

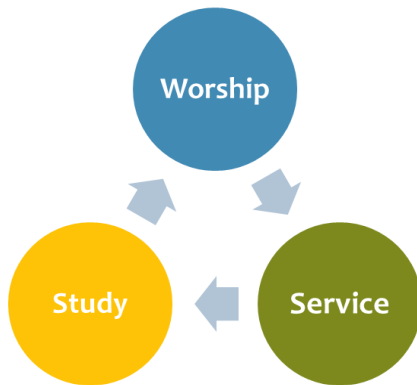


Urantia University Institute

*Actualizing personal potentials of mind, matter, and spirit
through enlightened study, service, and experience*

Letter from the Executive Director

Elisabeth Callahan



Study, Worship, Service

Throughout its 12-year history, Urantia University Institute (UII) has purposefully and gradually built upon the triune model of **Study, Worship, and Service** which leads to the development of a strong spiritual character and fosters the development of cosmic consciousness.

All three modes of activity develop the functions of thinking, feeling, and doing good, and express the divine attributes of **Truth, Beauty, Goodness<->Love**. These are the ideals that guide our mission and programming.

In tandem with the growth of our catalog of Instructor-led and Self-Directed courses and other offerings like the UII Cafe and Sunday Worship Service, the year 2022 marked an advance in UII's institutional development.

In November, we launched a new website that better captured Urantia University's values and the ideals of the Urantia revelation. Our new site is modern, moving, and manifests a more inclusive vision of spirituality that will attract new truth seekers beyond longtime readers of *The Urantia Book*.

We also made system improvements behind the scenes by upgrading our constituent and donor database, email list management, and service provider to enhance administration of the increasing number of courses and better serve our growing student body and donor base.

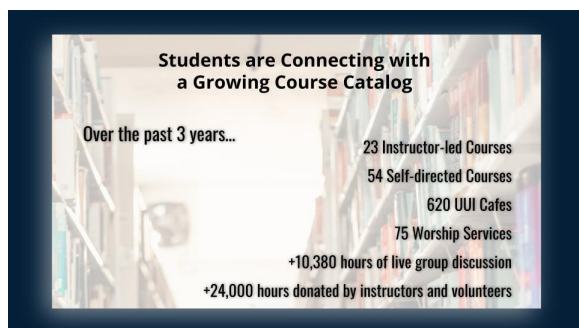
These steps are helping to build a dynamic and enduring educational institution that we hope will be a source of hope, enlightenment, and cosmic learning that will guide humankind through the tumultuous transition to a higher spiritual civilization.

[About Urantia University Institute](#)

Vision & Mission

Urantia University Institute (UUI) offers an online educational experience that enriches our understanding of *The Urantia Book* and advances everyday spiritual living practices.

We create opportunities for personal spiritual growth, relationship building, and teamwork. This is done while embracing the Jesusonian values of spirit insight, joyful ministry, and loving service.



Our First Grant!

Developing a Service Program: Life on Purpose

UUI received a generous grant from Crestwood Foundation for developing the beta course, *Life on Purpose: Living Service* (March 2023). The grant of \$8,000 supported the development of the program and the Program Director, Aprilhelen (assisted by a UUI volunteer team including Executive Director,

Elisabeth Callahan; Vice President, Claire Thurston; and Ariana Horn and Alice Wood). As a result of the project's progress, the Crestwood Foundation granted UUI an additional \$15,000 for the 2023 calendar year.

Life on Purpose is the first course offered as a part of the School of Service (anticipated launch date Spring 2024). The experience of this course will help guide us in our planning.

The chief innovations of the beta course include:

- Requiring students to develop a service project.
- Supporting service leaders and students from a broad spectrum of belief (Urantia Book-based, any other religious tradition, or no tradition at all).
- Modeling, and encouraging the practice of universal language.
- Developing a Social Transformation Community Network that students can engage with during and after the course's completion.

Eighteen uniquely qualified instructors, called Service Leaders, provide spiritual insight and pragmatic guidance for starting and maintaining social service endeavors. They also teach skills for communicating with people across the spectrum of belief. Peers then support each other in maintaining their external service projects.

