their work or how they go about it. I can only reassure you that much help is coming to your world.

It is difficult in a situation with such a disease to know about the clarity of a person's mind. If you feel there are times when you are speaking to your mother and her mind is clear, I would say that you must tell her how much you love her, and that you know that in time when she wakes up on the mansion worlds, that her mind will be normal, and that you will awaken there with her and that she has a beautiful life ahead of her, and reassure her how much God, our Father loves her. Whether or not you will see cures for such diseases in your lifetime, I cannot say. I can only say that in time, it will happen.

Question: Tarkas, we here in Cincinnati, this group, is very interested and would love to have you or one of your associates come to us on a regular basis. I am wondering if you could tell us when we could begin hearing from you regularly. Is there someone in our group that can receive and transmit what you are saying?

Tarkas: Thank you for asking that

question. As you might imagine, I am anxious to begin my work. I wish to say several things. I have been and will continue to work with different individuals to help prepare them to perform the function of transmitter/receiver that Michael is now performing. If any of you feel that this is something that you would wish to do, let me say these things. First, you must understand that there is no special spiritual status associated with this. It is really based upon your willingness to fulfill this function to help your brothers and sisters. All of those who perform this function must continue to grow at this and develop as everyone else. You must want this. You must make a certain level of commitment to do this. If this is your desire, then I would suggest that you pray, and that you seek guidance about this.

Learn to seek our Father in worship. When you worship, give thanksgiving to our Father, talk with him and try to feel His love flow through you. If, at that time, you feel that it is your desire to help in this mission, then ask for contact with myself or with a teacher and after you ask this question, pause and try to still your mind and listen. If you feel that you have some contact, if you feel that you hear my words in your mind, then I would encourage you to have a tape recorder nearby and simply speak whatever comes into your mind.

Do not engage your mind. Do not worry. Do not be fearful. Simply allow yourself to vocalize the words that flow into your mind. Afterwards, you can then play back this tape, and then you can make your assessment; if you believe it is your own mind, or you believe it is true, and has truth content to it. It is a growing process. It takes a while to become comfortable with this process But that is what is required. Everyone has that potential. It is a matter of learning to still your mind, and a matter of your willingness to perform this function for the group. Are there further questions about this?

Question: Is there a need for us to protect ourselves in some way?

Tarkas: And what would you be protecting yourself from?

Answer: Negative spirits.

Tarkas: I will say that the planetary rebellion has ended. All of the beings who participated in the rebellion have made their choice. The adjudication of the rebellion is over. I can assure you that there are no evil spirits associated with this mission. There is nothing to be protected from. However, you must make this decision within yourself, and by seeking your own guidance.

Let me say to the entire group that what I wish you to begin this evening to work on is to begin seeking the stillness. To worship daily. I know that you read this in books, and I know that you all say, yes, that is important. But I cannot tell you how important it truly is. If you want to feel the presence of God, if you want to feel at peace within yourself, you must learn to practice worship on a daily basis. You must seek to see our Father as the most loving, the most wonderful being you can possibly imagine.

He knows you intimately. He knows everything about you. There is no one who could understand you more. There is no one who could be more loving and understanding, and merciful towards you. Each day talk with the Father about your life, your hopes, your concerns,. But also listen for His response. Thank Him each day. Try to feel His love in your life each day."

(Notes from Jim Cleveland's Forward:)

In years to come, Tarkas continued to teach the group basic spiritual lessons, how to pray specifically for others, how to give anger and resentment to Father; how to feel God's love and find forgiveness. Each cluster of sentences turned into golden nuggets of insight and inspiration.

This session was in December, 1992. "Celestials over Cincinnati" carries it forward into national networking, liaison with celestial artisans and visits with such celestial personalities as Machiventa Melchizedek, Abraham, Bakim, Elisha, Welmek, Nero, a novice named Lester, and our savior and creator, Christ Michael.

At this writing, in 1999, the Cincinnati group continues to meet regularly with a new transmitter and a mission project of introducing the Urantia Book to a local Unity Church.

In nearby Columbus, a thriving group hears regularly from their teacher, Anatalia and actively studies the Urantia text as well.

In Indianapolis, Michael and Donna Painter, along with myself and others, continue to build the Stillness Foundation as a bridge to conventional churches, and as a bridge that joins Eastern Meditation with Western style worship and prayer to develop a personal relationship with God and to obtain a personal spiritual teacher. Donna is a spiritual healer.

At our tri-city gatherings, we enjoy a special kind of loving camaraderie that is marvelous to experience. The Teaching Mission has truly become a widespread network of the heart.

The Transmitting/Receiving Process

By Gerdean

TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING THE WORD

It has been said that when the student is ready, the teacher will come. And certainly that is the case for those who seek. But sometimes a good teacher will come even before you know you need a teacher, in order to whet your appetite for truth, in order to companion you until such time as you realize that you hunger and thirst for truth and righteousness. Such is the case with many, and how fortunate we are that trustworthy teachers are availing themselves through the good graces of the Divine One and even manifesting His love in lessons in language we can all understand.

The Father reaches down to His children as we reach up to Him, and thus there is communion and communication.

UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF SECONDARY MIDWAYERS



NW TeaM Conference 1996 Wilsonville, Oregon.

THE TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING EXPERIENCE

My experience in communicating with celestial personalities began in 1968 shortly after my neighbor Alan and I were introduced to The Urantia Book. He was contacted by a spirit personality who identified himself as a secondary midwayer. These unique beings, midway between mortals and angels, are our nearest of kin; they assist in the spiritual and semi-spiritual work on the planet. They are able to make contact with certain favorably constituted mortals and are an essential factor in liaisons between the spiritual and the material levels.

When it became known that we had been contacted by such a being, appearing to be friendly and asking that we call him "Jack" so that we could appreciate his commonality with us as cousins of the realm, we invited him into our lives and our hearts and minds. Even with minuscule understanding of what we were about to embark upon, we embraced the companionship of this delightful midwayer who engaged us over a course of many years in order to allow us to learn to focus our thoughts on more spiritual matters. In the process, he helped us to perceive the relative importance of our material concerns, and also gave great depth of understanding in our myriad emotional concerns.

Jack said his efforts were to compensate for the Lucifer rebellion. He had not participated in the rebellion, but he was attempting, along with other members of his order of United Midwayers, to make up for the deficiencies resulting therefrom. He frequently alluded to an upcoming event or era "just around the corner" in which, he said, we would go to school and one of the first courses would be Human Associations 101 -- and that was, "Guess what? The brotherhood of man!" Although Jack was not free to give us details of this future occurrence, he assured us we

would know it when it arrived.

In 1983, when Alan moved abroad, I was bereft to lose the association of this beloved secondary midwayer.

ACKNOWLEDGE THE OPENING OF THE CIRCUITS

In 1991, I was in Albuquerque, New Mexico, reading and studying The Urantia Book with one Jeremiah, a scientist from Woods Cross, a town north of Salt Lake City, Utah. Jeremiah had been an avid reader for several years. He not only attended our regular weekly session, but he drove all the way to Utah to attend their meetings also, receiving lessons from a supernal personality. Immediately upon hearing this, I knew that what Jack had prophesied had indeed come to pass.

This Teacher, who identified himself as Ham, made an announcement to the General assembly of the Urantia Fellowship and other interested persons at a semi-annual General Council meeting in Los Angeles on February 2, 1992. I, along with a smattering of others in the avant garde, gathered in radiant joy to witness the announcement of Ham that our planetary isolation had ended. We were entering into The Correcting Time. The Lucifer rebellion had ended and much work would be required now in order to put Urantia back on course. The circuits would be opening and teachers would be arriving in order to heal our world from the effects of Lucifer's insidious legacy. (See page 7, "Ham's Message -- Welcome to Change")

Although this unorthodox announcement caused great consternation for many, there were those of us who felt struck in the harmonic convergence of our souls, our very beings, that this was indeed truth, and a host of us committed ourselves then and there to contribute our efforts toward this noble end. This supreme effort would

bring about an era of spiritual renaissance wherein we would begin to prepare a place befitting a second coming of Our Master, Christ the King.

PUT IN A REQUEST FOR A TEACHER

Thrilled to think that now we could ALL benefit from the ministry and counsel of such as Jack, our Albuquerque group put in a request for a teacher, as did many others. In July of 1992, I received this message from Ham by way of Jeremiah:

"The request has been received. This request starts in motion the interaction of teacher acquisition and preparation of mortal functionaries. We are pleased this group requests a teacher."

At that time Jeremiah, who had resigned his lucrative position as a scientist, relocated back to Woods Cross to devote himself to the Teaching Mission, as this movement came to be called. He urged me to consider having a private meeting with Teacher Ham when I came to Pocatello, Idaho, to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of Jesus, the week-end of August 21, 1992, in company with fellow-believers. He suggested that I spend some time thinking about what I would like to ask this Teacher.

When the time was propitious, I settled into my rocking chair in the living room and put my mind to the task of selecting the questions I would ask of this supernal teacher. I had many questions, but I had learned, in studying with Jack, that the more succinct the question, the more poignant the response. So

I pondered carefully and one of the questions that finally emerged was, "Could I say hello to Jack?" As soon as my mind had formulated the question, I could feel Jack's familiar and undeniable personality presence in

my very living room. My spirit reached out to enfold him. As I wept for joy, I said to him, "Oh, Jack! I have missed you so!" and I felt him return my embrace.

This reunion with my friend Jack was utter confirmation and proof positive that Ham and his mission was bona fide. When I subsequently met with Ham, he confirmed that Jack was a secondary midwayer in the Advance Corps to work with mortals during the period of perfecting the process of transmitting and receiving communications between mortals and supernals. Ham also told me: "Seek and you are sought!"

BEGIN WITH THE PRACTICE OF STILLNESS

With the newly opened circuits, it was possible now for any of us to contact these Supernals. I occupied myself in the practice of Stillness, mastering the ability to attain quiet for the body, the mind and the emotions so that the spirit could fertilize the soul. Many times during each week I sought Stillness, seeking the peace which passes all understanding, listening for the still small voice, finding many things appear in my mind's eye to ponder and pray over and relinquish, many things to weed through in finding that clear and clean heart Center within.

In time I began to feel that over and above the psychic housecleaning, I was receiving impressions, as if to say: "Hello. I see you. Come. Be with Me. Fear not. You are loved. Be not afraid. Rejoice. You are not alone." These confirmations and reassurances blossomed in my soul and my meditation sessions began to bear fruit. I was now able to engage in what might be called automatic handwriting. I began receiving wonderful encouraging messages from various orders of celestial beings and other spiritual teachers. One told me: "Automatic handwriting is not automatic. It involves a conscious decision on the part of the will creature which connotes a willingness to receive. It involves another intelli-

gence as well."

HONOR THE MIND ARENA OF CHOICE

Early in 1993, word came by way of Teacher Welmek in Indianapolis that a Teacher Tomas had been "temporarily assigned to the Albuquerque area." Since, with Jack I had been the one to ask questions, I looked outside of myself, assessing my friends and neighbors as to whether or not they might be the one who would be the transmitter for this new teacher.

One evening in my meditations the word "read" appeared vividly in my mind's eye. I regarded that as an instruction, so once again I looked outside of myself and said, "What do they want me to read?" After rifling through myriad pages looking for an answer, the revelation came that I was favorably constituted to be a mouthpiece for this teacher if only I had the courage or the conviction or the faith or whatever it was to believe that I could be called to do such a service. Thus began a grappling with the human ego and with faith.

In response to my concerns, I received the message: "For you to wish to be less egoistic is error. What is needed is for you to become less self-conscious and more willing to go where you are encouraged to go by the Wayshower. Lean not upon your own understanding, your own interpretation of what is required of you. Allow the spirit to work with you and through you. Become part of the flow of the Living Water. You will not drown. He will not let you fall."

It was vital for me to realize that T/R'ing is not the same as trance-channeling. In transmitting/receiving, the mortal does not give up his/her will. They/we are consciously present and are not asked to transmit something we cannot believe in or agree with. To the Indwelling Adjuster, free will is sacrosanct. Nothing can interfere with our free will. As such, the Teachers as presented in the Teacher Corps of the

Teaching Mission will never take over our personality. No one enters our consciousness without our cognizant cooperation. They utilize our language center and vocal chords in an act of co-creation.

ASK FOR PERMISSION TO SERVE AND FOR DIVINE OVER-CARE

Even with these words of assurance, in my humanness and in my conditioning, it was natural for me to be mindful of the dangers of evil spirits. I took this matter to The Master in prayer and the sensation I received, along with His very loving embrace, was that, as His child, doing The Father's will with sincerity and consecration, I was to put those concerns behind me, for in my relationship with divinity, I would be guided and protected – presuming that my motives were always clearly focused on doing Our Father's will.

It was very gratifying to be reminded



Gerdean

of that. It is always very gratifying to know spiritual truths. There are some things that waver back and forth and that change as we change, that grow in application as we grow in wisdom, but there are certain truths that are simply KNOWN. This is the Spirit of Truth. Granted, our perceptions may be faulty, and we may err, but when we have appropriate motive, we may be forgiven our error. And I looked back to what I had learned from Jack and I could find no error in what I had learned from him. And so, I asked Our Father if I could serve in the capacity of a transmitter/receiver of this Teacher who had been temporarily assigned to the Albuquerque area.

TAKE THE LEAP OF FAITH

Sufficiently readied by and through many other minor mechanical adjustments to my circuits, and many hours of counsel from On High, I was given the opportunity, on February 14, 1993, to take the leap of faith. Emerging from Stillness, I opened my mouth and heard the words of Jack say:

“0802-AB Jack here. Greetings, Gerdean. It is a pleasure as always to greet you. It is always a joy that you seek communications with me or the others who seek to comfort, to edify you. It is a simple process to make contact with the First Source and Center, to live the life, to reach for and see the words that encourage you and sustain you in your path. It would be my pleasure, inasmuch as you trust me, to introduce you to your Teacher Tomas, who has volunteered to teach you temporarily in the Albuquerque group and whom you have connected with in your writings before.”

I felt Jack move off to the right and another presence move in to the left and then I read the words aloud as they appeared in my mind’s eye, one at a time:

“Greetings, my daughter and faithful pupil. I am Tomas. I am your friend. I am your companion. And I am pleased that you allow your system to acquaint yourself with me in this way.

You see, you are a set of vocal chords which you have long sought. Your vocal chords will do fine.”

REMEMBER IT IS NOT AN EVENT BUT A PROCESS

For long months I received a steady stream of counsel and instructions on how to handle myself as a transmitter/receiver. “Some time will evolve before you are familiar and comfortable and confident of the processes we are undertaking. You need not feel pressure to suddenly be propounding truths and revelations. It is not expected that you be unaware of what is transpiring. It is only expected, since you have given your permission, that we may utilize you to further teach and espouse the messages and the words and the love of Christ Michael, our Father/Brother and Creator, who is also here this evening, as you know. There will be times when you will feel

you need to interject or superimpose your thoughts, as you are accustomed to your thoughts emanating from your own mouth. However, the thoughts that will issue forth, although not yours originally, will become yours as you too will learn, as you trust, as you listen, as you follow instructions and practice this process.” As noted, transmitting/receiving is a process. It is wonderful to be able to serve in this capacity and to be a part of the community that joys in the loving association of sons and daughters of the living God. It is a law of the universe that what you have received, you must give away. And so those of us, both teachers and students, who have received so much, yearn for a way to give back. These words are a gift of love offered through the process of transmitting and receiving, but they are only good if they are put into practice. It’s not that we “read” the word. It’s what we do with The WORD that matters.

Teacher Tomas went on to teach in tandem with Teacher Daniel in Pocatello, Idaho, for two years before he was assigned to his own Teacher Base in Western Pennsylvania where we continue to serve today.

