

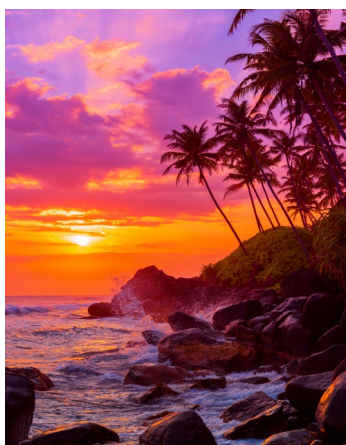


URANTIA FOUNDATION'S NEWS ONLINE

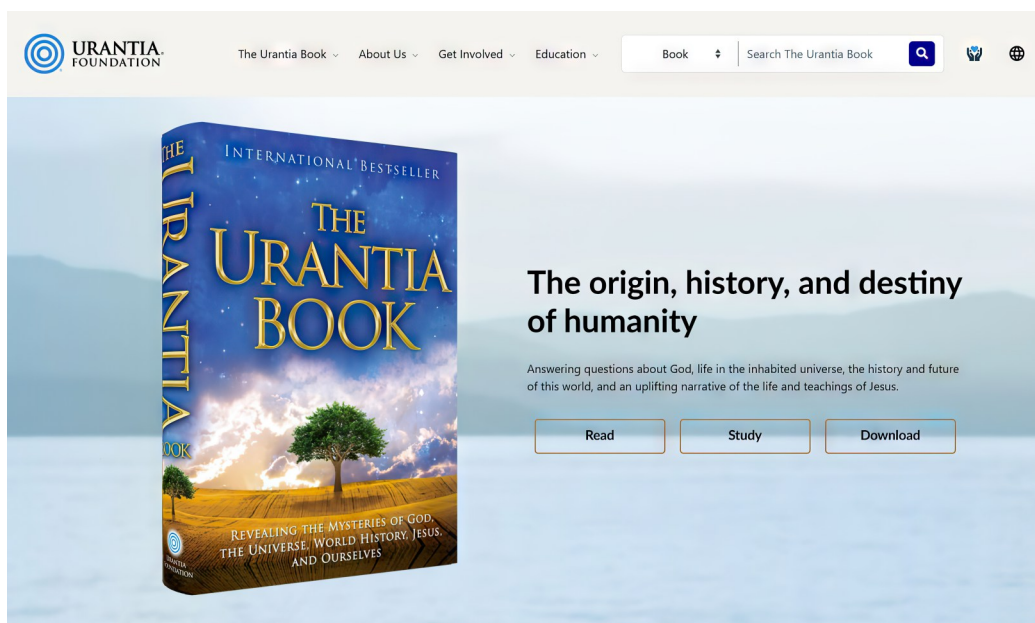


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URANTIA FOUNDATION HAS A NEW WEBSITE!



Urantia Foundation launched its new website in 27 languages on July 8, topping off an ambitious four-year journey to update the organization's primary outreach tool. The goal was to create a website suited for the 2020s with a user-friendly interface that offers a calming and intuitive experience, while retaining all the information from the former site.

The new urantia.org has a streamlined navigation

and an enhanced reading experience of *The Urantia Book*. A notable feature is the availability of free audiobooks in 12 languages! Users can enjoy simultaneous listening and reading while online, or they may download the files to their preferred device for offline listening.

Access the site in any of the 27 languages via the globe icon in the upper right corner of each page. The process of translating

all the pages is an ongoing endeavor. The efforts of our volunteer translators were invaluable to this project. We are deeply grateful for their service!

This website is an ongoing, evolving project. The team is committed to continually enhancing the site with new content, additional translations, and overall improvements. We welcome your feedback; please send your comments to Tamara Strumfeld at tamara@urantia.org.

The following are some remarks that readers have shared:

“Such a beautiful website. Peace invoking, inspiring, calmly colorful, and representative of our lovely siblings in other parts of our world. Thank you for your tenacious efforts to materialize this lovely landing which illuminates the gift, purpose, and meaning of life for our world! Much love to all who worked so diligently and devotedly!”—Judy

“The new site is fabulous, clean, comprehensive, and professional.”—Rick



INSPIRING QUESTIONS

How do I maintain faith in a crisis?

