

TIMELESS TREASURES



Quotes from Unity Magazine
by Charles and Myrtle Fillmore

Researched by Shay St. John and Al Sears

HOW DID THEY BEGIN THE DREAM WE LOVE AS UNITY?

Charles and Myrtle Fillmore plowed new spiritual fields of Truth, daring to share their understanding and personal experience of a conscious relationship with God, Jesus Christ and their own Indwelling Christ. Today Unity (School of Christianity) and our Association of Unity Churches International reflect the strength and clarity of the Fillmore's vision.

Prayer. Publishing. Education. Services to our global ministries. Community outreach. All this and more enrich this world with a deep commitment to spiritual Truth.

Our Association of Unity Churches International, established in 1966 at the request of Unity School, supports our Unity ministries worldwide. Youth education curriculum; radio, marketing and media resources; management, peacemaking, board and development trainings; placement facilitation; international and expansion support; bylaws and policy guidelines; ministerial and interim training; and much more. Our Association is committed to excellence in the fulfillment of its ever-expanding services.

Today we harvest the rich bounty of our co-founders' work.

- Positive, practical Christianity.
- Its teachings transform individual lives.
- Its healing message aligns us with our spiritual, mental and physical wholeness.
- Its promise of abundance heightens our receptivity to the rich blessings continuously given us by our Creator.

WHAT CAN WE DO TODAY TO KEEP THIS DREAM VIBRANT AND ALIVE?

How did this dream we know as Unity begin? How did the Fillmores balance acknowledging God as Source, while honoring the many human forms through whom God worked to bring the resources required to make their vision a reality?

Quotes from early publications show how the funds required to build our movement in the early 1900s were generated. Providing a valuable foundation for development work today, they guide us as we fundraise in alignment with Principle.

Now is the time to anchor our commitment and let our Unity light shine forth. In this 21st century responsiveness to the needs and desires of those seeking spiritual understanding is essential. The message of the 21st Century is the heart of Unity.

Peace. Prosperity. Healing. Oneness. Freedom. Diversity in our Unity.

These words echo the Truth we teach. Embracing the gifts of this transformative time, we stretch into new arenas of service. In so doing, we will reach all who are seeking the message of Unity.

Spirit guides us. Principle directs us.

Christ Indwelling reveals our next step.

Prayer is the heart of all we do.

So let's journey back in time...

SOLICITATION OF FUNDS

December 16, 1965

Dear Friends in Unity:

One frequently hears the term “*Unity does not ask for money.*” This is **unrealistic as well as being untrue** in fact. In order that we be together in understanding and prayer, the following statements are intended to clarify this matter and establish a reasonable attitude toward a subject frequently beclouded by emotionalism.

1. “*There can be no charge for matters of the Spirit.*” By this, we mean that Unity does not place a specific money charge on prayer, healing, or spiritual help. The recipient is given the opportunity to give an anonymous love offering.
2. Unity does charge for material things for which it is contractually liable to a vendor. Thus, Unity must place a fixed charge on cafeteria meals, books, magazines, lodging, etc.
3. Unity does and must continue to set a great example to the world by sustaining its day-to-day existence on love offerings freely given by those who receive spiritual help. We well know God will provide this.
4. Unity School will grow and add to its physical facilities by specifically asking through the Foundation for substantial donations from those who can give of their abundance. Such substance, “capital” in business world, is “invested” in buildings, printing presses, and other material tools which enable us to carry on our work. (*Read this paragraph carefully. What is it really saying?*)
5. Let us realize that Unity, as an institution, exists in two worlds: the world of the Spirit in which we perform our principal services of healing and teaching and for which no charge can

ever be made, and the material world in which we must deal with business entities, banks, vendors, and money. **Unity's genius lies not in "never asking for money," but in a sane, loving, daring, attempt to balance the needs of those two worlds for (hu)mankind's betterment.**

6. *In Spirit* we rest in faith, love and prayer. *In the world* we are a service institution which works mightily toward fulfilling an obligation of sacred public trust, in the handling of love offering money entrusted to us.

To paraphrase the words of the movement's founder, we "spring forth with a mighty faith to do the things that ought to be done by us."