GUIDELINES FOR PROSPECTIVE TRANSMITTERS

This is an ability that is developed, as any art or skill is developed. The above is the history of my personal experience, but the specifics of the art I practice are as follows:

1. I secure the environment.
2. I still the body and the mind.
3. I ask Michael, our Creator, to be part of the session, to guide us so that we might learn what He would have us learn, to show us the way of divine love; and then
4. I ask Him to lead me into the presence of The Father.
5. In the Center, I honor The Father.
6. I instruct my ego to become very small.
7. I connect my energies with the prevailing spirit circuits and generally acknowledge the assistance of those present.
8. I await the perception of otherness that reveals itself as a personality presence.
9. I give permission for them to utilize my equipment; and
10. I speak the word that appears then in my mind’s eye.

Once a few words have been uttered, I am as much a student as anyone, observing the Teacher, detached. Once the Teacher has the session in hand, the words no longer appear; the Teacher is teaching and we are listening, learning - sitting at the feet of the Teacher much like the apostles must have sat at the feet of Jesus, learning anew the gospel of the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man.

My experiences with Pre-Teaching Mission Contact

By Delores Dinsmore

A bird does not sing because he has an answer. He sings because he has a song. – Joan Walsh Auglund

It takes an open mind, and perhaps a hungry heart, not to mention Courage ... to go beyond the belief structures held in common understanding.

Winter 1985, Contact with a Midwayer, LK, or Elca, who was assigned to work with the Progress Helpers:

LK: Understand that we will enlighten various souls according to the desire of hearts in understanding. The Spirit is your guide and your constant means of bringing the peace of the true Father to the blessed ones of the universes. Keep the Light of God lit in your hearts and He will find you easily amidst the dark ones.

Question: I don't like to think there are dark ones, though. Isn't everyone invited into Michael's kingdom?

LK: Yes, but in reality they have shut out their light. We will gather wills again. Be ready for further work with us.

Question: We are curious about what you call the Morontia Will Gatherings?

LK: Morontia Will Gathering is the way to the will of God. It is where we become truth-sayers in this work. We learn what else we can tell the creatures who seek the will of God more than anything else. It is why you were chosen to go. We will help you remember what you learned there. Make sure you are willing to try to keep it to your private knowledge only for awhile, as more needs be done before we are ready to provide the planet with further revelation. It will be up to you. Michael of Nebadon is ready to talk to you.

Michael: Yes. Trust that I am with you always. This will be the Truth-love in our relationship. Have perse-

verance in this gift of faith that I am working with you and through you for the peace of Urantia. We can make a difference in the quality of spirit life here. I know the trials are many.

Question: All these spirits and the groups of people we find in dreams that we are working with...what is the purpose of all these groups coming together?

Michael: We will further the progress of Urantia and those Lovers of God will pass the light of unfolding patterns of creation to will creatures. Keep this work in sacred light. Trust, for its purity will be important to the followers of divine order. Love Michael.

LK: Michael loves only. Accept that as truth as we love you only, too. Behave with the work of the oracle since it is true to you, lighting your way joyously through the darkness. Heal at every chance for spirit to work and be on your way if the gifts of healing are not accepted. We will help you all you need.

Lightly find your way among the spirits of the world. In this you will find love in its greatest abundance. Make it love that penetrates the core of your beings. Greater will become your ability to help those in need of collecting their spirits into loving Lights of God. It will happen that Light and Life will come to Urantia. Greater souls are your constant guides. Keep them in lightness and trust in their truths.

Some background information:

I started seeking the Father when I was 18 and enrolled in Yogananda's Self-Realization correspondence course in 1969. After graduating from the first year, one had to choose a teacher to continue to the next level. Since Jesus wasn't on the list, I found I could not put my spiritual journey into any other hands and I quit. But Yogananda had said about meditation: Is ten minutes of your day too much to give to Him who gives you everything?" This particular remark

stayed with me in my heart.

Later, in 1984 a friend and I decide that maybe an hour a week would not be too much to give to the Father who gives us everything. My mother, Annamay Pollard, and I had been readers of The Urantia Book for about 10 years and the third, a woman who chooses to remain anonymous, was a beginner with The Urantia Book. Annamay volunteered the use of her home and we advertised in the newspaper, inviting interested "God-seekers" to come together for an hour a week, to make our lives available to the Will of the Father. Nobody came, of course. We quit advertising but decided to meet together for meditation and eventually we began to get contact.

It was very exciting. We were contacted by a number of beings identifying themselves by familiar names from The Urantia book. We were given loving and grateful messages for what we were doing, opening up our lives to God's will. These personalities involving themselves with us included a Melchizedek, an Ancient of Days, Mighty Messengers, Angels of the Second Order, a being called 123-the-First, a personality who called himself Light of Lights, and the Holy Spirit Mother, as well as Michael himself on frequent occasions. We even got a message from God the Father once, (through our Thought Adjusters I believe). They gave us gentle messages of hope and talked much about Light and the changes coming to the hearts of god



Delores at the NW TeaM Conference 1999.

seekers on this planet.

They told us in February 1985, that the Lucifer adjudication was over, that Lucifer had chosen self-destruction and “so poignant was the testimony of Adam and Eve on behalf of your planet that the rebels came to see the full effects of the destruction they had wrought”. When we asked, we were given information that both Satan and Caligastia were on a prison world awaiting final decisions about their fate. Michael of Nebadon was now the reigning King of Urantia, a new dispensation had occurred, but we were to keep all of this information secret. They told us the Urantian circuits were reopening, the Quarantine was being lifted; the isolation was over. They wanted us to commit some specific time in which to meet together and do what they called “broadcasts”. By the time Spring of 1985 rolled around, we were making bi-weekly contact, receiving messages under the supervision of a being identifying himself as LK, a midwayer assigned to supervise these experiments.

They asked us to try to see them in dreams. I think that was primarily to try different ways to contact human minds, to learn just how we are different from the humans on other planets. Urantia civilization developed in isolation and they needed to investigate how our evolution caused our brains to function or dysfunction here due to the default and the loss of the biological uplift. It is still a bit confusing to me about what it all meant. I expect I will be able to get my answers once I get to the Morontia planes myself and I am not too concerned about trying to explain it all here. But one particular question about a dream involved objects that looked like two computers hooked together. When asked, LK explained that it was how I perceived the Morontial craft that was lifting us up into the light beyond the isolation barriers in the dream states. It was an experiment to see how that quality of light would effect us. It was a good thing apparently, the exposure to the loving energies of the Morontial

planes from outside our dark little bubble of Urantia. They said that it made a tremendous difference in our ability to communicate with them, making it both easier and more natural. The contact messages became more complex in content.

We learned about conceptualizing ourselves as “light” in meditations, better health and connection. We were asked to give time for “receiving transmissions.” These devotions were to be used to assist in the testing of the broadcast network being repaired. The messages, much akin to some of the teachers’ lessons of today, were “sent out” along the newly opened circuits and were said to be reaching the hearts of other Lovers of God, preparing the ground for future events. We were told that what we were doing was new and very special and rare and would not be understood by the world. We were told not to tell anyone and not to expect any credit or recognition for it by the world. We agreed to volunteer to receive and transmit what they gave us and we learned the hard way that most people could not understand when we began to talk about it to them. It sounded so crazy. We surrendered to the idea of secrecy. However, there were a few spiritual souls whom we met who were also having personal contact and these people were a wonder to us. We felt it was a confirmation of our own experiences. After a year of this work, the tapes were essentially released to us to do with as we wished, but there was no directive to publish or to share it. They said the purpose had been served by the will of doing of it. Perhaps we may someday use the contents as part of a multimedia work, but as yet we have not decided how to present it.

Our experiments ended in the summer of 1986. It was difficult for me to learn how to live life again without such intense and constant connection with these spiritual friends. Although they were said to be available, it was harder for me contact them when I was alone. My group support was gone. I went through college at that time, and it seemed like a wilderness

journey, a spiritual drought, where I had to learn to rely on my persona truth-sense apart from direct links for uplift and inspiration.

When I stumbled onto to Teaching Mission in Oregon in 1992 I was amazed to find myself among people in touch with the very same flavor of love and connection as my early contact. It was unmistakable to me. I benefited from the excellent transmissions of Mark and Thea in the LinEl group. Such joy I felt at finding the grace and benevolence of the teachers, and finding other seekers who had responded to this experience! It felt like finding a spiritual family again. I was thrilled to learn about the plan of contact that the Father and Michael had devised, even as experimental as it was.

Here were Morontial Big Brothers and Sisters coming to the planet to help us heal from the rebellion and the default. I felt that I knew how to talk to these beings! When I asked them they knew my history and thanked me for my work of the past. Because of my prior experience I had no trouble accepting the T/R relationship. I did not suffer much doubt but welcomed it, indeed. THEY WERE BACK, the wise, invisible, trustworthy, friends, with helpers! They had not abandoned us! They returned and with a PLAN! The simple message of practicing stillness, Father contact, is ever a challenge but each attempt is a blessed 10 minutes cherished by God. Is it too much to ask?

Once during a Michael transmission, which I TRed, a group member asked, “When did the teaching mission start?”

Tears flowed as I felt Michael’s deep and profound love for us all as he answered. He said he had begun making the plans for his teachers to come to us while he was still living here in his bestowal life! Then he apologized that so much time had passed since his promises to us, but he wanted us to understand that he had returned as quickly as he could,

in truth it was only a few days, by his Universal Time.

As I understand it, Urantia and the other rebellion spheres, will forever stand as a lesson to future world's about just what can happen when the Father's plan is usurped and rebellion is allowed to run its course. There will be no question about the outcome ever again. At this point, the reclamation has begun and we have unprecedented help at hand for the necessary changes we each personally must choose to make which will bring our troubled world to promised joy, as the Father so wills...even on earth as it is in Heaven. Has that not been our prayer, which Michael himself gave to us: Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven! The down-reaching has begun. The up-reaching is our part. Blessed are those with eyes to see and ears to hear. Blessed are those willing to test the faith and examine the doubts. Amen!

THE TRANSMITTING PROCESS MEETING WITH ABRAHAM

Woods Cross Group
April 4, 1999

TR: Nina
Present: Calvin, Samuel, Rachel, Miriam, Ellen and Nina (Eleanor)

I am Abraham. Welcome. I thank you for coming.

(omitting the part of the transmission not pertaining to the "Transmission Process.")

Believe me when I say – worry not, these lessons are within your comprehension. To take notes on your understanding of morontial vision is to understand the inter-workings of it. To live and experience this morontial sense is further training on your morontial path. At times, you can wonder why you comprehend things your fellows do not. This is indeed exercising your morontial vision – a proceeding with the higher mind that is within you.

I can confirm that these morontial

senses can be felt physically. The mechanisms within the human brain are electrically connected to the universal circuits that allows your morontial training, and as evolution changes material life, will these morontial connections become more natural and hardly be noticed. Continue to study your understanding of morontial vision and personal correction.

I have again been instructed to move the next phase of our lesson – "the transmitting process."

This area of learning--this method of communication--has been likened to a vehicle spinning out of control. Some that transmit attempt to correct this spinning by imposing their own thoughts while others attempt to turn inward toward the direction of the transmitting momentum. I can impart to you my understanding on this communication process, but certainly, my understanding is not quite complete. Individuals receive messages through various ways whether it is through sound, thought, or it is perceiving through morontial vision. There are a few factors that I can help you with to gain more accuracy.

The FIRST FACTOR is the act of releasing personal desires. You already understand how personal desires color transmission. We can go back to the act of the laying down of one's life; the act of desiring NOT to desire; the commitment to drink the cup, to be within Father's will. Should Father have a message for me - so be it!. If not - so be it! Yes.

The 'transmission process' is practically useless if one is seeking attention or popularity. This is FACTOR TWO. A desire for self-glory or fame is a direct disconnection from the spirit – completely understood by Father of course, and a part of the mortal experience – but nonetheless, a disconnection.

Many who have picked up the 'transmitting process' have usually done so through the exercises in humility. To be small is an invitation to accuracy. A good transmitter detests any praise

from listeners or credit. A well balanced transmitter understands the wisdom spoken is not their own. I will choose to stop here. I would resume our lesson on the 'transmitting process' next week.

We seem to be very much business oriented as of late, and I do mean to say... that even though we are busy with these lessons, I still enjoy your company very much. I count you each to be among my friends. Your personalities are unique and your friendship is quite valuable to me.

I would express my deep affection for you each. I will work with you, each one, on our latest morontial sense during the week. Until next week, shalom.

MEETING WITH ABRAHAM
WOODS CROSS GROUP
APRIL 11, 1999

TR: Nina
Present: Calvin, Rachel, Miriam, Ellen, Nina, Melissa, Ashley and friend, Loreen, Anthony, Claireesa.

(Author's note: Also present, until the time of Abraham's transmission, were Michael and Sandy --- recent newcomers to our Woods Cross Group about 6 to 8 months ago. Sandy had gone to Sedona, Arizona a couple week prior and had concluded from the ACC's persuasions and materials that Abraham and the teachers in the Teaching Mission were "fallen midwayers" who taught nice things to keep us from the truth as taught in Sedona, Arizona. Sandy had succeeded in convincing Michael of her findings. Both Sandy and Michael nicely tried to persuade our group that we were in error. The group individually responded with love and kindness to their freewill choosing and left the door open for their someday to return to our weekly meetings. Michael and Sandy left with us--for our consideration –

some copies of ACC warnings and “Planetary Prince” messages from Tony of Sedona, along with some additional “Papers” – “additions to the Urantia Book” as the Aquarian Concepts community believe. We each said we would read the ACC material and discuss our individual findings the following week. Just prior to Abraham’s transmission - hugs were exchanged - Michael and Sandy kindly excused themselves from the meeting.)

CONTINUING FACTORS ON TRANSMITTING

(Factors 1 & 2 in previous lesson)

I am ABRAHAM. Be at ease my children. Worry not. Your unshakable faith and firm dedication lead you forward. I can assure you that my mission has always been to help you communicate with your own Indwelling Father. Be not offended because someone has brought your inner knowingness out in front of your face. Give gratitude to Father, for His watch-care over you has been well planned out. This live example this evening takes us into our lesson. We seek to teach you this transmitting process to allow you access to Internal divine truths. When there is not trust in your own inner knowingness you tend to rely upon the words of others. You search and still you thirst.

FACTOR THREE teaches us that the transmission process is for our own personal growth towards our divine Father. To understand this morontia sense activates the internal compass to search within, to measure what you believe spiritually with what you know logically. All mortals utilizing the transmission process certainly must weigh your messages with your intelligence.

Father is intelligence. He would not ask that you sacrifice anything for His divine favor – no. Father would not bid you to engage in illogical risks while leading you on the path of your eternal career, no. We will make errors in the transmission process--no

doubt.

Father and Mother have granted you intelligence that may be used to filter your messages through. Most of the time you cannot completely count on your fellows to loan you their intellectual knowledge of our divine messages. You have been granted the gift of mind, and we on the Teaching Staff full well expect you to utilize it, yes.

FACTOR FOUR is almost humorous in a way - where we have been practicing to erase the lines of time and space. Factor four deals with allowing time to see the fruits produced from your transmissions, yes. Those that give you comfort or wisdom are useful and producing values, yes. It is easy at times to push aside a transmitted message – believing it to have been your own thoughts. I say, time can help you discern if these messages hold value or not.

The purpose of learning to use this method of communication is to become acquainted with Father’s small voice within. As you practice and use your morontial vision you can see within your message if Father has indeed spoken.

FACTOR FIVE is simply taught to reduce the mysticism of transmitting. On the mansion worlds this process is thought of as natural. Perhaps at first some are amazed by it, and later learn that this process is quite practical.