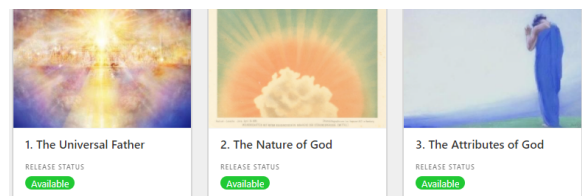


This is just the beginning for the School of Service as it inspires and connects those who serve our world and the Supreme.

Self-Directed Study of *The Urantia Book*

Through the course, we aim to learn:

- Which of the five service arenas (Individual, Family, Friends/Coworkers, Community or Global Service) will emerge as the most promising topic for the next course?
- How do the Urantia Book Service Leaders and students work with the Service Leaders and students from other backgrounds?
- How do the students support each other in their service projects and/or what synergies emerge among the various service projects?
- What are the fields of the service projects? Is there a greater preponderance of projects in certain fields?
- What is the best technology for the Social Transformation Community Network?
- How do we optimize the connection among students within the Social Transformation Community Network?



[Self-Directed Study of the individual papers of *The Urantia Book*](#) provides an opportunity for new and advanced students of *The Urantia Book* to begin to master the content of individual papers, explore resources, apply knowledge, and actively engage with the meanings and values of the revelation. These free and interactive online courses can be taken anytime, anywhere, on your desktop or smartphone.

The program serves those who are searching for a way to study *The Urantia Book* in greater depth and with the guidance and support of experienced instructors, but at their own pace and according to their own schedule. By the end of 2022, 54 courses were available.

SDS Partnership with the Inmate Correspondence Program

For several years, UrantiaUniversity's Self-Directed Study online courses (SDS) have been helping students study the book on their own and at their own pace. Separately, the Urantia Book Fellowship's Inmate Correspondence Program (ICP) has been responding to inmates who write the Fellowship with a request for a Urantia Book.

Now, inmates who contact ICP, hungry for spiritual sustenance, can also receive UrantiaUniversity's Self-Directed Studies.

A joint effort was put forth to convert the online courses to PDF format, an ongoing endeavor in which UUI staff continue to adapt courses for inmates. As of today, SDS courses for 43 papers are available to inmates for in-depth personal study. When preparing to mail the printed courses to inmates, ICP SDS coordinator Michael Hagan puts his heart into it by adding his own *Seedlings*—short, inspirational articles that he writes and distributes online.

The courses themselves consist of a summary of the paper, highlights of each section, definitions of terms, a quiz, reflective questions, and a topic for meditation. Inmates who complete a course and turn in their responses can receive a Certificate of Completion, which at some institutions is worth **16 hours of 'good time' to be deducted from their sentences.**

As of March 2023:

- 83 courses have been sent to inmates
- 42 individuals have received certificates
- 672 hours of service have been deducted from inmate sentences

This partnership has been a spiritual success story. The inmates who engage with *The Urantia Book* are hungrier than most people for spiritual knowledge and growth. The reflective questions in the courses unfailingly receive enthusiastic responses and the general tone of inmate letters is extremely positive.

Here's just one of the many inspirational testimonials:

"There is so much out there (on the outside) that keeps people's minds off of God...they do not seek God. We come to jail and we're stripped of everything and access to very little. We either find God or we run and end up trying to satisfy our hunger for God with other pleasures and accomplishments. We are never satisfied and never will be with accomplishments and things that we strive to obtain, so once we get them we go for more. In so much darkness you can't help but see the light. Most of us begin as dogmatic babies focusing on rituals and rules but people grow faster in here from that because we have so much time to put into study and observance."

- Norbert

Community Building

UUI Online Cafe

The [UUI Cafe](#) is a space for uplifting spiritual conversations 3 times a week, where spiritual brothers and sisters can hang out and have soul-growing conversations based on the wisdom of the Urantia teachings and the world's great spiritual traditions.

The UUI Cafe has fostered a lasting community of honesty, sincerity, and hope dedicated to doing, and not just thinking about, the will of God.