The consciousness of a victorious human life on earth is born of that creature faith which dares to challenge each recurring episode of existence when confronted with the awful spectacle of human limitations, by the unflinching declaration: Even if I cannot do this, there lives in me one who can and will do it, a part of the Father-Absolute of the universe of universes. And that is "the victory which overcomes the world, even your faith." — *The Urantia Book, 4:4.9 (59.5)*

But long before reaching Havona, these ascendant children of time have learned to feast upon uncertainty, to fatten upon disappointment, to enthuse over apparent defeat, to invigorate in the presence of difficulties, to exhibit indomitable courage in the face of immensity, and to exercise unconquerable faith when confronted with the challenge of the inexplicable. Long since, the battle cry of these pilgrims became: "In liaison with God, nothing — absolutely nothing — is impossible." — *The Urantia Book, 26:5.3 (291.3)*



A Celebration of the Chinese Translation—Now Published on Urantia Foundation's Website

CHINESE TRANSLATION



Revelation Outreach in Uganda

GATHERINGS



“Love the new website. New layout makes a lot of sense and I find searching the UB is much easier.”—Dan

“What a wonderful surprise when I opened the UF website this morning! At first glance it is beautifully clean, attractive, and easy to navigate. Nice change!”—Bill

UPDATES FROM THE APRIL 2024 TRUSTEE MEETING



By Judy Van Cleave, secretary, Urantia Foundation, Idaho, United States

Operations Overview

Books

Tamara Strumfeld reported that when all reports are received, sales will be up for the quarter. Portuguese sales were strong, as were sales of e-books. The exciting news, of course, was the online publication of the Chinese translation in simplified characters. Following a marvelous two-day conference in Taipei, 142 copies of the book were downloaded.

Education

Joanne Strobel reported that the January session of Urantia Book International School (UBIS) concluded on March 24. Offerings included 19 online courses plus one Zoom study group format, led by 22 volunteer teacher-facilitators from seven language branches. A total of 162 students earned a Certificate of Completion. The monthly *Spotlight Series* resumed after the holidays, and the recordings were made available on the

Foundation's YouTube channel.

Joanne noted that UBIS has come very far since Georges Michelson-Dupont introduced a nine-year plan four years earlier. A formula for success was developed, and while it has not been easy, progress has been made in adding trained teacher-facilitators in German, Hungarian, and Polish. The Spanish branch manager, Olga López, noted that cultivating a language branch in UBIS is a lot of hard work, but worth

doing. Georges thanked Olga for all the work she has done, adding that she has been a shining example of leading a successful language branch for 20 years.



Urantia Foundation's online "Marriage and Family Symposium" took place June 14 and 15. Brad Garner managed the Zoom Sessions platform. Recordings of the presentations will be available soon.



Tamara Strumfeld reported on the first-quarter activities of the Urantia Book Study Group Directory. The directory is running smoothly, and with so much of the work automated, the committee members mainly respond to reader inquiries. The annual cleanup is almost finished, and they recruited volunteers to help make phone calls to any group hosts who did not answer the emails sent to verify that the groups are still active and meeting. It's exciting to see that there are now more study groups outside the United States than inside.

Fundraising and Finances

- Q1 unrestricted donations totaled 15% above Q1 of 2023 and 9% above Q1 budget.
- Restricted donations totaled 47% below Q1 of 2023 and 16% above Q1 budget.
- Q1 estate gifts totaled \$421,691.
- Total income decreased by 8% compared to Q1 of 2023 and totaled 6% below the projected budget.
- Administrative expenses increased by 11% for Q1 and totaled 5% over budget.
- Total expenses decreased by 11% from Q1 of last year and totaled 11% under budget.



Mustard Seed Grants Program (MSGP)

The MSGP completed its first round of funding for 2024, and eight awards were approved at the April board meeting. Once again, the MSGP committee members worked tirelessly, analyzing and fairly assessing each application. The following were the recipients for the first round of grants.



1. Urantia Book Teacher Education Program

- Applicant: Urantia University Institute
- Country: United States
- Focus Area: Education

2. Creating an Academic Presence at the American Academy of Religion

- Applicant: Byron Belitsos
- Country: United States
- Focus Area: Academic Interfaith

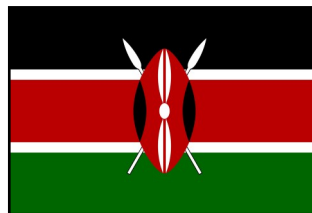


3. Nigerian Urantia Conference 2024

- Applicant: Emeka Anazodo
- Country: Nigeria
- Focus Area: Education

4. That They May Know

- Applicant: Godwin Uzu
- Country: Nigeria
- Focus Area: Education



5. Teaching the Fatherhood of God

- Applicant: Lilian Muthui
- Country: Kenya
- Focus Area: Urantia Book Outreach



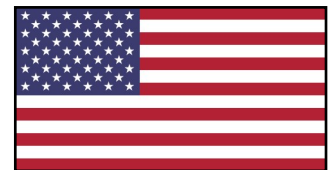
6. Urantia Forging Bridges Virtual School