Signed: Charles R. Fillmore, Ex. V.P.
Unity School of Christianity

WEEKLY UNITY: Apr. 28, 1910

Every Society has expenses to meet even when it owns the building. Unity Society is in like necessity. Light, heat, janitor service, music, repair bills must be met. The janitor alone must have \$5 per week. **Envelope collections are not quite up to the mark.** Let us look within to remedy the shortage.

UNITY MAGAZINE: June, 1905

“Money is being hoarded and is lying idle in banks all over the land that ought to be used to educate and spiritually enlighten the human family. If you have a surplus over and above your needs, you are not fulfilling the righteous law by letting it lay idle. Set it into circulation by giving it to some good cause—lending it to the Lord—and it will return to you again in due season multiplied. No one ever regretted money that was given to help the good. Yet, had that same money been lost in speculation, it would have been mourned.

If you want your money to bring you lasting happiness and real satisfaction, give it to the Lord.

We have for the past eighteen years been working, “without money and without price,” for the alleviation of human ignorance. To test and carry out a principle, our ministry has been strictly on the free-will offering plan. It has not been an easy matter to educate people to give freely, or even at all, for what seemed so intangible as spiritual treatments and instruction. The way has not always been strewn with roses, yet we have never failed, nor refused, to help any.

Now the time has come for us to ask in a larger way. We want **\$100,000** to carry forward plans connected with the Unity Society work, and we expect generous people everywhere, who have the good of their fellowmen at heart, to send it to us gladly. *(This is equivalent to over **\$6 million** in today’s economy.)*

It is a real privilege to give to a cause and we feel we are making much happiness possible to those who heed the call. The Lord tells us many have been impressed to help this movement, but are withholding for one cause or another.

Now **open your hearts and purses.**

In the bonds of the Brotherhood of Jesus Christ,
Charles and Myrtle Fillmore”

UNITY MAGAZINE: Sept. 1905

Explanation of use of funds

It is with pleasure we inform our readers that the Unity Society of Practical Christianity on August 17, 1905, upon making the first payment of \$1,500, received a deed to 913 and 915 Tracy Avenue.

The Building Committee decided to begin the erection of a new building as soon as income from bonds and popular ever subscriptions warrant.

The first floor will be occupied by Unity Tract Society, the business office, shipping and stock rooms, and the printing department.

The second floor will be occupied with healing rooms, reception room, circulating library, etc. The remainder will be an auditorium, and will contain no pillars to obstruct the view.

The third floor will be either a gallery for the auditorium or reading and silence or healing rooms. (Note: This became Myrtle Fillmore's office until her passing in 1931.)

Unity Magazine: Jan. 1906

Dear Unity,

I think a number of readers like myself want to help but do not see their way clear to buy bonds... It would be good if we would start on **Jan. 1, and send \$1.00**. On the first of each month do the same. Will 500 or 1,000 join me and make 1906 a record year for Christ teaching and healing? - C.J.

This is a good proposition. The Lord is inspiring people everywhere to help this good work. Our Building Committee is going ahead with construction. They have not so far had any shortage of funds; when they need money, it comes. They thankfully welcome any plan which will obviate issuing bonds. They very much prefer to have the building free from debt.

This issue is 15,000 copies. If each would give \$1 for January alone, this would put up the building as planned.

UNITY MAGAZINE: Jan. 1906

Do you want a brick in the new building? If so, send your contributions. Your name will go in the Corner Stone at dedication. This connects you with this health and success centre as long as the building lasts...

This is undoubtedly the strongest mind-healing pool on this planet. Spirit told us nearly twenty years ago to establish here a spiritual centre to radiate its power to all the world, and people everywhere would feel its life-warmth.

It seems a small thing to have your name put in our Corner Stone, but the day is not far distant when those who have taken advantage of this privilege will consider it an honor equal to the signing of the Declaration of American Independence.

UNITY MAGAZINE: Feb. 1906

The suggestion of our friend in Canada that each subscriber send \$1 a month for the building has met with an unusually hearty response. We want each contributor to feel he owns a brick in Unity Temple for each dollar contributed and have his name in the cornerstone. *(The editor regrets the poverty of the English language that compels him to say "his" when two-thirds of the contributors are women.)*

The first story is near completion, the cornerstone being left until we dedicate it, which will be early spring.

