

POPE FRANCIS ENCOURAGES THE ONE-WORLD CHURCH

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Buenos Aires Metropolitan Cathedral, May 2007: URI leaders in Argentina join together with Episcopalian Bishop Swing (at the pulpit) and Cardinal Bergoglio--now Pope Francis--(centre group, right) to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the URI's first gathering in Latin America. (<https://uri.org/uri-story/20140313-one-year-backreflections-pope-francis>)

In 2007, Jorge Mario Bergoglio, Cardinal of Buenos Aires, Argentina, invited the visiting Episcopalian Bishop of California, William Swing, to bring his assorted syncretist colleagues to the Cathedral for an interfaith service with him. Swing's group was part of the United Religions Initiative, and the purpose of the syncretic worship was to celebrate the URI's 10th anniversary of its installation in Latin America.

What was so important about this group that the future Pope Francis wanted to celebrate their anniversary in his cathedral?

To answer this question we start with the goal of Freemasonry: a New World Order, a pantheistic global community, comprising a one-world government and one-world religion or church. By definition, a pantheistic world community must have a unified religion; whilst uniting people under one religion helps them to peacefully accept world government. New Age spokesman Robert Muller, a former UN Assistant Secretary-General, forecast that by 2013, "based on the common spirituality," we should have entered "a new age of ... all-encompassing synthesis".

In 1919, New Age leader and occultist Alice Bailey, in her book, *The Externalization of the Hierarchy*, revealed the plan for a “Church Universal,” described as a union of occultism, Masonry and Christianity, whose “definite outlines will appear towards the close of this century.”

Well, this “Church Universal” or one-world church, in the making for over 150 years, materialized in June 1997 as the United Religions Organization. Chief partners in its establishment were Bishop Swing; the Communist Gorbachev Foundation/USA; and the syncretic World Conference on Religion and Peace, known today as Religions for Peace. Also associated were the British World Congress of Faiths and its American counterpart, the Temple of Understanding.

In 1996, Bishop Swing called the process of forming the United Religions “The United Religions Initiative 2000,” the “initiative” being the “scaffolding upon which others can stand to build a permanent structure [the UR]”. This transitional name, the United Religions Initiative (URI), is still being used, although the one-world church became functional in 2000; but calling it the United Religions *Initiative* allows it to pose as merely another interfaith organization, rather than the institutionalized world religion.

The UR is a United Nations project.¹ It was heralded in June 1995 by Bishop Swing at the occult, earth-worshipping interfaith service he was invited to conduct for the UN, honoring the 50th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter. Attending the service in San Francisco’s Episcopal Grace Cathedral were political luminaries and representatives of all religions, including Britain’s Princess Margaret, Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, Polish President Lech Walesa, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Archbishop Renato Martino (Vatican nuncio to the UN), and Archbishop John Quinn of San Francisco.

The UR is meant to be for religions what the UN is for nations. Its purpose is to be the world religious authority, “a UN for religion” in order to foster peace. Delegates to its charter-writing summit in 1997 considered they had given birth to a “movement as well as a spiritual institution”. “[T]ell the people that there is a United Religions,” said Swing. It will shine “the light of the world’s spiritual traditions [paganism and occultism included] into a world desperately in need of light.” It aims to solve issues of environment, population, poverty and disease whilst building religious unity.

Swing, who is also an anti-population and pro-homosexuality activist, discussed the UR with many religious leaders. He stated Mother Teresa was “thrilled,” and promised to pray for it and speak to the Pope about it. But although dedicated to interfaith dialogue, the Vatican coyly stayed aloof because the United Religions “would give the appearance of syncretism.” However, many Catholics, including the upper hierarchy, work with its partners, especially Religions for Peace.

Bishop Swing sought but did not report Pope John Paul’s opinion of the UR, but the Pope indirectly supported it by collaborating with the Marxist-Leninist occultist Mikhail Gorbachev and with Religions for Peace.

The Gorbachev Foundation/USA was set up as a Russian intelligence operation at the Presidio, a former military base in San Francisco, months before the dismantling of the USSR. Gorbachev is a major coordinator of world governance and a leading proponent of population extermination and the destruction of religion. He met more than once with Pope John Paul and was invited to address the pontiff and political leaders at the Vatican in 2000.

Religions for Peace, co-founded by Catholic ecclesiastics, is a Non-Governmental Organization, headquartered at the UN in New York. It seeks the cooperation of religions for the global church. It helped organize the syncretic Assisi Peace Meeting in 1986. In 1994, the Vatican hosted part of its Sixth General Assembly, the first interfaith conference ever held at the Holy See. Speakers included John Paul, several cardinals, Hans Küng and liberation theologian Gustavo Gutierrez.

The United Religions is also headquartered at the Presidio, but it has “satellite centers” in other cities, including Buenos Aires.

Unlike Pope John Paul's indirect support of the one-world church, Cardinal Bergoglio of Buenos Aires, the future Pope Francis, in the style we have now come to expect, had no qualms about ignoring the existing Vatican position. He openly encouraged the United Religions — an ominous harbinger of the direction of his papacy?

ENDNOTES

¹ The full details of the history and implementation of the UR were published in our articles, "One-World Church Expected Next Year" and "One-World Church Starts Up" in, respectively, the October 1996 and November 1997 issues of *Catholic Family News*; and also in "The One-World Church Emerges," *Homiletic & Pastoral Review*, January 1999.

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