- Applicant: Isabel Reinoso Manrique
- Country: Colombia
- Focus Area: Education



7. Urantia Book Revelation Channel

- Applicant: Widi Nugroho
- Country: Indonesia
- Focus Area: Digital Outreach



8. Christ Michael Center Outreach Services

- Applicant: Karo Akamune
- Country: United States
- Focus Area: Urantia Book Outreach in Nigeria

Cultural Advisory Council (CAC)

Newly appointed CAC member Jisoo Han gave a PowerPoint presentation on South Korea and the Korean peninsula, which covered the long history of its dynasties and eventual division into the North and

South countries. She noted the various dialects spoken, the high level of literacy, and the value placed on education. The presentation ended with a Q&A session primarily relevant to the state of affairs in Korea regarding *The Urantia Book* and its study.

Governance

Mo Siegel reported that the expanded board will commence a five-year strategic planning session as part of the October quarterly meeting. The schedule will be similar to the 2019 planning session and will be modified to include more goals and strategy with fewer tactics. Joanne Strobel agreed to facilitate the planning meeting for the board once again.

Standard Reference Text (SRT)

Ken Keyser presented the SRT Committee's recommendations to the board. Of the five items that the committee reviewed, two were recommended and approved by the trustees. Three items were recommended to be rejected, but the trustees referred one of these items back to the committee for further consideration.

If you know of a passage in the English text of *The Urantia Book* that you would like the committee to review for a possible error, Tamara Strumfeld is the Foundation's contact for the SRT Committee. You may email your suggestion to tamara@urantia.org.

Translations

Georges Michelson-Dupont began his 102nd quarterly Translation Report by announcing the possibility of a Swahili translation of *The Urantia Book*, which will be a topic of discussion by the Translation Committee. Swahili is a language spoken by 120 million people in eight countries in Africa. A group in Kenya is being considered for this project.

He went on to report that, after 15 years, the translation of *The Urantia Book* into the Farsi language is nearing completion. The

Portuguese revision is nearly finished as well and will be coming under review soon.

The Spanish Review Team has been working with the research company IPSOS based in Bolivia. The qualitative phase is complete. Eight focus groups were held to gather perceptions of the Spanish translations from the readership. The quantitative phase will be a survey developed in collaboration with Urantia Foundation and IPSOS. All Spanish-speaking readers will be invited to fill it out, and we hope to receive a broad response.

The Foundation's 5-year-planning session will be in October.

URANTIA FOUNDATION VISITS TAIWAN



By Georges Michelson-Dupont, international vice president and manager of translations, Urantia Foundation, Recloses, France

Editor's Note: This visit was organized by Vicki Yang and

her team of students in Taiwan, with help from Richard Zhu, the translator of *The Urantia Book* using Simplified Chinese characters. Originally planned for April 2020, it was postponed due to the pandemic. The delay benefited Vicki's students by giving them time to better familiarize themselves with *The Urantia Book* in English.

Background

Vicki Yang is a truth seeker who translated *A Course in Light*—a series of lessons in spiritual development—into Traditional Chinese in the '90s. Over the past 25 years, she has trained

dozens of teachers and thousands of students in Taiwan and the Chinese diaspora, as well as in mainland China.

She is a woman of great

wisdom and remarkable empathy, with a keen sense of organization. She displays a natural leadership, and her students, the vast majority of whom are women, trust



Taipei, Taiwan



Vicki Yang

and love her. She has developed a spiritual thirst in her students which makes the teachings of revelation a natural extension of their search for personal spiritual evolution.

Having become familiar with *The Urantia Book*, Vicki took part in a 1997 meeting of translators organized by Urantia Foundation in Paris. In 2014, Vicki contacted the Foundation, and committed herself to working on the translation of *The Urantia Book* using Traditional Chinese characters. She agreed to use the same term list as the simplified version so that the two would be compatible and consistent.

The Conference

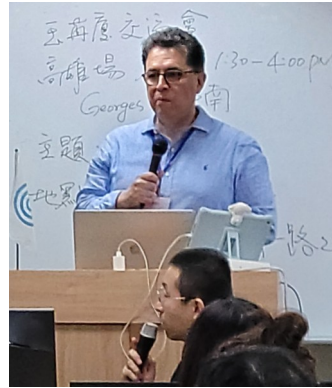
On the weekend of March



Richard Zhu

16-17, seven members of the expanded board of trustees gathered in Taiwan for a two-day conference that was hosted by Vicki and her planning team. Our delegation included Mo Siegel, Gard Jameson, Victor García-Bory, Gaétan Charland, Geri Johnson and her husband Rob Mastroianni, Tamara Strumfeld, and me. Chinese translator Richard Zhu accompanied me from Paris.