Enough money is being received to pay all current demands. It would be a source of real gratification if each subscriber would send something as evidence of good will. It doesn't have to be \$1: the widow's mite often carries greater thought-force than a millionaire's millions.

We want your good words to go into that cornerstone and become a character-brick in that Temple of Truth. It will bind us together in spiritual, mental and physical unity.

UNITY MAGAZINE: Nov. 1908

God is the health of His people. God is the prosperity of His people. “*Prove me now, saith the Lord.*” We must *prove* God is health and prosperity. We must prove this Principle of Being as we prove the principle of mathematics.

Are you proving God to be your prosperity? Thousands who abstractly *know* the Law do not put it to the test.

An opportunity to do this is offered by the Board of Unity Society of Practical Christianity. They have a plan whereby you can help the work at this center and at the same time receive a lesson in prosperity demonstration.

The plan is this: We will send you a dollar bill which received a blessing and a daily prosperity statement to use everyday until December 20th, when it is to be returned to us, with the increase which has come as a result. All we ask is that you watch your affairs and see if there is not an increase of supply. Share this increase with us. Send the “Prosperity Dollar” on or before December 20th.

We are so sure the law will work we are willing to send out thousands of dollars on trust. All we ask is faithfulness in believing in God, our supply, and in making daily the statements for prosperity. We will send \$1 on your simple request and promise you will comply with these requirements, which we are sure will prove of lasting benefit to all who prove the Prosperity Law.

We are going to have a great Christmas outpouring here at Unity. We want our friends everywhere to join in the love offerings to sustain the work which is helping so many. Send your name to our BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

UNITY MAGAZINE: Nov. 1908

Jesus gave the key to a great law governing thought-force... *“If two of you shall agree on earth as touching anything they shall ask, it shall be done unto them by my Father in heaven.”*

A union of many minds on a good thought is like a company of men lifting a weight by all exerting themselves at the same time. They do not stop to argue or question. When the “heave ho!” is given they lift with one accord, and up goes the burden.

The statement with the “Prosperit y Dollar” is but the key-note to a new state of thought and expression in all matters pertaining to supply.

Do not talk about financial lack, nor allow others to discuss or complain about their affairs. Hold steadily to God, your Inexhaustible Resource.

Praise and bless what you have. Give thanks daily it is being multiplied. Fill your mind, your house, your whole presence with thoughts and words of opulence. Spirit will find in you an open door for entrance of its bounty. You will be spiritually joined with us in the consciousness of Great Universal Supply.

WEEKLY UNITY: July 7, 1910

The third Sunday in each month is the day on which all pledges for the Music Fund are to be handed to Mrs. Fyke. Our Mrs. Davis started this fund. When she moved to Texas, she appointed Mrs. Fyke as her successor in collection of pledges. Let us prove to Mrs. Davis we still respond to her inspiration and are true to our promise, and *without further solicitation* pay our money to Mrs. Fyke.

WEEKLY UNITY: June 2, 1910

The Treasurer reported at the last board meeting that the Building loan, amounting to \$5,500, is due June 1911. Part of the Unity Bond issue, amounting to \$1,100, is due next January. These should be paid at maturity and the Building be absolutely debt free. All Unity friends are asked to cooperate.

Offerings are welcome any time.

UNITY MAGAZINE: June 1917

The South Wing of the Building is well under way. Walls are growing, brick by brick. Workmen are merrily laying steel and casting concrete.

The suggestion that every member of Unity send \$1 for a brick has met with hearty response. We are recording many names of Temple Builders. They are not confining themselves to single bricks, one brother sending not for one, but ten.

The interior finish will have the name and address of each contributor stamped on his brick. A card index of the locality of each brick will be kept in the lobby for the convenience of visitors.

UNITY MAGAZINE: Aug. 1917

ON BOND ISSUES - COSTS

Walls of the new addition are now up and finishing work is in progress. We had estimated cost of the building at \$25-30,000, but it will total near \$40,000.

This gives us an opportunity to offer more Unity Bonds issued in \$100 units.



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