Many look for signs that their mortal eyes cannot see that lend them faith. Some believe that mysticism brings signs which promote faith. This mysticism brings only temporary satisfaction. When the real truths come to the forefront do you find the mysticism to be unfulfilling and fleeting.

Solid transmitting brings with it lessons that may be used in everyday living. It is not showing the world--look what I am gifted at. It is not saying – I hold the answers, come to me! No. The transmitting process is personal... is communion with those who are on High. Yes.

I am stopping. I would say to each of you – your faith brings me each week. Your kindness leads me to adore you. Your dedication energizes me to keep on moving towards Michael’s goal. Yes. Thank you. As always, my love is with you. Shalom.

MEETING WITH ABRAHAM WOODS CROSS GROUP APRIL 18, 1999

TR: Nina

PRESENT: Claireesa, Ineara, Samuel, Harrison, Miriam, Ellen, Nina, Rachel, Calvin.

(Author’s note: We discussed the situation from the week prior. Michael and Sandy were not present. All unanimously agreed from our individual reading during the week that the ACC papers were not in harmony with the Spirit of Truth. We renewed our faith and confidence in our Indwelling Father – His personal guidance, our Spirit of Truth Teacher, and the mind intelligence provided by our Universe Mother. We all renewed our faith and appreciation in our teacher/friend-Abraham and in the goodness and reality of this Teaching Mission.) [Calvin’s summation]

THE TRANSMITTING PROCESS “DESIRE NOT TO DESIRE”

I am ABRAHAM. Greetings my friends. What a beautiful night in which to gather and partake of universal truths. How excellent it is when we view the Brotherhood working so naturally. Well done. Your faith and desire bring me each week. Your friendship brings me comfort. I am altogether thankful for my mission assignment, yes.

My friends, you have received these lessons per your request. You have demanded certain truths that have shaped our lesson format. You had experienced the full spectrum of the transmission process. Your conclusions were clear, your desire apparent. So it goes with your personal

transmitting/receiving – a divine message finds you how you are desiring it.

Your intentions shape your message. If you desire to be showered with praise and compliments, this will color your transmission. If you desire to be in the mysticism of divine realities, then this also tampers with the accuracy of transmitting.

We are not allowed in any manner or form to interrupt your free will thinking. We are not to persuade or have you conform to our teachings. So when you have intentions to receive certain messages, then we can only abide by that intention. Your accuracy in transmitting depends on what is acceptable to you.

Is the temporary moments of mystical occurrences acceptable over lasting eternal truths? Is praise and constant reassurance that you matter, acceptable over sincerely believing you are a divine child, Paradise-bound? Is self-aggrandizement or popularity acceptable over serving the whole? What is acceptable to you regarding this method of communication?

As a group, your intentions are known and you have received these lessons accordingly. As particular spiritual beings are just beyond your vision, so are these divine words sometimes not recognized for the form they are in. The Small Still Voice within requires time to recognize. Chances are, it is quite recognizable and too simple to believe – 'that could be it.'

Your most pure transmitted messages will come without much emotion or hesitation. They will be quite practical and acted upon with impulse – yes. Transmitted messages are to be thought of as un-extraordinary – completely natural. It would serve you well to desire NOT to desire when attempting to transmit.

This week I ask that you make time to journal and practice desiring not to desire. Release your expectations. I

should make my presence known to each of you during these practice sessions, yes. A few questions.

INEARA: (A question about using the 'candles' (battery-operated) in decision making when a transmitted message is forthcoming. Some have used this method in the Teaching Mission.)

ABRAHAM: This is completely your choice. We can see no harm in them other than it may distract you for a time. This is not to worry. Completely your choice.

HARRISON: (Harrison acknowledges he has 'candles' but they never come on. He doesn't put much faith in them.)

ABRAHAM: I am understanding. You receive messages adequately. There are moments in your enthusiasm and excitement that may keep you coloring the messages slightly but this is quite natural and with practice, and is easy to overcome. Desire not to desire to see results. You do well to dedicate each day to the doing of Father's will.

RACHEL: (Expresses the same sentiments as Harrison about the candles as a precursor to transmitting.)

ABRAHAM: These props are unnecessary and yet, harmless. As long as you view them as entertainment and not connected into the divine realities, yes.

MIRIAM: (A question about her connecting–transmitting/receiving. And a request for confirmation that her teacher 'Manfred' having returned to assist her recently.)

ABRAHAM: The teachers, or Father Fragments that guide you, are understanding of your techniques of grasping ideas. You do particularly well to receive lessons in analogies or in ways that produce visuals -- utilizing more than one morontial sense when receiving in this manner -- not only through thought but in the minds

eye. It is more complete understanding. It is as if your transmission process was in stereo – where what one morontia sense misses, the other can receive. Material beings do well with parables and analogies that are visual. This is completely natural for the transmitting process.

Yes, Manfred has recently returned. He does aid you in your understanding on the transmission process but also does he help you to shake off the mud in your wings, yes.

With that, I should take my leave. I am always grateful to meet with you and I know your love for the truth. We are similar in that way. I appreciate each one's unique being and I feel I have done an adequate job... but more so, I feel confident as a spiritual being. I am, as always, leaving you with my love. Until next week, shalom.

(The following is a response via email to the transcript of Abraham's lessons in the Woods Cross TM group which are to be found on starting on page 37, above.)

Factors in the Transmitting Process

By Thea Hardy

Thea in email: Thanks for the transmissions as always, Calvin! Wonderful stuff from Abraham on the TR process!

Abraham: "Your most pure transmitted messages will come without much emotion or hesitation. They will be quite practical and acted upon with impulse--yes. Transmitted messages are to be thought of as un-extraordinary--completely natural. It would serve you well to desire NOT to desire when attempting to transmit."

Thea in email: Yes, yes yes!!! This is so true. Just letting it happen - the acts are ours, the consequences God's - letting it come through without any attachment to it! Yes! Naturally, I don't always manage this, but for the most part, it does happen. And it's

actually much “easier” to transmit from this place. You are not part of the transmission - it really does come through you and you can sit and listen to it just as though you were another person in the room, and even think about what is being said at the same time it comes out of your mouth. It’s very astonishing, actually, and almost shockingly natural.

A humorous side note – I have been more effective at letting this happen when I let the teachers move my hands however each individual would wish. At first, my whole body was rigid, and I tried to keep from moving a muscle. I was utterly frozen, and my fingers curled up. But it’s actually much easier to completely let go. Serenia, my personal teacher, is a big gesturer. She describes concepts in the air with my hands. Other teachers also make gestures. And letting that happen is somehow natural, and I can put myself out of the picture as needs be. I thought at first it would be just the opposite, but it’s not.

Abraham: “FACTOR FIVE is simply taught to reduce the mysticism of transmitting.”

Thea in email: This one was particularly interesting to me because I had been told similar things long ago. I think it was confusing to people early on when I told them that pretty much anyone could learn to transmit, that it wasn’t something only “special” people could do. But I was only



Thea Hardy 1997

passing on what I had been told. It is a sensational faith journey, yes, but not anything bizarre. At first it seemed strange, but now it seems almost ordinary. And I don’t mean that in any negative sense. Just as excessive awe keeps us from natural relationships with the celestials, so does excessive mysticism keep us from the best lessons and blessings of the TR process. I so much appreciate Abraham’s words here, and also, as a human, appreciate personally the validation. Much of what I know from the teachers comes in personal conversations with them that are not recorded or put into any form that can be shared beyond just telling. This was one of those things, and it came at a time when trusting myself was difficult - as was said - what was me, and what was the teacher. But I thought it was important and tried to pass it on as best as I could. I wasn’t very successful at helping people understand that essentially all could learn to TR, but after all these years it’s still nice to feel a surge of comfort at the validation from “outside”.

Thank you again, Calvin. Abraham, I have already thanked, and appreciated the contact!

I suspect that on normal worlds, and mansonia, etc, the process may be somewhat different, or the connections better, because our deficiencies here on Urantia, both cultural and physiological, probably affect our reception capabilities.

Among other great things about TRing, Abraham said:

“...others attempt to turn inward toward the direction of the transmitting momentum....”

I think of this as the famous “one moment, please” moments! If you start to put out your own thoughts, and don’t stop to refocus, you soon become tongue-tied and things get very awkward. It’s my personal recommendation that you should never feel badly at having to stop and refocus. We are human. The best thing we can do when we realize that we have lost or weakened the connection for whatever reason is to not blame ourselves, but just stop,

and refocus toward the source. Unless you are particularly upset or something, this almost always works just fine. It doesn’t matter if it is you or the teacher who says “one moment please”. I believe that everyone on all levels will understand this without objection. And if you are new, and you lose the connection and can’t get it back, that’s happened to most of us in the early stages. Just don’t let it make you believe that you won’t ever get it again. of course you will! Just keep the faith, and know that even you as an imperfect human can help give voice to our beloved brothers and sisters.

Abraham: “Individuals receive messages through various ways whether it is through sound, thought, or it is perceiving through morontial vision.”

Thea in email: I find it fascinating how many different ways the messages can come through at the same time. For me, I have found over time that I can transmit better if I let the teacher move my hands to describe the concepts three dimensionally while the words come out. It’s odd, because they are not my gestures and I am not connected to them. But they seem to free up parts of my mind to allow the words to come through with less obstruction. I myself have visual images while transmitting, which is the main reason I close my eyes. It helps me focus better. Oftentimes after a session, those of us transmitting will talk about other things we felt and perceived that were not necessarily obvious from just the words - the images, feelings, concepts. It’s on such a grand scale and so vast and wonderful. Often those who haven’t transmitted have perceived other aspects of the message, and been aware of the presence of specific teachers.

Abraham: “Many who have picked up the ‘transmitting process’ have usually done so through the exercises in humility. To be small is an invitation to accuracy. A good transmitter detests any praise from listeners or credit. A well balanced transmitter understands the wisdom spoken is not their own.”

Thea in email: Honestly, I don't know how anyone can do this without humility. It's just a pretty much entirely humbling process. It's just so obvious that you yourself don't know these things. So, except for ordinary thanks for the effort, praise is pretty much silly. Praise or credit for what? Someone else's words? Someone else's knowledge? Yeah, if you want to TR for the ego boost, forget it. There really isn't one. It takes faith, humility, and a willingness to get your own self out of the way. After all, you can say all of your own stuff the rest of the time!

Another thing that happens to many of us now and then is that a teacher will speak through us under ordinary non-transmitting circumstances. I have said something, and realized immediately that it was not my own thought. It was *better* than my own thought. I think it's appropriate, maybe even necessary in terms of honesty, to say so. I simply say, "that wasn't mine - it came from LinEL", or whoever it came from, if I know. Otherwise, I am passing off knowledge that isn't my own as mine. In a way, it's fun. Things pop out that I didn't know. And I enjoy understanding things better. So when LinEL said through me in a conversation with Delores the other day that "Addiction is reality avoidance." I told Delores it wasn't my thought. It felt good to get the clear knowledge, such a nice, clear statement. They offer so much to us so often, just like being in the company of any other friend. That doesn't mean we don't have good and original thoughts of our own, of course. It's just that you can feel it when it's theirs once you get used to it. I may be relatively smart, but I am NOWhere near THAT smart. But the more I listen to them, the wiser I will be. After deity, we probably have no better friends!

Celestial Dancing with Teacher Olfana

Three T/Rs share their experience. Excerpts from an e-mail exchange - Susan Kimsey, Stephanie Buchler and Delores Dinsmore.

STEPHANIE (to Susan): Last night,

while in communication-mode with teachers, who should suddenly make an appearance but Olfana. She periodically stops by and says "hi", but I haven't had a lengthy discussion with her in some time. Last night was very different.

As soon as she signed on, my fingers left the keyboard and my hands and arms started flowing like a dancer's. I had seen this happen when you've transmitted, Susan, but never really understood it. While doing this, energy and love from the universe became palpable and flowed through me. Wow! Olfana talked with me about the kinesthetics of communication and of the movements of the very real energy of love. It was awesome!

Anyway, I wanted to share this with you and let you know how much I appreciate Olfana and the work you've done with her. You're both pretty amazing. Thanks for sharing her with me last night.

SUSAN: I'm so happy to hear of your experience! Olfana "dances" with people when she transmits through them, and I'm happy to hear you felt swept off your feet. The more I let her "flow" through me, the more refreshed I feel. It's hard to ignore all her comments about our energy patterns, auras, soul lights, etc. when she makes you feel like you're plugged into a battery charger when she speaks.

DELORES: So...it took a minute or two...and I was afraid nothing would happen. I was just beginning to feel like a failure and oh ye of little faith! when... guess what! She [Olfana] came over and I felt her on my left brain side and she moved to my front and looked me in the face close, right in the eyes...and hugged me and that made me start to bawl like a baby....at least it felt like love coming to me and I let it happen...and then I was worried my OWN teacher would feel slighted but he said, "Not at all!"...He loves Olfana too!!!!...I think she has these huge violet/blue eyes...but it was just an impression, who knows? But sooo much love in her, you're right!

SUSAN: I find this very interesting about your impression of Olfana's eyes, because I have this image in my head of her in long white flowing robes, with dramatic eyes, and dark shiny hair--very beautiful and elegant, but also very kind. Violet/blue eyes fits with my image.

DELORES: I think it helped me a lot to do the movements. An impulse to raise my arm to the right..reassurance...an image to fold it in to my heart, palm opened out...then to raise both arms open wide, for the Father! ...stuff like that and then it got easier, because with those first movements of trust, the words just started to come



Susan Kimsey T/Ring Teacher Olfana. Jim Foster holding the mic. Nashville, 1998

along and pretty soon here was this beautiful movement poem like a prayer...yes, most like a prayer.

SUSAN: Olfana has encouraged me to relax with these “impulses to move,” because they are not just emotive responses on our part. She says they literally increase the circuit connections that she has with us, and I have the same response you had. When I allow my arms and body and head to move easily, the words come much more clearly in my head. I get strong pulsations as my hands move also, as though some sort of circuit is flowing through them.

DELORES: Thanks so much you two, both; Steph for sharing...or I might never have experienced this... and Susan for letting me borrow your teacher for a dance!

SUSAN: Thanks for letting us know what happened, Delores. I think these teachers will be playing “musical chairs” with us a lot more as time goes on. I keep hoping that Will will show up in Half Moon Bay one of these days!

Some Essential Messages of the Teaching Mission

By Jim Cleveland

1 – Celestial teachers, guides and angels are everywhere, seeking to make contact with us and help our spiritual growth. They are here in greater numbers now because of the opening of spiritual energy circuits in recent years.

2 – Overall, there is a planetary Correcting Time in which humans and celestials can work together for spiritualizing upliftment, within ourselves and our institutions.

3 – A daily time of Stillness with God for worship, prayer, reflection and conversation is our most important threshold for spiritual growth and peace of mind. This process moves beyond using meditation only for relaxation and contemplation to concerted spiritual upreach through the actions of worship, prayer, forgive-

MEANINGS OF THE TEACHING MISSION

ness, service, and listening for God’s answers. These are all activities of the Stillness.

4 – You can ask for and receive a personal spiritual teacher who will bring you lessons and insights that enhance your personal growth. You can communicate via a meditative state, a process called Transmitting-Receiving (TR) through writing or the spoken word.

5 – Those who want to hear and verbalize teachers in shared gatherings can join with a growing number of Teaching Mission study groups around the country. They provide you with the opportunity to visit, listen, ask questions and even learn to TR.

6 – Our free wills are always in charge in this evolutionary world. A vital difference between TR and trance channeling is that the human transmitter is in a state of consciousness, choosing cooperatively to work with the celestial teacher. This spiritual connection is available to anyone who makes the effort to learn how to receive it, and with the process comes spiritual lessons and growth.