It was a milestone in the spreading of the revelation into the world. After 20 years of dedicated work and financing, the translation of *The Urantia Book* using simplified Chinese characters was completed and published on urantia.org. And now we were building fraternal relationships with our

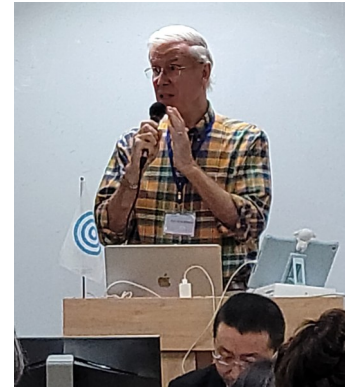


Victor García-Bory

sisters and brothers in Taiwan!

The primary purpose of the conference was to celebrate the Chinese translation and establish its presence in Taiwan and China. We were also there to introduce and explain Urantia Foundation's mission in the world, give some introductory presentations about the revelation, and forge a partnership with Vicki's students, whom she had introduced to *The Urantia Book* over the years.

The event took place in Taipei, with 70 people attending in person, and another 50 by videoconference. It was an extremely well-planned conference, and no detail was overlooked.



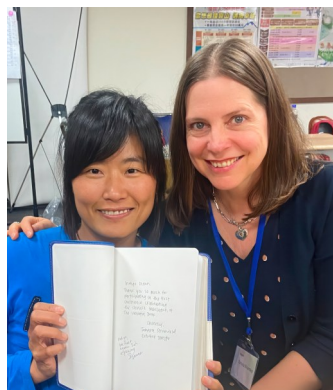
Gard Jameson

All presentations were submitted in advance and meticulously translated. As with a simulcast, the presenters spoke in English while the volunteer translators spoke in Chinese. PowerPoint slides were projected on a screen so that attendees could follow along in their native language, and each presentation was followed by a Q&A session. The entire conference was recorded and streamed live on YouTube.

Saturday began with a warm welcome from Vicki, followed by a thank you from Mo, and a presentation about Urantia Foundation by Tamara. My overview of *The Urantia Book* included some advice on how to read and study it. After a short pause, I delivered the first



Rob Mastroianni, Geri Johnson



Indigo Ocean, Tamara Strumfeld



Gard Jameson, Mo Siegel, Vicki Yang, Richard Zhu

presentation, entitled “*The Urantia Book: An Introduction to Cosmic Consciousness.*”

Gard led a 10-minute meditation after lunch. Then it was Gaéтан's turn to present “The Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man.”

Richard made the final presentation of the day titled “Evaluation and Guidance on Chinese Pursuit of Truth,” a fascinating parallel between the truth delivered in *The Urantia Book* and the millennia-old pursuit of truth in Chinese culture. A book-signing event followed the session, which included many thanks and hugs.

Saturday culminated in an elaborate banquet. Guests were seated at tables of eight, each with an interpreter so that we could get to know one other. It was a time of great conviviality and sharing, with everyone talking freely about their family life, projects, and difficulties.

The conference resumed on Sunday morning with a silent meditation led by Gard, followed by his presentation on “Epochal Revelation.” After a break, it was Victor's turn to speak about “The Origin and Ministry of Midwayers.” After lunch, Geri and Rob presented “The Revealed Appreciation of Jesus, Michael of Nebadon.”

Finally, Gard and Mo brought Vicki to the stage, and paid a heartfelt tribute to her and Richard for their dedication to the revelation, and for all their work on the conference. Vicki announced to her students

that she wished to retire from her other activities so that she can devote herself to finishing the translation of *The Urantia Book* using Traditional Chinese characters. It was a truly poignant and emotional moment shared by all.

It's worth noting that not a single person left the room during the entire conference, and the attention of those listening to the presentations was high, with many taking photos of the various PowerPoint slides.

A Second Conference!

A second, somewhat impromptu conference took place on Monday in Vicki's hometown of Zuoying. Vicki, Richard, and I rose early and traveled by high-speed train to a location where she gives courses on *A Course in Light*. About 30 people, most of them women, were waiting for us there, and a video device was set up to broadcast the session live on YouTube.

I was invited to talk about Urantia Foundation, *The*

Urantia Book, and how it had changed my life. I responded to questions in an atmosphere of great fraternity. Richard spoke about the origin, mission, endowment, and destiny of the Thought Adjuster. His extremely well-structured presentation aroused a great deal of interest; we saw many people taking photos of his slides, and two people were in tears when they realized that God was indwelling them.

We ended our visit in a very chic restaurant as guests of



a generous student. Richard and I took the train back to Taiwan and left the next day for Paris, our heads full of memories of friendships and very encouraged about the future of the Urantia Revelation in Asia.