In 2022, Sunday Worship Cafes became a weekly staple for truth seekers. After attending UUI Cafe's as both participants and moderators, Susan Meyers and Geoff Taylor felt called to facilitate group worship.

Sunday Worship Cafes

By Susan Meyers and Geoff Taylor

Very early on we decided to treat the Sunday worships as an experiment. A flexible format of silent worship, guided meditation, music, and sacred listening and sharing keeps us from being afraid to try new things or become dogmatic.

We have learned that lives are being transformed because of the sense of deep trust and intimacy that has developed as a result of group worship experience.

The restful exertion of the worship gives everyone the strength needed to seize the day.

These testimonials beautifully illustrate the genuine spiritual growth taking place and the flowering of the fruits of the spirit.

The UUI Worship Cafes have helped make my worship easier and more regular...there is a special spiritual energy to group worship that is not simply the sum of the participants present. I imagine that our Adjusters and angels rejoice and actively participate in our sessions.

-Eric Martel

The Worship Cafes fill a large hole that I felt in our community for years. Finally, we are finding a way to worship in our own way as a community.

-Bill Tuffin

Finally, group worship is manifested in the exemplary way that it is described in *The Urantia Book*...The Urantia community has blossomed thanks to the dedicated work of Susan, Geoff, and the Cafe team.

-Andre Pominville

2022 Financial Report

Urantia University Institute (UII) has grown organically and steadily since its incorporation in 2010 through the efforts of a dedicated volunteer corps of Trustees, instructors, Café moderators, and a small Admin Support team.

To operate, UII relies solely on the generosity of its volunteer corps, students, and friends. It operates on a tight budget, taking great care in its spending while also seeking growth in the range and quality of its programming.

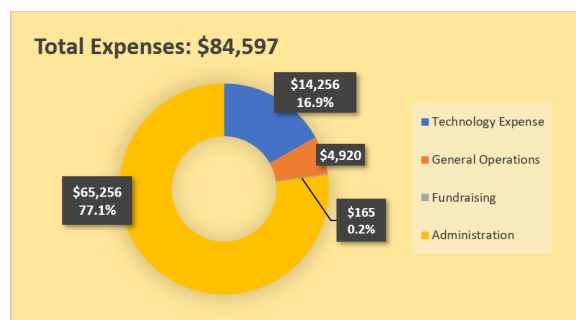
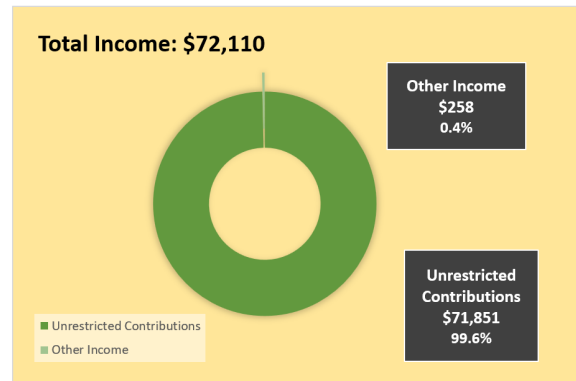
All UII's services and classes are offered freely to truth-seeking students.

Revenue: In 2022 UII received \$72,110 in ordinary revenue from its various constituents, including its Board of Trustees, volunteers, students, and friends. This was an increase in ordinary income of almost 13% from 2021.

In addition, UII was fortunate to receive a special grant of \$20,000 at the end of 2021 to develop the Urantia Book Teacher Education Program.

Expenses: In 2022 UII spent a total of \$84,597. This represented an increase in expenses of 34% from the previous year, due in part to the addition of a part-time staffer.

This increase was easily offset by carryover income from 2021 of \$65,258. Likewise, we began 2023 with a carryover balance of \$52,744 from 2022.



Thanks to our Donors for bringing the vision of Urantia University Institute to life!

So many people wholeheartedly give their time, talent, and financial resources to sustain this free school for spiritual cultivation, intellectual growth, and loving service.

Your contributions directly support our daily work of creating, developing, and delivering a dynamic kind of spiritual education that seeks to foster the growth of the individual soul who will, in turn, serve the evolving family of God.

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