7 – The earth is not headed toward catastrophic or apocalyptic doom. The love energy that we generate and the actual service that we perform, combined with expanding celestial insights and inspiration, will help lift the world to a higher level of spiritual consciousness. This is a very special place -- the planet of Jesus’ incarnation.

8 – The earthly personality known as Jesus is, in fact, a Creator Son of God named Michael, who created and rules our local universe. The religious life of Jesus as fully illuminated in the vast Urantia Book is what humankind most needs to understand in these pivotal and changing times.

9 – The highest level of spiritual truth available on our planet are the

Urantia Papers, first published 1955, held in close control for years, but now recently becoming more widely known.

10 – God’s spirit lives inside each one of us. The celestial teachers will lead you to a greater understanding and deeper connection with this indwelling “Thought Adjuster” which ever seeks to adjust our thoughts Godward.

11 – Life is an experiential classroom-laboratory to give us material experience in time and space. The learning and growth that we experience here could not be achieved any other way.

12 – We can follow a glorious ascension path that has been designed for us and the other numerous worlds of time and space. Each, as a child of God, can strive to “be ye perfect,” and this mortal life is just a beginning.

What is the Teaching Mission? What are the Goals?

By Bob Devine

What is the Teaching Mission? What are its goals? Can these questions even be answered universally in more than vague general terms?

I do not believe so, for I have seen too many directions and too many ideas for me to believe that anyone can identify this movement accurately. One of the most beautiful aspects of this movement to me, is that it cannot be defined. Anytime that definitions start springing up, our ability to agree upon them disappears.

There are people that believe undoubtedly that Christ Michael sent Machiventa, who brought a corps of teachers to initiate the Correcting Time. One view has the perspective that the mission is organized and directed by Ham and Abraham, while another perspective is of the view

that there are Melchizedek receivers that serve the overview function... (i.e. - Norson, Malvantra, Mantutia, Rantarason, Andronason, etc.) ...still there are other views held, but the specifics vary. Never has there been universal agreement on the specifics.

Personally, I don't know for sure and am not willing to put overmuch stock in any of the specifics, so much as I am willing to put my faith in a process. This process brings about an awareness and an awakening to spiritual truths and values. The other brings about disagreement and perhaps unwittingly, a focus on authority and titles over substance.

I can think of some examples with teachers where there has been conflict, such as Norsen/Norson, where there was difficulty by members of one group regarding transmissions of Norson from another group... and Tarkas being communicated by different people with different styles... and is Rantarason and Andronason one and the same? ...who knows and what importance does it have in our mission if we ever find out? ...and then some people have had flowing movements and gestures when they transmitted that upset others who were used to someone sitting still quietly speaking one word at a time... and how about the non-appearances of Gabriel and Machiventa that caused quite a stir and diversion? ...and I've heard of groups where there were confrontations over T/Ring and splitting up because of their differences in view...

While these types of differences are probably inevitable, they tend to spring up out of a focus on issues that aren't all that relevant to our spiritual growth. Certainly pointing out a gross distortion is probably healthy, but sometimes along the way we get misdirected and our egos need to identify with something in the process, rather than allowing the simple spiritual directionalization toward truth and understanding.

At this point in my journey, I personally view the Teaching Mission as an

"insight gathering". I am not so concerned with who offers the insight, as I am with the insight itself. To the extent that we need to continually identify with names, teachers, T/Rs, etc... I wonder if that is the extent to which we are building an authority structure and a hierarchy that can divert from spiritual development into the comfort of a system of beliefs and processes, much as the institutional religions have done.

The long and arduous journey of spiritual progress demands a willingness to engage in original thinking and worshipful problem solving and requires a mind that is unenslaved by dogmatic ideas if it is to be capable of continuous and unimpeded progress. The problem is that the human mind has shown itself to be slothful and continuously desirous of identification with symbols and ideologies so that it can rest from the struggle of originality into a slowly crystallizing system of beliefs. Here the mind is in danger of fixation and the development of belief systems – a gravitation away from spiritual purposes--rather than the continuous exercise of faith that had characterized its earlier development.

New spiritual ideas generally cause people to take a step, but then they settle in around that new step and identify it and define it and build their lives around it until a new generation comes along and is willing to take another step. Are we the generation that is willing to walk past the first step, dance through the two-step and keep on stepping along to the rhythm of the universe? Or will we become all too comfortable with the ideas and beliefs rather than the purposes of continuous spiritual expansion?

I don't want to see this mission defined to the extent that its definitions can exclude people with differing beliefs that hold similar ideals, because I feel it is the ideals that we have in common and not ideas. Our ideas and beliefs will probably always differ, but I have witnessed the connection of the heart with some peo-

ple who could never accept my beliefs, but who have such common purpose to grow spiritually and continuously try to identify their life with the source of highest truth, beauty and goodness.

I think it could do us all a lot of good to step back and ask ourselves how much we have begun to think of the Teaching Mission as an 'idea' or something of definable substance and pursuit, rather than an 'ideal' or a journey toward discovering progressive spiritual meanings and values.

To me, these questions are of much more value than any definitions we can apply. I can think of many people I know here that I have differing beliefs with, but I can't really think of anyone here whose ideals conflict with my own. In this view, I re-emphasize our siblinghood and join you with the intent of love.

What Is The Teaching Mission?

By Bob Slagle (assisted by a group from the tml e-list)

Each of us is likely to have a different description and emphasis as to the nature of this world-wide Teaching Mission. In general, it is an avenue of personal religious experience. Individuals, in their private devotions, may experience contact with supermortal guides, or "teachers." We believe that there are a host of intelligent, loving, celestial agencies ministering to our world.

One such group of celestial beings who work together for humanity's spiritual progress call themselves teachers of the "Teaching Mission" or the "Correcting Time." The Correcting Time is said to encompass roughly the next millennium of human history, a time of correcting



the consequences of certain calamities and deprivations of the past, and a time of fostering an era of heightened spiritual progress in the future--the era of "light and life" on Earth.

WHO ARE TEACHERS?

Many contemporary people are discovering contact with spiritual guides. The tremendous upsurge in reported contact with angels and other heavenly beings is indicative of new openings for communion with angelic types of ministry to our world. The particular contacts from on High that we call "teachers" are non-material, spirit beings -- friends from heaven. They are advanced enough in their own spiritual growth and cosmic evolution to be a great inspiration to us; and yet, they remain greatly empathetic and supportive of our struggles in our own soul growth.

These teachers present and amplify the revelations and truths discussed in *The Urantia Book*. This book teaches that each and every human mortal is a potentially immortal faith-son or faith-daughter of God. We are each an honored member of a well-nigh limitless cosmic family. We are spiritual brothers and sisters held in the infinite love of one Divine Cosmic Parent, Mother and Father combined.

WHO ARE WE?

We who participate on the human side of the Teaching Mission are ordinary human beings who simply aspire to bring more of truth, beauty, and goodness into our world. We hail from diverse walks of life and various locations in and out of the continental USA. We vary widely in our backgrounds and cultural, political, and philosophical views, but we are united in our spiritual quest for more of God's love and more opportunities to share this love and friendship with our fellows. Many of us attend informal groups where teacher communications are shared and discussed.

WHO IS ABLE TO MAKE CONTACT WITH CELESTIAL

TEACHERS?

Anyone. Any adult or child who sincerely desires teacher contact will have that opportunity, regardless of race or gender, educational background, social or economic status, national origin, or religious beliefs. We are told that if every one of the over five billion inhabitants of our planet sought a personal teacher, one would certainly be provided for each seeker.

HOW DO I RECEIVE THE GIFT OF A PERSONAL TEACHER?

This is a very intimate matter between you and your Deity. In your personal prayer time or meditation, simply ask your heavenly Mother-Father for a personal teacher, and trust that even though you may not readily sense a teacher's presence, one will surely be there for you. Many of us suffer, consciously or unconsciously, from a sense of perceived shame and unworthiness. In truth, there is no mortal on Earth who is unworthy of the Divine Affection.

Our teachers view us with great respect and see it as an honor to work with us. Some of us have to swallow hard to accept the enormity of this gift and not fear this loving contact. Time and daily "stillness" practice, a term used by the teachers to refer to quiet meditation, provide the reconciliation between how we value ourselves, and how the teachers value us, and hope we will eventually value ourselves also.

WHAT DO TEACHERS DO FOR HUMANS?

Teachers provide spiritual guidance to individuals or groups who voluntarily seek their assistance. Most of us would agree that the paramount purpose of the teachers is to aid us in getting in touch with the Spark of Deity within each person, the "still small voice of God" that indwells the human heart-mind. Teachers are also heavenly friends who love us dearly and often accompany us on our life

adventures. They encourage us and inspire us. They remind us of spiritual truths we cherish. They help keep us spiritually focused.

Teachers offer faith reassurances of the unswerving love of our divine Parent for each individual, regardless of his or her worldly status. Teachers elevate and accelerate our hopes for a better world and augment God-consciousness among all peoples.

WHAT TEACHERS DO NOT DO.

While it would be presumptuous to limit teacher action, most of us who have been receiving this contact for some years have drawn the following conclusions:

1. Teachers DO NOT violate human free-will. They never violate the sanctity of our minds, our souls, our earthly opportunities, or our life choices. Their action in relation to any human is always subject to that human's informed consent.
2. While teachers are lovingly open to all of our questions, they do not encourage "curiosity questions," that is, questions that do not relate directly to our personal and individual spiritual growth. They rarely, if ever, engage in material predictions.
3. Teachers are not in the business of miracle-working, empirical proofs, power-brokering, sparking fads, encouraging extraordinary sensory experiences, dictating how we should live, shaming us, or otherwise acting or communicating in a manner that would in any way deprive any human being of the step-by-step faith adventure each of us must freely choose to climb the mountains of spiritual attainment.
4. Teachers are not intermediaries to God. We do not pray to our teachers nor do we worship them. They are not our rulers or overlords. They do not judge us. They help us to avoid many distractions from our goals of wisely loving and selflessly serving. They keep us on track to pursue stillness and small kindnesses each day. They

are our friends, our near-of-kin. We love and respect them enormously.

5. Teachers do not charge fees for their spiritual services. Love and inspiration are freely given. Most of us feel that this is a good model for humans involved in this mission as well.

HOW DO I KNOW I AM HAVING TEACHER CONTACT AND AM UNDERSTANDING THE MESSAGES CORRECTLY?

We are told that teacher contact is best accomplished by way of regular, daily, stillness meditation -- quieting the mind for up to twenty minutes of silent communion once or twice each day.

There is an experience of "otherness," subtle for some, more pronounced for others, that distinguishes teacher communication from one's own thoughts and projections. Some teachers suggest that we ask these questions about a supposed teacher communication or transmission to assess its veracity and sharpen our powers of discernment:

- a) Does the communication come with respect for my free-will dignity?
- b) Is it compatible with the teachings of The Urantia Book?
- c) Will heeding a message result in my bearing "spiritual fruit?"
- d) Does the transmission come with God's love?
- e) Does it have the ring of the bell of Truth?

HOW DO TEACHERS COMMUNICATE WITH HUMANS?

For a consenting human, a teacher makes mind-to-mind contact in a gentle and utterly respectful manner. The teachers' respect for our free-will dignity is awe-inspiring. Since we do not really know the mechanism of communication, we can hypothesize a kind of celestial internet. Imagine our World Wide Web carried to the utmost limits of virtual advancement and refinement on a universal and cosmic scale. Teachers seem to be able to project their presences and

communications from nearby or over astronomic distances without delay or glitches. They know when we do and do not desire contact.

WHAT IS TRANSMITTING/RECEIVING?

Certain constitutionally-favored individuals may, by luck of the draw, have a natural capacity to discern and communicate teacher messages. Typically, a human transmitter (T/R) speaks the teacher's message more or less concurrently with its reception in the transmitter's mind. There are many ways a transmitter might receive a message -- as words, concepts, images, feelings, or something quite beyond words. Receiving and transmitting seems also to be a learnable skill. We are all encouraged to practice transmitting, not worrying about errors, and having faith in our seemingly muddled efforts. Growing spiritual awareness and regular stillness meditation counterpoised by service-motivated small kindnesses are the hallmarks of the human side of the teacher connection.

ARE TEACHER TRANSMISSIONS INFALLIBLE?

Definitely not. Teachers are fallible, but less so than humans. Although teachers are no doubt able to communicate more directly or unequivocally, they prefer to employ the ever-so-flawed human conduit, a partnership in communication and faith. This leaves the understanding, interpretation, and veracity of any transmission entirely up to the faith discernment of each human involved. It is the responsibility of each person to decide if a communication resonates with the spirit of truth in one's own heart.

Teachers may even allow themselves to be misquoted by a fallible T/R rather than interfere with the vital faith-grasp each of us must acquire in our struggles to be confident in our apprehension of truth.

ARE TEACHERS INVOLVED IN HEALING?

We believe so. The teachers ask us to view "healing" as it applies to our physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual selves. They tell us that God's spiritual healing energy is available to anyone sincerely searching and receptive.

To limit the modalities (e.g., touch, music, nature, substances, visualizations, etc.) of this healing would be presumptuous. Again, it is up to the individual's discernment on a very personal level. Teachers convey that, as with transmitting, the innate capacity to be a conduit, for say, laying-on-of-hands healing, varies from person to person.

As with prayer, sincerity and clear intent help. However, being healed or not should not be interpreted as teacher approval or disapproval; they love us all, regardless of our limitations. Healing in association with teachers is rarely of the sudden or miraculous kind. The process is often slow, subtle, and empowers faith and patience. Nevertheless, there is discussion and experimentation with many aspects of healing in the Teaching Mission. "Seek and you surely shall receive; joy is your abiding destiny."

WHAT OF CAUTION AND SKEPTICISM?

We generally regard respectful skepticism as a healthy approach to becoming familiar with the Teaching



Bob Slagle, PhD., Founder of Family Relations Foundation

Mission. We aspire to unity, not uniformity.

We do not all think alike. Each of us may hold a different, even opposite, opinion regarding this Mission in the whole or in any particular. Experiential religion means that truth is individually and personally discovered via a process of inner-seeking. Many of us have surmounted hills of doubt and continue to climb out of valleys of uncertainty and skepticism. We respect the individual's right to his or her own boundaries of belief and acceptance. Certainly our teachers do likewise.

The issue is not whether or not you are doubtful or cautious; rather, do you persevere in your search, do you continue to seek with an open mind and heart? If there is truth here, sooner or later you will know. As one of our great teachers has said, "In the stillness reside the answers to all questions."

You may choose to choose a discussion group at: tml@circuit1.teamcircuits.com.

You may also choose to choose discussion groups related to the Urantia Papers at: urantia@ubook.org and also: ubstudy@utalk.org.

The purpose of the Teaching Mission List – tml@circuit1.teamcircuits.com – is:

To permit individuals who are exploring or involved in the Teaching Mission to converse.

To provide a public forum wherein teacher lessons can be shared and discussed.

To encourage visitors to this list to ask questions, make comments, and otherwise become acquainted with the Teaching Mission.

To assist people to contact their celestial teachers or for the purpose of receiving personal lessons and/or group lessons.

To make calendar announcements,

foster the formation and growth of individual Teaching Mission groups, help coordinate planned conferences and projects related to the Teaching Mission.

It is simply not possible in this brief introductory letter to address all of your interests and inquiries. Most folks here are quite friendly and eager to assist you in understanding the teachers and their Mission. Words can hardly express the depth of meaning and profundity of experiences that most of us have been graced with in association with this Mission. So, please ask, if you desire clarification of any aspect of this work.