THE CULTURAL ADVISORY COUNCIL WELCOMES SOUTH KOREA



By Jisoo Han, Seoul, South Korea

I am a 40-year-old Urantia Book reader living in South Korea. Earlier this year, I was honored to be invited by Tamara Strumfeld to join the Cultural Advisory Council of Urantia Foundation. I would like to share my personal experiences within the Urantia communities in both Korea and the United States, as well as the current state of the Urantia community in Korea.

I discovered *The Urantia Book* in 2010, shortly after going through a very difficult time. The book

provided me with great comfort, like finding a light in the darkness. After reading it, I wanted to meet other readers, so I searched for Urantia groups in Korea and participated in a Seoul International Book Fair, where I met other readers. I also attended a study group where passionate discussions took place. While I wasn't fully accustomed to such heated debates, I enjoyed meeting other readers.

In 2013, I moved to the United States for graduate school and attended several Urantia meetings, which had a more enjoyable atmosphere compared to

those in my hometown. In the US, I participated in various study groups and attended large group meetings whenever they occurred. At that time, I was searching for "proof." I wanted to see people who perfectly embodied the truths from *The Urantia Book*. My desire to meet "angel-like people" who had read *The Urantia Book* caused me inner turmoil. Despite receiving the great gift of epochal revelation, I struggled with my own selfishness and lack of love for my neighbors, which led me to distance myself from the book.

In 2019, after facing another difficult situation, I returned to Korea. Feeling emotionally troubled, I naturally sought out the Urantia community again and found the warm brotherhood I was looking for in a new community. Sharing the life of Jesus as depicted in *The Urantia Book* with people who love God and others, I once again experienced healing and growth.

At this point, I need to explain a bit about my home country, South Korea. Korea is a country with a very dynamic modern history. For nearly 5,000 years, Korea was known as



A gathering of Korean Urantia Book readers

a “homogeneous nation” that was not under foreign rule. However, in the last century, it experienced a painful history, including Japanese colonization, civil war, and division. Following this, Korea achieved remarkable growth, known as the “Miracle on the Han River.” Behind the K-pop and K-drama that you see today, countless Koreans have worked tirelessly, making sacrifices to achieve this progress.

Religiously, Korea has traditional beliefs such as Shamanism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. Christianity was introduced by missionaries in the seventeenth century and now accounts for over 70% of the religious population. The global trend of “nonreligion” is rapidly appearing in Korea as well, with 50% identifying as nonreligious. However, many of my friends who say they have no religion fall

into the category of “not religious, but spiritual.”

In such a dynamic Korea, it is not surprising that the first translation of *The Urantia Book* in the East was published by Urantia Foundation in 2000. This was followed by several other translations (three in print, over four online only), various YouTube channels, multiple study groups, and perhaps the world's only Urantia church. The reader

community in Korea is gradually growing with new readers, and longtime readers are striving to practice brotherhood through various activities and new organizational structures. I am slowly realizing that the “angel-like people” I have been searching for actually evolve with those who love God as Father and others as brothers.

2023 MUSTARD SEED GRANT PROJECTS (ROUND 2)

Editor's Note: Lilian Muthui of Kenya, Marian and Matt Hughes of the United States, and Nugroho Widi of Indonesia were some of the recipients of the second round of Mustard Seed Grant awards in 2023. They share their completed projects below.

HEALING THE PAIN OF GRIEF IN INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS



By Lilian Muthui, Kenya

Editor's Note: In addition to over 623,500 registered refugees and asylum seekers, Kenya also has an internally displaced population (IDP) of around 380,000 people, ranking seventh in Africa for the number of IDPs. Displacement in Kenya can be caused by a variety of factors, including conflict,

natural and man-made disasters, and human-rights violations.

My husband, James, and I conceived a project to increase and enhance the comfort, happiness, and well-being of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Kenya, as individuals and as members of society. Our approach has been to preach the encouraging message of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man, spreading the good news of hope and inner healing by preaching the love of God as described in *The Urantia Book*. Our goal was to establish cohesion and equity among members of different groups in the IDPs, to organize Urantia Book study groups, and to distribute Urantia Books to

the members of these groups.

After the initial mobilization and awareness meetings held in December 2023, 46 participants showed interest in learning more about how the love of God as described in *The Urantia Book* can bring inner healing to their traumatized souls, and they attended our training sessions in January and February of 2024.

During our last meeting on March 1, 2024, a total of 40 participants reported feeling inner peace and a change of attitude towards God and their fellow group members; 30 participants reported good sleep after reading about the love of God before bed; and 20

participants reported the prayerful ritual of calling God their father as a way of relieving stress and feeling protection.

Overall, there was great cohesion among members of our group, and most felt a sense of belonging unlike before. We witnessed better listening skills when participants were sharing, and observed their need for more time to stay in the presence of God during meetings.

This program was life-changing for us as we witnessed how God could use us to heal his children through sharing the revelation. We are grateful to Urantia Foundation for the Mustard Seed Grant and look forward to more training opportunities.

HAWAII AND CHILE BOOK PLACEMENT



By Marian Hughes, Hawaii, United States

Benjamin Franklin wrote, "Without freedom of thought, there can be no such thing as wisdom—and no such thing as public

liberty without freedom of speech." At the time, only the very wealthy and the clergy had easy access to books, leading Franklin and some associates to found the Library Company of Philadelphia in 1731.

Inspired by Ben Franklin, my husband Matt and I resolved to place copies of *The Urantia Book* in as many libraries on the island of Hawaii as are reachable within a day's drive of our home. We would also place copies of *El libro de Urantia* in libraries of the Chilean Lake District (a zone in the south of Chile) that are within a day's drive of our

home there. We are grateful for the Foundation's help in making this project a success.

Once we received the Mustard Seed Grant funds, we ordered the books from Amazon, which offers free shipping. English copies of *The Urantia Book* are now in every library of the Hawaii State Public Library System, as well as in the Hawaii Preparatory Academy, the University of Hawaii at Hilo, and Tutu's House, a community resource library in Kamuela. Six Spanish books have been placed in four different cities in

Southern Chile: Puerto Varas, Puerto Montt, Llanquihue, and Frutillar.

On the flight to Chile, a passenger in my row noticed my Urantia hat. We proceeded to discuss the revelation and spirituality for most of the nine-hour flight. The man, a retired police commissioner, said that after reading the book he would donate it to a library in Santiago. I gave him a book at baggage claim, figuring a book in the hand was worth two in the bush!

THE URANTIA BOOK VIDEO CHANNEL



By Nugroho Widi, Indonesia

Editor's Note: Nugroho Widi translated The Urantia Book into Indonesian. It was published online in 2020.

In late 2023, I received a Mustard Seed Grant to create the [Urantia Revelation Channel](#) of videos on YouTube. My mission was to explain *The Urantia Book* to young readers using popular

language. I chose a documentary format with a tutorial mode, where I explain topics and respond to the many questions of viewers.

Although first created in English, the videos are mostly in Indonesian. There are 10 videos so far, and one has already reached 15,000 viewers! Most are still below 1,000 viewers, although if it is an interesting title, it can reach 2,000–3,000 after several months. While the videos haven't gone viral, I already have 700 (mostly) Indonesian subscribers, most of whom are Muslim and Christian.

It takes a lot of effort to make a video tutorial of this book because we have to understand it in detail and approach it globally. *The*

Urantia Book is systematic, deep, broad, and covers many subjects that have never been presented visually. I drew upon my past experience with creating videos, translating *The Urantia Book* into Indonesian, and making online presentations to groups of Indonesian readers for many years. The rise of artificial intelligence has been a breakthrough, enabling the creation of original stock images and videos for abstract, historical, morontial, and spiritual things that have

never been created before. With the help of technology, it is possible for the Urantia Revelation to be presented vividly and boldly.

Thanks to Urantia Foundation and the Mustard Seed Grant Program, I am now spending time as a scriptwriter, editor, and artist. I hope readers will support my work. And as I remind my viewers, don't forget to click Like and Subscribe!

Urantia Revelation Channel
@widroth · 1.31K subscribers · 22 videos
The Urantia Book is a revelation book about God, universe, Earth, and human...more

Home Videos Shorts Playlists

For You

What is the Urantia Book, an introduction for beginners, part 1
4.9K views · 7 months ago

Revelation about COSMOS. Life on Planets, and Our Journey After Death—Cosmic Consciousness Series
422 views · 5 months ago

INJIL dan Siapa itu YESUS atau ISA, menurut Pewayhuan Baru Alam Semesta dalam Buku Urantia
5.1K views · 3 days ago

TUHAN DALAM MANUSIA, Roh Ti Mendiami Bathi Manusia menurut
7.9K views · 3 weeks ago

BOGOTÁ URANTIA ASSOCIATION AT FILBO 2024



By Andrés Ramírez, Bogota, Colombia

The Bogotá International Book Fair (FILBO 2024) had its 36th meeting from April 17 to May 2. This is one of the principal book fairs in Latin America, with an attendance of nearly 600,000 visitors. The Bogotá Urantia Association (AUB) was present for the tenth time with a booth in pavilion number 3.

This is the main dissemination activity which AUB carries out each year. It is a big financial commitment, for which we have the support of the Urantia Association International and Urantia Foundation, who provide the necessary books and support every year. This continuous effort over time has been possible thanks to the fact that AUB is a legally constituted group, and book fairs are one of our most valuable strategies.