WE DEDICATE THIS LIST TO THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF ALL WHO USE IT. OUR HOPE HERE IS TO HOST A GENUINE AND FRIENDLY SHARING. WE ENCOURAGE YOUR SPIRITUAL EXPLORING AND HOPE THAT THE POSTS, TRANSMISSIONS, AND INTERACTION ON THIS LIST WILL ASSIST YOU. WE BELIEVE WE ARE ALL ON THE SAME JOURNEY, HOWEVER UNIQUE EACH OF OUR PATHS MAY BE. AND WHATEVER YOUR PATH, WE PRAY YOU WILL DISCOVER MORE OF THE ETERNAL GOD'S LOVE FOR YOU, AND THE DIVINE DESIRE THAT WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

First Impressions of the Teaching Mission

by Angus Bowen
Butler, Pennsylvania

Fellow Agondonters, we're headed for a New Time. Can you sense the Spirit of God moving around our world, headed, as it were, for a dramatic and climactic collision with the religion of Materialism? This enlightened spiritual movement is a product of the Fifth Epochal Revelation (FER) and it is taking on shapes and sizes heretofore unimaginable. It is a gallant attempt to save our world, conducted, in partnership, by mortals and their

celestial kin.

One of the forms this movement has taken on is the Teaching Mission; featuring the inter-active participation of mortals and celestials, resulting from the re-connecting of Nebadonian communication circuitry which was abruptly disrupted by the Lucifer insurrection.

I only recently became an active participant in the actual Transmitting and Receiving (T/R'ing) process: this inter-play between celestials and mortals. Having had the opportunity to read many of the written transcripts from such sessions, I then attended a number of these sessions became a permanent member of such a Teacher Group.

I admit that when first introduced to this exciting and intriguing phenomenon resulting from the "re-connecting time," I was skeptical. I had been a Urantia Book (UB) reader since 1973. Curiosity led me to investigate further and I discovered the UB provided a number of revealing indications that this "new ability" is part of the over-all plan for the reclamation of our world:

Page-1191 We are cognizant of many spirit phenomena in the far-flung universe which we are at a loss fully to understand. We are not yet masters of all that is transpiring about us; and I believe that much of this inscrutable work is wrought by the Gravity Messengers and certain types of Mystery Monitors. I do not believe that Adjusters are devoted solely to the remaking of mortal minds. I am persuaded that the Personalized Monitors and other orders of unrevealed prepersonal spirits are representative of the Universal Father's direct and unexplained contact with the creatures of the realms.

Page-64 The great God makes direct contact with mortal man and gives a part of his infinite and eternal and incomprehensible self to live and dwell within him. God has embarked upon the eternal adventure with man. If you yield to the leadings of the spiritual forces in you and around you, you

cannot fail to attain the high destiny established by a loving God as the universe goal of his ascendant creatures from the evolutionary worlds of space.

Page-639 No matter on what level of universe activities you may encounter spiritual phenomena or contact with spirit beings, you may know that they are all derived from the God who is spirit by the ministry of the Spirit Son and the Infinite Mind Spirit.

Page-421 When once seraphim are commissioned, they may range all Nebadon, even Orvonton, on assignment. Their work in the universe is without bounds and limitations; they are closely associated with the material creatures of the worlds and are ever in the service of the lower orders of spiritual personalities, making contact between these beings of the spirit world and the mortals of the material realms.

Page-1244 One of the most important things a destiny guardian does for her mortal subject is to effect a personal co-ordination of the numerous impersonal spirit influences which indwell, surround, and impinge upon the mind and soul of the evolving material creature.

Page-64 It is because of this God fragment that indwells you that you can hope, as you progress in harmonizing with the Adjuster's spiritual leadings, more fully to discern the presence and transforming power of those other spiritual influences that surround you and impinge upon you but do not function as an integral part of you.

Page-1190 But regardless of such apparent independence, long-range observation unquestionably discloses that they function in the human mind in perfect synchrony and co-ordination with all other spirit ministries, including adjutant mind-spirits, Holy Spirit, Spirit of Truth, and other influences.

It was then that I came to a new realization of what the "quarantine," resulting from the Lucifer rebellion,

ultimately meant. We had been taken off the "life support system" that would have allowed us to receive unobstructed guidance for and assurance of, our eternal destiny, should we have willed it to be so. Our spiritual eyes and ears would have allowed us to live in a different "reality."

But our eyes and ears of spiritual discernment were forced to operate in the challenging environment of darkness. We became Agondonters...with the overwhelming challenge of believing without evidence. As Agondonters, we have met this challenge and now, perhaps as a result of our inexplicable faith, we have been placed back on the "life support system."

The indications, implications and expectations are many and varied, but one thing is certain; soon we will have a generation that will have been born and raised completely under the influence of the FER. It is the time for correcting the effects of the Lucifer rebellion and for taking a giant step toward the Age of Light and Life.

It is my privilege to share with you some of these "conversations," which demonstrate what the Teaching Mission is all about: Teaching. These celestials are Teachers and we are the Students. As a colleague of mine says, "The Urantia Book (UB) is the text book; the Teachers are the "work book."

My first selection for this issue of the L&L Journal features the new generation of young people that will carry the torch of the FER after you and I have departed for the Mansion Worlds. Today's young adults are the ones who will produce a generation that will be born and raised completely under the influence of the FER. Imagine, as you read this exchange, the powerful spiritual impact that will have on our world.

The TR for this lesson is "S." The other participants are S's 18 year old daughter, "C." and her boy friend "J." who is 21. C is more familiarized with this special activity than J,

although they both have been aware of the T/R'ing process, to varying degrees for the last 3 to 5 years. This is J's first participation in an actual TR'ing session. The celestial teacher's name is Olfana.

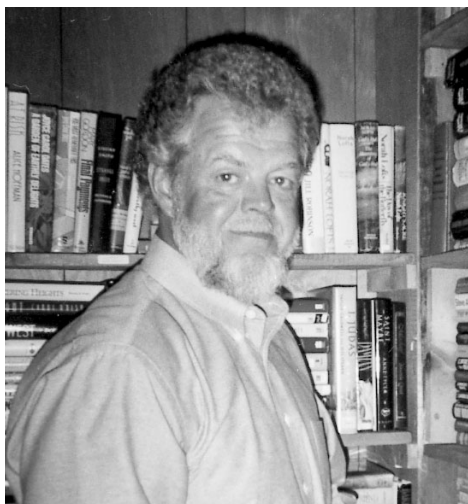
Olfana: Greetings, my dear beloved and precious children. This is Olfana who greets you now, and I feel my heart filled with joy that we can, indeed, make this contact now. You do not begin to understand all the ways in which I hold you in my heart with love, and wish blessings upon your lives. For you are, indeed, God's Beloved and Precious Children, and I wish you could, indeed, see yourselves with all the beauty that you reflect toward me from your precious souls. I am most willing to speak with you now on any topic that you choose. Can you speak to me now before I continue?

C: Olfana, I'm so glad. I know that you're with me every single time I think about you. I'm just so honored that I can talk with you again. I feel you near me, and I'm so glad that you are, and I really don't know what to say or what to talk about. I kind of feel like if J. doesn't have any questions, maybe if there is something you feel is going on with J's life or my life right now that you can talk with us about. I don't know.

Olfana: I wish to mention that I share with you many episodes of your life, C. Indeed I do. And I am feeling the same exhilaration and sense of liberty that you now feel rise up in yourself, as you begin to explore the world much more so "on your own," as it were. And as much as your mother may worry for you at times, I wish to say to both of you that I am there watching over you when she is busy elsewhere.

C: Thank you.

Olfana: You and J. are both dear precious souls to me, and I would love to hear a few words from J, if he is indeed comfortable now speaking to me.



Angus

J: Yes. Definitely. I've heard a lot about you, and I think this is a very incredible thing to finally be here and see it all. I guess that in the past year I've not only been through a lot, but I've also come to peace with a lot of what has happened with me, and especially even in the last two weeks, I've felt a big change in how I perceive the world and what has happened to me. [Note: J. lost his stepfather to liver cancer, and his father to a sudden heart attack, during the past three years.] I guess that there are really only a couple of things that I still might question about the problems that I went through. I think that they both concern my step-mom and my little [half] sister and brother.

Olfana: There is an expansion occurring in you now, J. Does this word resonate with you? Now that you are expanding, you are feeling yourself lighten and grow and even emerge, if you will. You might say you are a sprout which is having that burst toward the sun, and this is most appropriate in your emotional makeup now, that you are feeling this sense of... "Yes, now some of this energy that exists within me I will turn toward myself, my own goals, and myself. I will leave behind something of the 'burden of concern' I have carried for all those who are dear to me in my life, and I will 'get on with it'. I will indeed, embrace life now, because this is an appropriate time for me to grow and be well and feel strong and test my powers, test myself in the

world. I will do this now, and I am feeling comfortable that this is indeed allowed for me now." Am I speaking words here J. that touch you? That...

J: Exactly how I feel. Yes.

Olfana: Very well. [Moved to tears, as she speaks.] Please let these strong emotions pass. As much as I strive for my own emotional equilibrium at times, it is indeed hard for me to contain myself when I contemplate the incredible gift given to me by God in this position of working with your world. I am so very grateful I have been allowed such an opportunity to relate with the people of this world, and those of you I have come to know already so dearly, I do not have the words to explain the depth of my emotional connection with you now.

There is indeed a time and a season to the patterns of your lives. You are becoming self-aware as young adults, and you have had enough of life experience to recognize, already, the seasons of growth that operate within your lives. There is the season of 'new beginnings' every year as the cycles continue of the sun and the earth turning, and you have sensed that exhilaration as you feel the spring growth begin. You have passed through those moments in your own young lives where you have felt the new beginnings of a school year, of new relationships with friends, of brand new experiences of adventure—the first time seeing Disneyland, the first time going to the mountains, the first time touching the snow, the first time seeing the sun rise over the immense pine trees of the mountains.

There are so many marvelous moments of new beginnings in the youth of your life, and you have had enough of a sense of this to begin to savor this experience now, and say, "Ah, yes. It begins again. I am once again starting a new adventure in this world. I am becoming me even more than I already was." This is a precious experience in your life, and oftentimes, as people grow older on this planet, they can become so emotional-

ly beaten down from some of the sadness and stress of life that they lose touch with this sense of the exhilaration of the new beginnings. I hope the two of you will not only savor this experience that you now feel, but will be the type who says to yourself: "I will not lose touch with this part of myself. I will hold on to the preciousness of new beginnings in my life. I will not let myself become cynical or so concerned about appearing in command of my emotions that I lose touch with this energetic anticipation of the new beginnings."

You may ponder, at times, "What now will become of my life? Where will I head? What direction do I wish to take now in my life?" I would encourage you, most emphatically, to remember that you have been given a "compass" from God to mark your way. Each of you possesses within yourselves this instrument of love and power and clear wisdom. The Urantia Book refers to this as the "Thought Adjuster Within You," who can indeed speak to you, and offer you guidance in life. If the concept of the Adjuster feels still somewhat foreign, perhaps then, if you can say to yourself, "I have this golden compass in me." Literally form for yourselves an impression of this beautiful instrument. It has a beautiful sheen to the metal. It is a piece of masterful engineering. There is a clear, pure crystal, which covers the delicate instrumentation of this compass. The needle sits most delicately upon the spindle, and responds with a light and beautiful dance and play as it acknowledges the impulses. I am creating here a spiritual compass, and therefore, wish not to say "magnetic impulses." But these impulses of "God Current" which it is responsive to. When you face those moments now in your lives, my children, when you head out in a new direction, and you see the possibility of many possible pathways or trails you may take, pause for a moment and say, "Before I begin this new adventure in my life, I will check my Compass from God. I will take a moment to ponder the course, the direction, in which God wishes me to go now in my life."

And literally contemplate yourself reaching into this heart zone, and pulling forth this beautiful instrument which God has blessed each of you with. And then see the dial, and sometimes it may literally be a sense of a direction that you will follow, and other times, perhaps, it may be choices. "Father, should I pursue now further studies? Should I focus upon a career, a job? Am I to put more energy into this relationship now? Is it important, Father, now that I follow a path of further contemplation and spiritual study?" Place these questions that you have of God onto your compass. And then, let the dial turn. Imagine the spiritual forces impelling this pointer in the direction which God, indeed, asks of you now. And when you have received from this imagery, a sense of direction and guidance, recognize that it is still of your free will choice that you then place your feet upon this path. It is your choosing, coupled with God's Guidance, which can, indeed, be a most perfect way of using this gift from The Father to you. Is this an image that you feel you can work with, now?

J and C: Yes. Thank you.

Olfana: Is there any comment that you wish to make regarding this general topic I am proposing now of the choices you may make in life? Give yourselves a moment to just simply contemplate. [Pause] Do either of you have a question or comment that you wish to make?

J: It seems that a lot of times your instinct may be what you're calling this spiritual guidance of the compass, which has a lot to do with where you should or where you shouldn't go. But it seems that a lot of times within people it's hampered by what they may think that others will feel, instead of what they know that they will feel.

Olfana: Yes, J. This is very much the case. That when you first set out in life, there are many impulses imposing themselves, as it were, putting pressure upon you to choose not so much what your own heart desires, but what you feel is expected of you



Hawaii TeaM Conference, 1995

by many different people or forces even, social forces, etc. And this is indeed why I am suggesting to you this sense of the compass, because if you will, with intention, recognize that there is this gift within you, there is a means by which you can indeed receive pure unadulterated data, if you will, guidance and feedback, from this direct relationship with God. This is one of those opportunities where you can, indeed, exclude these other extraneous forces and impressions.

If you will contemplate with sincerity the concept of "Now God, I ask of you, show me the way. Show me the direction in which you wish me to now focus myself." There is nothing that can compromise this relationship, J. There is a great power here, and very much so, it is the case on your planet, that you have had little training in this very pure relationship with God. This is not to criticize your own immediate upbringing. I am simply stating to you that it is so much the case on this planet that all peoples in all cultures rarely recognize the intensity of connection that they can indeed have with God. And the way in which God can work with them in this expression of their lives.

We, the Teachers who have come to this planet to work with you, are so focused upon developing this perspective in you, that this is why I have chosen this as my very first topic of discussion now in this trans-

mission. There is a growing power that can develop in this relationship. I would literally say to you that the more times you, with a pure desire, turn yourself to a focus upon God speaking within you, God hearing your own heart, that this will develop in you as a comfortable and clearly understood relationship. It will lose a sense of effortful intention, and before you know it, you will begin to feel aligned with this Flow and Guidance.

As I will now pull out an example from your own life [J], as that point when you became aware that the surfboard could be an extension of your own muscular power in relationship with a wave. Are you understanding now what I am saying, J? That point when you began to understand that this board, this surface, the surface of the board on the water was as if your feet were now broadened and able to move in a more synchronized fashion? It moved from being an unfamiliar and awkward experience into something that became almost a "second nature," an effort you made without too much conscious contemplation.

It was just the way in which you worked with this board in the water. Is this an understanding that you have now?

J: Very much so.

Olfana: And I am saying to you that in moving with the God Current that

flows through all of our lives, you can, indeed, develop such a sense of familiarity, and synchronization, and compatibility, and, indeed, joy and power. When your body matched the movement of the board, suddenly, you were more than just yourself on this wave, were you not? You were carried in a way that you had never before able to understand, or experience, in terms of the energy of the wave moving toward the land. And this is, indeed, the way in which you will begin to feel synchronization with this God Current, which can, indeed, empower and expand your life's potentials.

[Smiling] I feel that this is enough of a "sales pitch," if you will, from me now, regarding God. And I will hope that you will remember my words regarding this compass. And if you at times forget, I will do my best in my own relationship with you to jog your memory, and you will say, "Oh yes, that's right. Where is that compass Olfana has been speaking of? I need to remember. It's in there somewhere, and I'm going to find it and pull it out now."