With the help of 20 volunteers, we handed out 3,500 foldables and 30,000 smaller flyers, we sold 74 books, and we had conversations with nearly 700 people. These conversations demonstrated that interest in the book is increasing and that many people already have a copy and are reading it, facilitating the person-to-person approach. With each passing year we have noticed that the word Urantia and the book are becoming more widely known. We have also seen that handing out flyers is an effective method of dissemination, as several people came directly to the booth to buy the book, to subscribe to the database, or to get in touch with a study group.

As FILBO participants, we had access to the auditoriums to present talks to the public. These

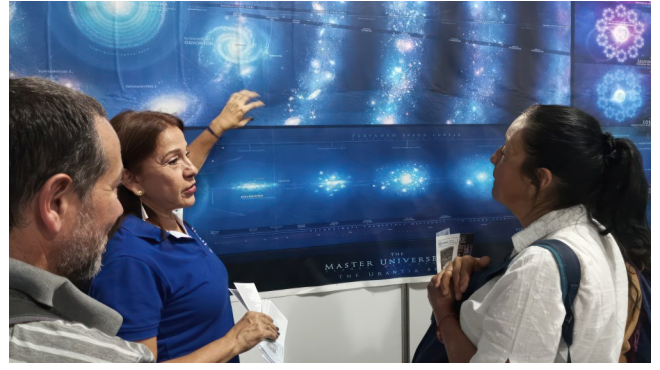
are listed on the FILBO website as part of the fair's cultural agenda. We gave three presentations: "Your Divine Essence," "Human Government," and "The Urantia Book vs. Science."

Participation in book fairs strengthens Associations, as it is an opportunity to get involved in service and dissemination tasks. The volunteer experience of speaking with so many people is the most effective training to learn how to talk about the book with others while providing service. We have learned a lot about the public's attitude towards the themes of the book and their interests, and we have also learned about the best communication strategies. Many other associations have followed Bogotá's example in Colombia and Latin America, verifying these benefits for themselves.

Once again, we appreciate the support of Urantia Association International and Urantia Foundation, which allows us to carry out the work of disseminating the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. We also thank all the volunteers who served at the booth in so many capacities during the 16 days of FILBO, and trust that they derived as much benefit from their ministry as did the seekers who visited the booth. As the Chief of the Urantia Midwayers tells us:

Jesus often took his apostles away by themselves for short periods to engage in meditation and prayer, but for the most part he kept them in service-contact with the multitudes. The soul of man requires spiritual exercise as well as spiritual nourishment.
[91:7.2 \(1000.3\)](#)





WHAT *THE URANTIA BOOK* MEANS TO ME



By Alejandro Aran Sanchez,
Mexico City, Mexico

In 2013 I came across an article that mentioned the sources used in J. J. Benitez's books related to the life of Jesus. *The Urantia Book* was listed, so I looked it up and found the Foundation's website and the online text. From that moment on, and for the next three months, each of my nights became the dessert of my days as I devoured the text until sleep overcame me.

For a time, however, I set the book aside. It was the darkest stage of my life,

and it lasted more than three years. *The Urantia Book* just sat on my nightstand, gathering dust.

Eventually I picked it up again, having come to the realization that the revelation in and of itself has no value without the courage to make the effort to direct my life according to the precepts and teachings that were put into human language for our benefit. I also discovered that the book was the answer to my constant and sincere search for truth, beauty, and goodness. I now know, understand, and acknowledge in a mature and consistent way that our Father dwells within each of us and cares for us with intelligent love.

Today, more than 11 years after I first encountered *The Urantia Book*, I have come to appreciate many things about the revelation. There is still much to know, understand, and do. However, I have managed to transform my life in an

incredible way that I would never have imagined before I found this book. Although I have always been a persistent and tenacious person, today I know that the most wonderful, valuable, and meaningful things that a person can find, recognize, and experience only happen because they are held in the hand of God our Father.

I now have a clear picture regarding God, the universe, and my life. Every day it becomes clearer. I feel secure in my faith, there is confidence in my steps, my self-control is greater, and my concepts of God, Jesus, religion, the universe, and service to my fellows have expanded. The way I experience life is increasingly friendly and harmonious. Communion with God is one of the moments I look forward to most during the day. I understand that *The Urantia Book* could have little meaning in my life were it not for the lavish mercy credits that our

Father has established for each one of us, combined with my personal efforts, which he strengthens day by day, to understand and do his will.