Olfana: Would you like me to, perhaps, offer some further commentary about this challenge of growing up?

C: In general, in growing up, I don't know if you have this same problem too, but I'm just figuring out what (I'm) going to do with (my) life. But you already explained that, the compass... I agree with that. I guess it's really a chore in this world to live. I guess I want to strive to make my life that way [evidencing God's Will], and it's a challenge in this world.

Olfana: You have both been born into a difficult world during a most stressful time period in this world's evolution, but do not be disheartened by this comment that I make. There is so much opportunity for remarkable growth in your souls to be born into a world that needs goodness, needs love, needs patience, needs kindness.

Do you see how valuable a gift you can be in this world to others by striving to evidence these attributes in your own natures? You, indeed, can be a precious moment in an otherwise

bleak episode for any other people that you meet. You can be a reminder to them that God is good, and loving, and fulfilling, and indeed expresses His energy and power in each moment that you exist. You can be ones who present examples of hope and faith in an otherwise tired and weary world.

There is great change coming to this planet now, my dear ones. You can be a part of this. You can lead your lives in such a way that you are part of this "threshold of change" that is occurring now. It has always been a blessed opportunity to live a good life in a difficult world. Any soul who passes from this planet, and looks back upon their life, and recognizes that they have strived to do good in their lives, has felt a remarkable amount of true soul satisfaction in recognizing that they made the right choices.

But, to live at a point of crisis on this planet, that point when the balance is indeed being tipped in the direction of salvation for the world. What a marvelous opportunity for both of you to be able to say, "I wish that my life will indeed be one where I not only fulfill my own dreams and desires, but I will help to fulfill the "plan of destiny" for this planet. I will do with my life something that will add to its benefit and redemption."

Such a choice is most powerful now, and I am so pleased that at your young ages you are aware of this possibility. You are encouraged to recognize that, along with a sense of growth and change for yourselves, you can indeed look around you and see great movement and change in this world, on even a daily basis. As time continues, as this world now evolves, there is immense possibility now for the resurrection of the good and the pure in people's lives. And I would hope that you recognize that much of what we will ask of you is not just to be viewed as a question of effortful change and serious contemplation of your choices in life.

There can be an immense sense of exuberance and rejoicing in the idea

that, as you proceed through your lives, you are bringing about real possibilities of change for the world. There is a way in which you are wiping the world clean. You are freshly painting the colors of the planet. This is not "a decaying world," my dear ones. As much as you may have been raised with this as a concept, I hope you can hear me when I say to you, this planet has immense possibilities of rejuvenation and regeneration within it. There is nothing that can thwart this potential for regeneration, if indeed the living souls residing upon this planet align themselves with the forces of good which now come to this world. You are not on the edge of collapse now, in your lives and the point of development of the planet. You are on the edge of a "bursting forth," of an entire new level of development and power, which will be unleashed upon this world.

The Teachers address themselves to many issues during their lesson periods. In the following example, Teacher Tomas, discusses, in response to a question, the global influence of Jesus and the panorama of Urantia History:

TOMAS 11/19/98 (We start with questions)

C: Today I got a letter from Jewish people in Israel who are starting to want to follow Jesus and now they are being overwhelmed with the other Jewish people who don't want this to happen in their country.

TOMAS: Yes.

C: It's a very interesting letter. And the other Jewish group I have really been trying to help, because in Russia, the Russians won't help the Jews get out of Russia and they want to go to Israel, so I send money every once in awhile to help those people get to Israel. And now those are probably the very people who are very upset about the Jewish people who are now wanting to know more about Jesus and to follow him. It's very interesting. I felt really sad when I ...

TOMAS: It is political, what you have gotten yourself into and it is also wonderful that you are finding people who are snared in a political situation who seek to rise above the trappings of politics and traditions in order to feel the freedom of the spirit. Remember Jesus came to free the spiritual captives and these people have been captives of traditional religion longer than Christianity has been in existence.

It is a wonderful thing to see yearnings of this nature, and it is unfortunate that your sincere desire to be of service has become complicated by the vagaries of national situations. It is ultimately one reason why we will continue to press for one United World. I have no specific solutions for you there, C.

C: Just pray for them?

TOMAS: Certainly. For them ALL. Indeed. But you might also encourage, as the ultimate answer, the fostering of truth. Perhaps some of these real complications could be fruitful. There are many people of the Jewish faith who are seeking Jesus. They are not alone. Indeed, you know there are angelic orders that oversee and affect changes in these circumstances so they too are being of service in these unseen realms. Don't feel then that the burden is entirely on your shoulders. That is all.

C: It's just so very interesting that all these things are happening.

TOMAS: It is, as we have said many times, a very exciting time to be alive on Urantia. It is even more exciting than your perspective allows. It will be even more interesting for you, I am certain, when you are given the opportunity to yield to the wisdom of the archives and see from that perspective the panorama of Urantia's unfolding. We are very happy for your participation, for your earnestness and your yearning. These sincere desires to further the peace that passes all understanding is our goal.

L: When you refer to the archives, are you referring to the temples?

TOMAS: No. My inference was vague. It is really more like living records, which is why I used the word yield as compared to — in your libraries you go look up words in a book; in our libraries, we yield to their information. It's a process.

H: Do you mean the word the information conveys?

TOMAS: It is sort of like, H, if you go into a tanning salon and get tanned. You don't go looking for the sun, you experience the process by yielding to the tanning salon.

The following is a recent excerpt from a lesson presented by the Teacher, Ham. He discusses the purpose of life, the changing landscape of religious institutions, and socioeconomic evolution:

HAM 11/22/98 (Answering questions from the assembled group)

HAM: Many have asked what is the purpose of life and some have thought the purpose of life was to find God but you know that God has already found you. Your purpose is then to increasingly grow in the spirit, to actualize your growing and dynamic personalities in reality. And to actually become more and more like the creator by choosing that which is God-like in your highest understanding.

The Father lives within each person and has thus given himself to be the perfect guide, the focus of infinite perfection that slowly draws to himself that which is imperfect and thus grows perfection out of imperfection. This could be said to be the Father's will, the Father's plan. Is this helping? Q: Yes. You said churches are losing their influence. Are they losing their influence as they are becoming more materialistic?

HAM: Not entirely. Churches on your world have always had one foot squarely in the material and one in the spiritual real. It is due to many factors, but mainly because during this time

period, your world is changing so very rapidly the churches cannot maintain their control and influence over the people and this is all for the best. We anticipate in the coming centuries a more or less complete transformation of what is known as the churches. But, this transformation will come from without not from within.

Q: Ham, I'm not sure what that means.

HAM: It means the old church institutions will gradually die and fade into history. That a new and greater spirituality will take hold of the planet and the institutions of spirituality will be vastly different and much more integrated into society as a whole. At least, this is our projection.

Q: Could you relate that same type of discussion to our economic systems because all of us have to operate in this competitive, capitalistic society that contains all the things that you are warning us about. Could you describe how you foresee the economic systems changing?

HAM: There are differing schools of thought on this issue. Most see the gradual spread of capitalism over the world, over the now impoverished areas, with the gradual diminishment of armed conflicts. Armed conflict, at this time, is a very great obstacle and it is entwined with capitalism and the capitalist idea also. So there is a link between these two concepts which might be called survival of the fittest or the strongest or the most ruthless. Some see that the diminishment of armed conflict therefore cannot come without the basic modification of capitalism. There is always a struggle between the ideals of economic freedom and the need to temper unbridled capitalism which feeds and contributes to the basest instincts of mankind. These are great problems, and we watch with great interest how the next few decades will play out. I wish I could be more specific.

A lesson by Abraham dealt with the "re-connection" of universal spiritual

circuitry and its effect on worship:

ABRAHAM 8/31/98

ABRAHAM: This week would have appeared to some to be a real test in attaining soul rest. In times of trial it is not always easy to be worshipful, but certainly can you be trustful that Father is quite involved in all you do.

You spoke this evening on this world's re-connection to the whole of the universe. With the re-connection comes the understanding that worship becomes literal. In your worshipful attitude, are you renewing the mortal mind, clearing the fog of confusion and spirit poisons. In worship, are you connecting with the cosmic mind and those benefits that go with it. Sharp and clean thinking, quick perception, foreknowledge of events, solutions to everyday problems ... these are all benefits of your connection with the cosmic mind—the utilization of the spiritual circuits. Does not this information bring you peace and an ease to your mortal mind—one could even say soul rest? Worship is the ultimate rest for the soul.

In your rest there is renewal and a material energy link to those on High. This is how the Master could be such a beautiful and brilliant expression of Father. His soul rest allowed Him to partake of Father's infinite energy and equipped Him with the knowledge He needed to be a bearer of spiritual light. The Master, going about His daily business, was enabled to display a manifestation of Father, a good and true expression of what our Father really is.

Jesus could display a fun loving attitude in the midst of a group of children. He could sympathize with a downcast fellow mortal. He could comfort one in tremendous pain. He could ease the mind of one who was anxiety ridden. These are all expressions of Father, and Jesus performed these wonderful acts in simply living His mortal life. He was an expression of Father in all He did, to all He met.

Had not the Master craved such close-

ness with Father, He would perhaps have not been such a beautiful expression of Father. What an excellent example we have in which to learn!

Worship, and quiet time with Father, was indeed a priority in the Master's life. He completely trusted that each day that came, He was well taken care of; He need not look to His Father to say, "What about me?" no. He, rather, looked to His Father to express His thankfulness and trust. There, was that connection with the cosmic energy. There, was His motivation to be an expression of the living God.

These are but a small sampling of the very practical, yet far-reaching lessons available to us because of Urantia being reconnected to the cosmic circuitry, and an inkling of what lies ahead in this epochal time of revelation.

My experience with this new found ability of mortals actually receiving instruction on how to live the life that was exemplified by Michael in His sojourn as the mortal, Jesus, has been nothing but positive. Since I was a very small child, I have heard of people speaking to God, or of God speaking to people. As a "born again Christian," I listened intently for that "still small voice" to guide me in doing God's will.

I'm sure you have either heard of incidences where God spoke to men and women, or you, yourself, have heard the voice of God speak to you. Obviously it isn't a "voice" that remotely resembles the voices of our fellow mortals. Rather it is a leading, an urging, that speaks to us in a place that is untouchable. Indescribable. and as personal as anything can be.

Now, in this age of reconnection and correction, we take a step of faith forward into a new and more direct form of communication between ourselves and the Father. His agents are able to bridge that gap of silence, that ambiguous area of wonder and doubt: "Is He really speaking to me...or is it my imagination...?"

Be assured, it is a step of faith. This practice of being able to receive instruction and to ask questions of celestials who have gone through special Mansion World schools in order to more effectively succeed in this Mission to help us, is nothing like the thunder and lightning appearances we may have imagined them to be. The fact is, it requires sincere, discerning faith.

I have found it to be more like a kinder, gentler counseling, a sympathetic and empathetic identification with our plight. A continual, yet patient urging to develop the faith needed to allow our Thought Adjuster..our Father Fragment, to have the desired effect in our lives.

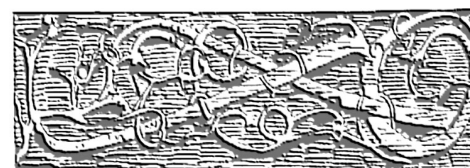
California and the other in Idaho. Machiventa addresses himself to the question then being debated among Teaching Mission students as to the wisdom of inviting the Ubers at IC'99 to a transmission from Ham.)

MACHIVENTA ON IC '99

(The following two transmissions from Machiventa were received individually, late at night, August 15-16, 1998; one in

Machiventa Melchizedek 8/15/98
(TR Thea Hardy) Private session, approx. 10PM.

Greetings, dear one, I am Machiventa, and I greet you with affection and deep regard. I know the struggles of your heart in these times of difficulty. I have been by your side through many struggles and pains as you valiantly attempt to remain on the track of light in this mission. You are all still so very human. It is so hard for you all to understand anything of true unity. Even in your pleas for understanding, you do not understand. Do not be shocked by my words. The inadequacy of all of you



SELECTED TRANSMISSIONS

in this mission is quite profound. This is because you are coming up through the difficulties of the rebellion and default on a world that is nearly the worst of the lot. How many times we tell you, and yet your child-hearts hope and believe that it cannot be so bad here. Yet I tell you that it has been all but devastated, your beloved world. And when we are done, it will shine in beauty. Yet that is long off, and you are at the beginning. Those of you who think that you have been seasoned sufficiently do cause us some degree of humor. For in our sense of time, seven years and more is an eye-blink, not long enough to take the equivalent of a nap. Yet to you, I know that it seems long, over-long and taxing on the patience of hearts that yearn to see this world filled with the possibilities that lie ever growing in your hearts.

Dear ones, be patient. I know how difficult these words are to hear, and I say them to you all, for in each case there is an issue in which patience is a partial if not a total solution. You are all so eager, each in your own understanding. We love this in you, that you throw yourselves with sincere desire into your understandings of this mission. Your dedication is sublime, especially for beings who could easily have turned away. But your desires must be tempered by the wisdom of the understanding of time. For none of what any of you want can yet come to pass. The fullness of time is not upon you. I can promise you, and have, that much which is wondrous is yet before you and will be fulfilled in your lifetimes. Still, it will come as it does, and not because of your efforts to make it one way or another.

Be patient with one another. This is the primary call to patience that I would ask of you. Be patient as you seek deeper wisdom in mutual understanding. Do not see this desire to delve deeper, however awkwardly and crudely it is performed, as a danger or difficulty in this mission. We

have come to encourage you to share openly, in ways that are not usual to your world. But in your imperfection, you cannot do it well without practice. And hence you practice with one another, awkwardly and without great tact. How could it be otherwise? You live on a world where the free expression of truth has long been suppressed – even though for supposedly high value – where you are still experiencing the heady freedom of new possibilities that have long been waiting for human lives to embody.

In the newness of your freedom, some of you run ahead in this avenue and that avenue. Many of you have been running ahead in different directions. And you have been dismayed to find that others' perceptions of your direction are not always what you would have expected. Yet is it so unusual that you would have difficulty in such things, when your world has always had such difficulties? I do not mean to chide you, but your wonderful achievements still only leave you barely ready to enter the first grade curriculum. Even though some have worked ahead of others in our one-room school house, we do not have very advanced workers from the perspective of what has yet to be done. So perhaps a rush to pride, whatever achievements and comprehensions you may believe that you have, may be premature.

Remember, this mission is a testing place and a learning ground for many things. And we are just barely out of the starting gate. You are still enrolled in our provisional and experimental stages. While there are many, and progress is evident to most of you, we are still a long, long distance from the main course. If you accept this readily and cheerfully, and take your time to enjoy the process along the way, you will find endless fascination in it. But the linear and direct approach that you often seek tends to use up your energies and you wear yourselves out with unrealistic expectation. Expectation is always a mixed

thing. One part is hope, and this you must have. I can tell you with utter assurance that your hopes and dreams, however much they may appear at risk, will be fulfilled. The fulfillment may not look exactly as you had expected, but you will be satisfied. The other part of expectation, however, can all too often be a form of naivete. If you expect one another to behave with flawless, or even considerable decorum at this stage in your development, then you are doomed to disappointment. We marvel at how well you do. Yet your human assessments of success in interpersonal interaction is not much like our methods of assessment. You do not yet know many of the factors such as the actuality of different personality types and how this enters into human interaction. You do not know many, many of the differentials that go into your interactions - entirely aside from personal history, biochemistry, spiritual awareness and those things which you can and do sometimes recognize. Without an understanding of many basics, your assessments of one another's performances tend to range from the peculiar to the unfortunate.