This book has added value and meaning to my life to the extent that I strive to live by its teachings. The result—real religion—is experienced as the impulse to service. A Melchizedek of Nebadon tells us:

When a human being does find God, there is experienced within the soul of that being such an indescribable restlessness of triumph in discovery that he is impelled to seek loving service-contact with his less illuminated fellows, not to disclose that he has found God, but rather to allow the overflow of the welling-up of eternal goodness within his own soul to refresh and ennoble his fellows.

[102:3.4 \(1121.6\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS



DANCING WITH GOD ~ A RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Thursday evening, September 12
through Sunday, September 15, 2024

After an absence of five years, the Daughters of God facilitator team—Katharina Becker, Doreen Heyne, and Line St-Pierre—is once again hosting a women's retreat at Urantia Foundation.



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Throughout the weekend, participants will cultivate an environment of trust within a spiritual circle. We will explore and share our personal experiences and discoveries of how we answer this calling to dance with God, which is an open invitation to manifest God's love in the world by living a Spirit-guided life that shapes tomorrow through actions taken today.

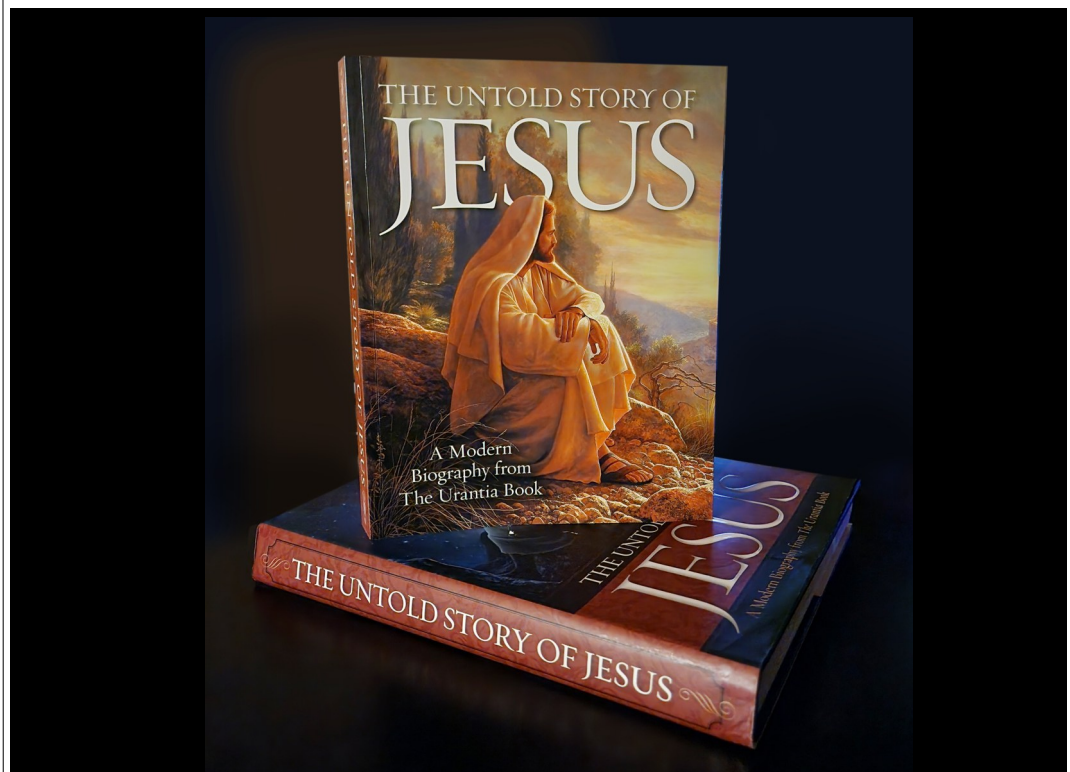
We will delve into questions such as, “What has aided you in uncovering or persisting in the exploration of that life-nurturing sustenance that brings solace to our souls, that sense of unity, spanning from simple pleasures to the abundance of joy, enveloped in the harmonies of love?”

The retreat begins with dinner on Thursday evening and ends after lunch on Sunday.

If you would like to be a part of this event at Urantia Foundation headquarters, 533 W. Diversey Parkway in Chicago, contact Line St-Pierre at line.stpierre@gmail.com.

Let us share our spiritual journey together!

The Untold Story of Jesus—Now Available in Paperback



Due to the popularity of the hardcover version of *The Untold Story of Jesus*, Urantia Press has now printed the paperback version.

With a beautiful new cover, this book is slimmer, lighter, yet never compromising on the artistic beauty of the original. It will fit easily into your backpack, handbag, mailbox, and bookshelves. This book is better suited for placement in neighborhood “little libraries,” hospitals, coffee shops, libraries, hotels, cruise ships, and youth hostels. It also makes a wonderful gift to someone you love.

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