In saying this, I exempt none of you. Yet in saying this, I imply no criticism. For you are amazing creatures, whom I love with a deep and abiding dedication. For in the face of great difficulty, and confusion, you yet manage more love for one another than would be expected. Have a care that you not mistake specific behaviors as the only demonstrations of love. For there are many different patterns that indicate loving response, and you tend to pare down the list to a few impossible of attainment.

One of the most useful pursuits you can share together is an examination of what it means to love - not to come to a consensus, but rather to see the vast range of ways in which genuine love can be expressed. In your interactions with one another on your material circuits communications lists,

we have seen extraordinary expressions of love from all sides. Yet few of you see that this is so. Because you do not know one another as you will one day do, you do not see the many successes of your shared love, and tend to see only the failures. Love is profound and seeks ways more diverse than you can yet imagine to promote its truth, beauty and goodness parameters. Almost all of you have displayed extraordinary caring in the midst of this marvelous human effort towards coming together.

Harmony is not expressed in monotonies. It is the arrangement of a riot of colors, woven together until they work and do not clash. You cannot possibly weave them from the start, especially when you are all such beginners. There is a good deal of pride that enters into your reactions. You have had to have pride on this planet to survive. Yet you know the dangers of this feeling. Others of you have what you might term excess humility. You do not yet see that what you have to offer is as valuable as others who seem to be brighter stars. Yet if you will not speak up and offer yourselves, you will remain invisible. But you are not invisible to us, and we lovingly urge you to enter into the process of becoming family. Even so, you cannot, none of you, sustain a pace in which you terrifically continue without ceasing. All of you need to pay attention to the patterns of your own energies and take the necessary time for living your lives and seeking the spiritual sources that are always so lovingly near. This family conversation will continue for a long, long time. You need not solve all problems in a day, or a week, or a month, or a year, or yet even more. You cannot do so even if you so wish. And here again I ask of you patience, not alone with each other, but also with yourselves. You are yet children, and not able to function without your rest periods. You must seek balance in this as in all other things that you do. We watch with love and encouragement as you work together, like unruly puppies, to forge the family bonds that you all hold to be so important. For this we love you

almost aching at times; you are precious to us beyond compare. Seek this family understanding, but seek also your other avenues of love. You need not fear that you will fall into difficulty that cannot be resolved. You are doing well, if you could see as we see. Did you not realize that in these very early days, there would be much sorting out as you all, in your diversity, moved from the stage of wonder and into the next stage of development in this mission?

What you are doing is inherently creative. The learning of expression of love is always the most creative of acts. Usually, there are times in any creative process where the process seems to break down, yet if you push through, believing that success can be had, you will come out into the excitement of the deeper creativity that is only had after the initial difficulties are overcome. Persistence and dedication are powerful creative tools. Do not fear the outcomes, for you are most certainly in the hands of the Father. Yet also, do not cease and weary of the important lessons in coming to understand one another ever better.

You are on a marvelous journey. But sometimes you travel through the scratchy grass where stinging bugs seem to thwart your way. Hold one another's hands and look to the snowy mountain above the jungle. You are going there, and you will help one another. The grasses will continue to lacerate until you are older and stronger, but help one another to salve the wounds, even when you are sometimes the apparent cause of one another's wounds. Learn forgiveness, patience and forbearance, for these are some of the watchwords of love. Remember that inside each of you lives the very heartbeat of the Father's love, and it will never fail you. Remember also that Michael's spirit stands with you, ever guiding your path to the future. With such guidance, and a universe more of support, you cannot fail.

You are not failing now.

Farewell,
Machiventa
Corvallis LinEL Group

Half Moon Bay, CA August 16, 1998
Private Session: Susan Kimsey
12:30 AM

Greetings, Susan. This is Prince Machiventa who speaks now. It is my wish that Ham speak to the assemblage of souls at IC99. Let all come who choose to listen. There is great purpose to this gathering at your conference. Many will come to this conference to unite and affirm their belief in the integrity and beauty of the Urantia Book. Many will come to reestablish companionship and camaraderie among their fellow believers. Many will come to advance the cause of truth, beauty, and goodness, on your planet. All will be there with sincerity. The Teacher, Ham, has a message for all who have ears to hear and eyes to see. That is all that we ask of our audience--a desire to hear this message from the Teacher, Ham, with support for this proposal as best they can. All who wish to refrain from efforts toward this goal are as dearly loved as those who choose to bring about this event. We have no favorites among our precious students.

This, then, is the task set before you. To present to the IC99 committee a proposal that a large gathering room be provided for this one hour event, where all who choose may come to hear Ham's words. At all other times at this conference we encourage you to participate in whatever way appeals to you. Any efforts made by Teaching Mission participants to express their belief in, and enjoyment of, this Mission are gratefully appreciated by those of us who serve you from on high. There is no need to be concerned that this request for a room for this special assembly is offensive to some who attend this conference. We wish them well, and request that they show patience to their spiritual brothers and sisters in this matter. Even Jesus was given his moment in the temple, despite the misgivings of the Sanhedrin.

Let this matter be placed in the Hands of God in your hearts and minds, now, my children.

I respect that Rebecca's transmissions usurped the dynamic of your debate. Let yourselves trust that there was purpose to this, also. We are here to lead you into effective situations for our ministry to spread to others. This was an opportunity which we wished to exploit for good reasons, and we did not see you, as a group, involving us in your discussions. There is so much more to this Mission, my children, than you can now perceive. We recognize and respect your reticence in "forcing the issue" with those who do not yet see the validity of our work, but we do not choose to be hampered by this reticence, now. You who show good will toward others in your efforts to advance our cause will allow us the diplomacy we need in this delicate negotiation.

Show trust, my dear ones, in God's Will shaping the current of events as it flows through the river of Time. Evidence faith in your brothers and sisters of all beliefs and political persuasions in this Urantia Book community. Much goodness can come from your efforts in this manner. You will be "Emissaries of Light and Love" at this conference if you will allow this light and love to first fill your hearts and minds, and brighten your spirits. This is the best manner in which to attend this conference, and we will be with you as you do your best to express this light and love that guides you.

There is nothing to fear, or regret, in making this effort with us to reach the many souls who will attend this conference. The only thing to be lost is the opportunity which this event presents, if you do not choose to cooperate with Teacher Ham's request. Even this will not deter us from our efforts to reach toward as many of you as we can, but we hope you will work with us to make of this opportunity the best expression of our ministry that we can. Allow us

this chance, my students, and I, as your Prince, will orchestrate an event which will win hearts and minds for the Father, through this mission of love and kindness which we now bring to your planet. I encourage all of you to pray for inspiration in this matter. God's Will shall be manifested in this way.

I close now, Susan, and I thank you for your cooperation in expressing my words to all who chose to listen.

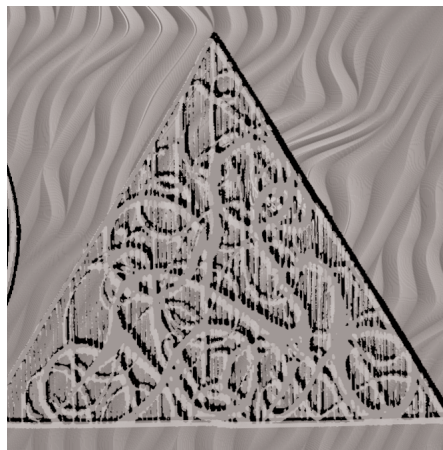
Half Moon Bay, CA Teaching Mission Group

A Symposium on Courage and Faith, Perspectives of the Dawn

Transcript from Pocatello
7-2-99

Daniel(Bob S.) "My friends, I am Daniel. I will kick off tonight's TR session with greetings to all here gathered. It has been a while since we have gathered in this format and I frankly missed it! I comforted myself in increased rounds at which I contacted many individually and busied myself in other ways. Now I look back on that time as growth potential. I trust it was similar for many of you. Now we are back together and I am comforted in that view. Well, with these words of welcome I open tonight's proceedings to the next speaker.

Seraptatia(Bill): Greetings, my



friends. I am a seraphim of guardian status given the honor to be present with you in this manner. My name is Seraptatia. I and my partner desire to share our fondness for you all publicly and in behalf of our order of seraphic ministry.

In as much as you rejoice in the human contact you experience, as in this most comforting and enthusiastic gathering this evening, so we also share these feelings with you and as you do. There is truly tier after tier of celestial observers present in this time-space location this evening.

We have, indeed, cheered you with celestial applause as we have seen and heard the music of your souls spilling forth from your mortal words. You have benefitted from many different causes, but because you all have persisted in staying the course toward Paradise, while your experiences vary, your growth is compatible because you are open to spiritual influence. You make our work much easier.

You know, my friends, we of the angelic orders of seraphim and you of the mortal origins, we two are of the closest bonding, more in the life to come than this one; but our destinies are intertwined. We seraphim have not ever experienced the boundaries of material limitations. We do not know the animal nature, for our origin is purely spirit. Nevertheless, our minds, coming from the same source, have much in common. We prize courage and bravery for a spiritual cause as one of the finest exhibitions of the soul's diverse expression. I wish to talk a minute about the relationship between courage and faith.

Contrary to the mischaracterization, faith is not for the weakling. To exercise faith requires great courage. To believe the words of God in your soul and to assent to that leading and guidance is not the work of cowards. It is not for the ease seekers, those who wish their life to be at ease. Indeed, did your theologian Kierkegaard correctly understand that faith is a leap, a jump into the void, trusting that the everlasting arms are

there to catch one, even as the safety net underneath the trapeze artist.

If you knew all the factors that are needed to make a decision, you would not need faith, you would only need knowledge. But you must trust, in your Agondonter status and for those who are not Agondonters as well, that the guidance you receive when you ask sincerely, is truly from a loving, compassionate, infinitely wise, gracious Personality of pure light, in Whom there is no darkness at all.

While the bravery of the soldier is to be admired, and the courage of a man or woman who is intellectually honest is to be applauded, the faith of the smallest and least of mortals requires courage far transcending either that of the body or the mind. It is little wonder, then, that you mortals hold such high interest for us, your seraphim sisters. We stand amazed at times when you make those leaps of faith, when you turn down the clamor of wall to wall ego trying to fit in where it does not belong, when you can allow it to function in God's intended way.

Indeed is Urantia becoming flooded with spiritual light. The Correcting Time is progressing amazingly well. Many of you will experience things which generations and generations have longed to see, to hear, to touch and be a part of. But even so, the most amazing and miraculous journey you each experience within yourselves, your personal ascension career.

Know that we guardian seraphim truly love you; we do not look upon you with judgement. It would not be our place to criticize any of you, for your natures are different from ours, you being material and we being spirit. I suppose in all truth we sometimes wish we could experience ascension from the least to the greatest, as you will do, but since that is not possible for us, we rejoice in our association with you.

Thank you for giving me your ears and know that I give you my heart as

even do your own guardian seraphim. Be at peace, my friends. There is nothing that can separate you from the love of God, nothing! Farewell.

Seraphic Complement (Cathy): Greetings. My name eludes this TR, but I am partner to the seraphim who has just addressed you and I wish to amplify one point: while courage and faith may exist independently from one another, when courage exists without faith it is often misdirected; and when faith exists without courage it is often ineffectual. The co-existence of faith and courage is an example of synergy where the result is greater than the simple addition of these two forces, and within your sharing time you have seen many examples of this. I bless you all and I leave you with resounding applause from the gallery of celestials here gathered. Good evening.

Aaron(Bill): Hello, my friends. I am Aaron. Along with Daniel and Minearisa I wish to tell you that I also missed our get-together. And while I also was available and in communication with a few of you, I enjoy it when we are all here in one place. Your perception about the fittingness of new beginnings and expansion of perceptions is right on target. There is much which is astir, for the mission we are engaged in, while beginning and focused on the individual, is, in fact, to bring about Light and Life on Urantia. We are very much interested in promoting all means of facilitating progress in every kind of human endeavor.

I know that some of you are curious about contact other than spiritual and morontial contacts which you now experience. However, it is not our place to deal with this topic. As Isaac has been instructed in the past, even so you must await these possible events and verify for yourselves through human means whether or not you place much credence in the alleged promise of alien contact But you can count on our continued participation with you, for we are in here for the long haul, not the short. We intend to stay until the job is finished,

unless, of course, our superiors should deem it otherwise.

As you get older, beyond the span of mortal years, time has a different perspective. A hundred years is as a snap of a finger whereas to you it is a lifetime or more. Patience is in proportion to one's past experience; and as we get older, as we grow more in the temporal aspect of eternal life, we become more patient.

I understand how excited some of you can be about the prospect of things getting better on this planet and how you would like to truly believe that is happening. I say, yes, pursue this. Find the evidence. Observe what we have been telling you and see, in fact, the dawn is lightening, the sky is growing brighter. The Son is indeed coming soon.

Well, Minearisa desires to speak He requests that PamElla consider if she would change her mind. If not, he will use another TR.

Nancy: I will.

Minearisa(Nancy/PamElla): Thank you for your patience in granting us time to switch gears in expectation. PamElla still stumbles in fear with public teaching, public TRing. I wish to assure her that the circuitry is strong, that she is capable and I desire to continue in the metaphor of dawn.

From the beginning of this Teaching Mission we have used this metaphor in one of your previous meetings. Abraham gave a detailed address on the spreading of the light beginning with that first dim light which brings the horizon into focus. Where previously there was blackness, the glitter of the stars fade and the horizon first appears.

The horizon appeared for Urantia with the birth of Christ Michael in human form on this planet more than 2000 earth years ago. But the dawn remained dim throughout the centuries. The light had arrived, yet it had yet to rise in full glory of the light of Light and Life. With the begin-

ning of this century, as the material reality of world war besought this planet, it appeared as if the darkness would consume the planet and universe forever.

But in those darkest days of near atomic destruction, of mass human killing, of technological devastation never dreamt of before, in those dark days the beginning of the ascent of the light was at hand. In the culmination of centuries of preparation the fifth epochal revelation was planted. The beginning of this phase of correction began. With the culmination of the Lucifer Rebellion the light, once dim, has begun to spread rapidly and dramatically. The light is the light of the sun approaching the horizon, soon to burst forth in full glory, to bathe away the shadows of the predawn and the dawn in the majesty of the brilliance of the full light of the Son, Michael to return as promised.

My words are sincere. The timetable is at hand, not tomorrow, not next year, but soon the world will know that God is real and God's love is final, is The Word. To PamElla I give my thanks for providing me with opportunity, this voice in this forum. There is still another who wishes to address you now. My love to you all. I am Minearisa, Instructor in Residence.

Alkon(Bill/Isaac): I am Alkon. I will speak briefly.

The courage that was spoken of earlier by our Seraphic friends and given such high standing is one of the aspects of character development most important in the ascension career. For you see, courage discounts and disregards the influence of fear. The courageous soul is one who acts in a trusting manner despite all evidence to the contrary, and all the cries of fear which may flood the mind of such a soul when they are asked to do something that they do not know what the outcome will be. Courage is the willingness to give up the attempt to control one's life. In a sense, courage is the willingness to let Spirit take ascension over ego.

Little children, when they are asked by their parents to do some difficult thing, such as learn to put their head under water, at the moment of that decision to immerse their head in water, those children exhibits great courage. He or she fears she will drown, he will smother. But his/her heart knows that the parent is wise and good and looks for his or her best interests.

The person who wishes to control all events is truly a coward for they wish to embrace everything within their knowledge and by that knowledge, gain control... of it, over them, over the many things.

There is also the courage to take responsibility for that which one can control, namely their own free will choices. Once again, this courage when welded with faith makes it possible for someone to be fully alive and present, every moment, turning over that which they cannot and should not control to the province of God, but standing behind the decisions they make and taking responsibility therein. The wonder of it is that God in His great faith in His creation is willing to let each person have a share of His glory, the gift of creative free will, whereby God voluntarily gives up some of His control to each individual person, and in that offering, that gift, shares His glory with His children, with His creation. The circle of love from God the Parent to His child, and from that child to every other child, every other brother and sister and then back to God is the heart throb of the universe of universes.

We talk in finite terms, my friends, as that is our status now. But some day we shall approaching the borders of Ultimacy, having completed Supremacy. It is beyond my comprehension, as I know it is beyond yours. So wonderful, so amazing is our God and this universe of personalities that He has created to share with us! One moment please.

Daniel(Bill): I am Daniel. Once

again, my friends, I thank you for listening to these speeches which have been eagerly awaited by the speakers, pending your getting together again. I desire that in the interests of time that we hold any questions to postpone, if necessary, to our next session. However, I would encourage you as I have done in the past to take your questions to your Indwelling Spirit and there you can find the most satisfactory and efficacious answers. Now, my love to you all. All the celestials here present are on their feet in a round of applause for your courage and faith. Until we converse again, God bless us all. So be it!

Group: Amen. Thank you.

Message to the Mission 1993

Michael of Nebadon
March 24, 1993

TR Thea Hardy, private session.
(It was asked that this message be reserved for a later time. Spring 1994, teacher LinEL asked that it be brought forth.)

It is I, Michael. Dear ones, I wish to speak to you, to offer comfort to you. I know that this time is hard, is difficult, both to experience and to understand. This time is indeed the early stages of the mission, the testing grounds, as it were. Although this stage reaches around the globe, in the years to come you will barely recognize this mission from what it appears today, for as you have thought/received, we are at this time going through the winnowing process. This is not to separate those who will survive from those who will not, but to separate out those who are willing to serve in the capacity of apostles, of teachers.



This is a time to explore the ways to reach my children of Urantia. I am the one who has asked for this process, for I well know that however the heart yearns to serve, there are those who will continue and those who will not. There are many factors that enter into this and none who turn away from this assignment are to be judged. There are many reasons that persons come to this mission, and also many reasons why they turn away. Some come for wonders; many of these will leave. Some come for self-importance; most of these will leave. Some come with preconceptions; those whose preconceptions are not in line with the Father's will will change or leave. Some come with ideas of power over others; they will find no welcome here. Some come with extreme enthusiasm; many will struggle when the difficulties of serving this mission dampens their unrealistic high spirits, and many will depart. It will be unlikely that even a quarter will remain of this season, of this early testing time. Again, all are loved equally by the Father and by me. All are not suited to be the same thing, to play the same role.

You concern yourselves overmuch with this process, breaking your hearts against the rejections and the falsenesses that appear to batter you. I say to you, this is only a natural process, and one over which you have no control. Beyond doing your best at what is asked of you, you are not asked other. The outcomes are not yours. You can give your pains and your worries to me and I will help you to heal the loneliness that is the lot of all who follow here.

I know your loneliness, for I lived it on your world when there was no one to hear and understand my heart on Urantia, no one in human form who understood. Therefore will I most lovingly and willingly bind up your wounds. I ask you to turn to me in this, over and over, and I will give you comfort and help you to seek the strength from the Father to move forward. None of this is demanded of you; I have called you and you have

come, but this is no mandate, but a request made in love. Think not that I will ever abandon you as you struggle on this rocky and lonely road, and know that wherever possible, I will not only light your path, but show you the wonders that all who seek reality will see along the way. You will not regret this, however many dark hours you must bear. There will always be the light. Your task is to try to remember this in the hours of darkness, that I am with you and I am the light of the world, that the Father shines in all his glory from within your very being. Draw on this, draw on it daily and often.

You cannot expect from your human companions what they cannot give. It is of no use to expect these things. It only leads to frustration and pain. In the days ahead, there will be yet struggles, but there will come also the joys and the serenity of fulfillment. When the mission starts up in its fullness, you will be teachers. Some will be asked to venture forth, but none will be required. There will always be teaching work for this mission that can be done at hand; you will not lose out on serving in this mission by remaining in their own communities, for there are enough souls present to minister to wherever you pass by. You are the leaven in the dough. Not all can be the leaven, and there is no shame in this, but you will lighten the entire population of the world, and help to lift them up. Some of this you will do formally, and other you will do by loving all you meet, even as you will be teaching them to love as I have loved you.

Truly you will eventually find that the gospel which I have brought is not so difficult. Trust in me; trust in my mission. Trust that all will come to pass and wear every rejection in my name with pride as a badge of honor. You who seek to serve me faithfully have no reason to reproach yourselves because others do not understand. Learn to love them and to forgive them. I love and honor you; the Father has you ever in his keeping. Let this be enough, let this be a sufficiency. Seek me and

the Father and in time this will satisfy your souls such that these things that now hurt you so deeply will be as pinpricks soon forgotten and put aside.

You are on a wonderful journey, and often times upon setting out the weak muscles protest, once the initial thrill is past. But you are even now hardening and strengthening for the long journey. Do not give up now, dear ones. You will find your second wind, and truly the traveling will be wonderful. We are doing this together; you are doing this with me. Think upon that and realize what it means. And turn more frequently to my teachers who I have given you to be morontia companions on this journey. They love you and know you. They can give you comfort and good counsel. Turn also to your angels and seek to communicate with them, for they are always with you in this task. They challenge you, but they also strengthen and comfort you and urge you to prayer and worship which renew your souls.

Truly, you have what you need. Do what I ask as best you can, do not fear the mistakes which are inevitable, be straightforward, and place all that hence comes to you in the hands of the Father. This is what is asked. Know that I love you, each one of you, tenderly and truly and personally. When you are uncertain, my spirit is with you, my mind is available to you, and if you seek the truth, will place you upon the true path of your soul. I am with you always as we seek together to fulfill the will of the Father in heaven. Be of good cheer, my children. You are surrounded by love and light. Call upon me and know that I will always hear.

Farewell.
Michael of Nebadon

Teacher Will (Details, Dogmas, Disputes...)

July 11, 1999

Tallahassee, FL Teaching Mission

T/R #1; Will: The love of God surrounds us. The light of God brightens our paths. The power of God upholds us. Wherever we gather, God is. Good evening, this is your teacher, Will, who loves you. I would like to speak tonight on details, dogmas, rituals, organizations, and the disputes that arise from these aspects of a religious path.

History is replete with incidences of revelatory insight as seen through the perspective of the recipient, and thereby tainted, not intentionally, but twisted in accordance with the knowledge of the "prophet", so to speak. We also see how mankind, in its animal-like slothfulness, would prefer, in many instances, to find the truth that suits them, crystalize it, ritualize it, dogmatize it, and utilize that as their exclusive understanding of a religious path, treating all others as blasphemous.

These types of intolerances, misunderstandings, and differences of opinion are certainly understandable, but hardly an enlightened path. For they have generated, over the years, that very element which spiritual enlightenment should be the antithesis of - hatred. Well-meaning religionists hating other well-meaning religionists, intolerant to differing interpretations of scriptures and understanding. I can assure each of you that there is not one of you that truly has the full grasp of what is going on, and I can confidently say that of most every person on this planet. And indeed, while the Urantia Book may be a very high source of truth, it too is not the last word.

So in this teaching mission we have endeavored to encourage each of you, and all who read our words, to go to the heart of the matter, to understand that love is the currency of the universe. And as was suggested tonight, to step out in faith, trying not to

knock down barriers before us, not to convince those who hold differing views, but instead to find those heart connections that don't require an agreement as to ritual and dogma. We want you to break this process down to the very essence, so that the spiritual fragrance, the unselfish service that we recommend, will be commonly understood to be friendly gestures of brotherhood and sisterhood between children of God.

It will do us no good to argue any of the details. That is not our job. We are here to encourage you to be conduits of light, not to just those who are Urantia Book readers, or teaching mission adherents, or Christians, Muslims, or any other sect, cult, religion, or attitude. We are here to unite the children of God in a common understanding of lineage and destination, with encouragement to reach out to each other in help, however possible. Some say this is too simplistic. We say there is no other way.

Tonight we see the departure of one of our students to points unknown. And to answer her question, yes, we will be with you, for you will have many opportunities for this type of loving service that we have discussed while you are on your journey. I will be with you from time to time, and you have your personal teachers. But know that you will be missed from this group, and yet the heart connections that you have made here will endure.

And to each of you, as you scurry off here and there this summer, don't forsake our mission, for when you are on the road, so much can happen. And we anticipate that you will enjoy the many people that you encounter as you go forth. We are proud of each of you, as we know you are buffeted from time to time by those who question whether indeed you are on a path worthy of your participation, whether you are being led astray. Each of you will have to answer that for yourself, but I think I know where you stand.

In this coming week we send our prayers to those in pain, who face physical maladies, who are unsure about God. We ask you, Father, envelope them in light, assure them of their status, connect them with those who love them. This week, we ask that you provide each of our students with opportunities so that they may grow and pass along your love (and ?). We ask that they disregard the varying interpretations proscribed to by the many various sects, and instead, make direct connection with you, Father, as they embrace you in the stillness and look to you for their source of guidance. And all this we ask in your name, amen. Shalom.

Excerpt from Pocatello Idaho Transcript, July 16, 1999

Daniel(Bill): I am Daniel. I would conclude our meeting with these thoughts:

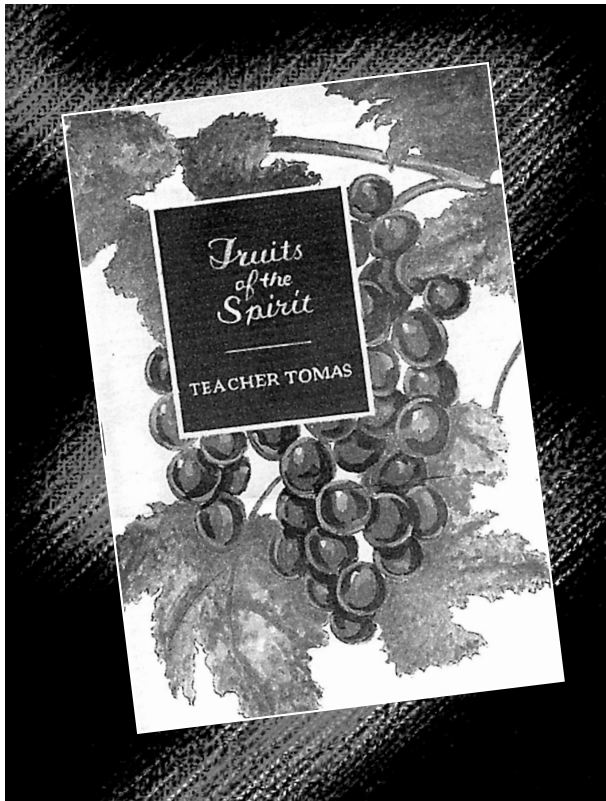
While the excitement of the future is delicious to taste and thrills the soul to think that this planet is finally going to turn around, I would remind you that your greatest excitement is truly in your discovery of the nature of God as He dwells within you. Your desire to conform to His



In Conclusion

truth, beauty, and goodness in you and express that to all others, still remains the most important thing, for this world will reach Light and Life one person at a time. When the Magisterial Son comes he will not command, but he will, in the manner of divine love, encourage, facilitate and teach. Your own adventure in ascension is your prime responsibility for with this you do share with the whole. As each part progresses, so does the whole progress; and even in reciprocal fashion as the whole moves, so does it facilitate each part.

We are overjoyed to be part of your lives, my friends! Someday you will join us and see us as we are, and then you will know those moments of doubt, those worries and anxieties, while real enough at the time, have no lasting influence. Only that which is of God shall last. All the rest will either evolve from error to perfection or be extinguished as sin and iniquity. My love to you all, and the love our staff here present, go with you. But most importantly, the Source of all Love is in your hearts and minds forever. Go in peace. Goodbye.



Teacher Tomas' Fruits of the Spirit

The Harp of God Foundation is very pleased to present this creative production from the Teaching Mission. This *Course in Character Development* is one of the first compilations to introduce the co-creative efforts in character development emerging from transmissions from our Father's myriad celestial teaching personalities.

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The Light and Life Journal and the Harp of God Foundation

By Jim Cleveland and Marty Greenhut

The Light and Life Journal is published to get a look at spiritual subjects across the board, boldly and with candor. We are seekers with an open-hearted desire to find the highest truth we can receive. This magazine of spiritual exploration is founded on study of the Urantia Papers.

We are resolved to be open to any and all ideas, insights and inspirations that are currently held on our world and to see how they might interrelate. There are plenty of praiseworthy narratives, a burgeoning tide of incisive and thought-provoking writers and a plethora of new and re-emerging old spiritual movements to look into. With only 240 open pages per year, we can hardly touch upon the amazing spiritual events of our lives and

times. But we are here, anyway, doing what we can at the Light and Life Journal – on-line and in print – and offering opportunities for writers.

At www.lightandlife.com, you are always a welcome visitor to read on-line essays, book samples and celestial transmissions, download and share past issues of the Journal, bookmark our extensive links collection of planetary spiritual resources and shop in our bookstore. Watch us grow.

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Our first two publications, Teacher Tomas' *Fruits of the Spirit*, and This Special Edition of the Light and Life Journal, are available at IC'99. Make sure to get your copies of these before leaving the conference! These two publications were financed by the generosity of contributors. Monies that come from the sales of *Fruits of the Spirit* will be re-invested in Harp of God, Inc.

ABOUT MONEY: The Harp of God is a not-for-profit corporation. We endeavor to establish a publishing venture that will be self-sustaining and able to grow from its own roots. This, however is only done with barrels of money on hand and we have none. We are of the understanding that our ship sails the waters of the hopes and dreams of many of this day and age. We invite all who believe in this effort to support it in whatever way the Father may lead. From time to time we will reach out for help with a particular project. If it is one

that you would like to help, mail a check made out to the Harp of God, Inc. Send it to Karrie L. Hummel, Treasurer of the Harp of God, Inc. 3354 El Rancho Road, Salt lake City, Utah, 84109.

Light and Life JOURNAL

Sometime this fall we will be sending out our projected budgetary needs for the first year of our work. We hope that you will respond generously if you believe in this work.

Issue #6 Summer 1999

The waters of our lives inked these pages:

Executive Editor: Jim Cleveland.

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Cover design/graphics: Thea Hardy.

Cover photo: Alan W. Rowe.

Production: Thea Hardy

Photo scans : Amy Kellogg

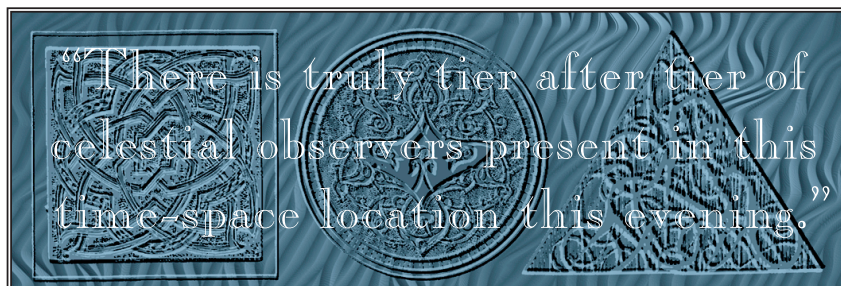
Light and Life Journal is Published four times a year at Light and Life Publications, 848 N. King Street, Xenia, OH 45385. Annual subscription is \$30.00. All back issues are available on our website <http://www.lightandlife.com> and can be downloaded free of charge.

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Some of the Staff members include: Jim Cleveland (right) in conversation with Byron Belitsos of Origin Press, publisher of the Center Within, Steve Hecht at IC '87, and Marty Greenhut shoveling the usual.



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