



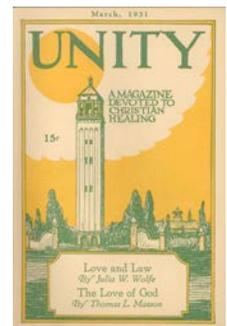
## Unity Archives Research Guide

The Unity Archives preserves a unique collection of organizational records, personal papers, and other materials documenting the history and life of the international Unity religious movement. The historic materials form a vital link in the movement's collective memory. They illuminate aspects of Unity ministry: prayer, publishing, education, congregational activity, music, and spiritual practices. Materials include periodicals, photographs, audio, film and video, and digital formats.

### What Records We Preserve

#### Nonprofit Records [1000]

This nonprofit record group includes material from Unity World Headquarters and its predecessors that began in 1889. The records document the administration, education, facilities, finance, prayer, publishing, and retreats related to Unity nonprofits. This large record group contains correspondence, memos, planning documents, catalogs, pamphlets, books, leaflets, periodicals, and audio visual materials.



#### Denominational Records [2000]



This denominational record group includes material from Unity Worldwide Ministries and its predecessors: Unity Society of Practical Christianity (1903), the Unity Annual Conference (1925), the Unity Ministers Association (1947) and the Association of Unity Churches (1966). The collection contains correspondence, curriculum, directories, church programs and photographs related to centers and churches in the United States and in twenty-eight other countries.

#### Manuscripts [3000]

The manuscript collection encompasses biographical materials or personal papers of more than 750 Unity authors, ministers, teachers, workers, and congregants. They include diaries, scrapbooks, letters, manuscripts, photographs and publications. The materials include the personal papers of Unity founders Myrtle and Charles Fillmore as well as files about other New Thought Christian leaders.



#### Non-Unity Materials [4000]

This diverse collection includes non-Unity materials that are relevant to Unity history in some way. The collection group contains materials from organizations, individuals, and other ministries not affiliated directly with the Unity World Headquarters and Unity Worldwide Ministries. These include publications and writings about Unity by other organizations and individuals.

### Independent Inquiry

While some resources are available online, we encourage you to visit the Unity Archives in person. Many archival materials may be accessed only by visiting our reading room.

- Portions of the **Charles S. Fillmore Papers (3026)**, **Myrtle Fillmore Papers (3033)** and **Eric Butterworth Papers (3014)** are available online at [unity.org/archives](http://unity.org/archives).
- A **Ready Reference File** provides materials related to basic Unity topics and frequently asked questions.
- Many other resources are available in the reading room. They may address hundreds of topics including baptism, body, consciousness, faith, healing, law, materialism, mind, regeneration, temperance and vegetarianism.
- The primary **finding aids** to our four record groups are a system of lists that identify and describe. The inventories and collections change with each workday and each new acquisition. Where no inventory exists, Archives staff will help with locating documents. Some periodicals and manuscript collections are available in other formats. Check our catalog at [unity.org/archives](http://unity.org/archives).
- An archives reference collection of **Unity books** (1909–present) are available for browsing. Online sources and some reference works provide indexing for books by H. Emilie Cady, Charles Fillmore, and Myrtle Fillmore. Check our catalog at [unity.org/archives](http://unity.org/archives).
- An archives reference collection of **Unity periodicals** (1889–present) are available for browsing. Diverse topics such as bible interpretation, Christ, faith, God, healing and health, life, meditation and prayer, peace, Spirit, and thought are found in articles from Unity-published magazines. These are indexed in the periodicals index.



### Reference Service

The staff can provide brief reference service. Reference service is short-term and consists of checking available finding aids, catalogues, and indices to inform researchers of the types of material and whether we have records relating to a general topic.

### Research Service

The staff can provide limited research service. Research involves a more in-depth search by examining documents for specific information. Please allow two weeks notice for detailed research requests. All requests are answered in the order in which they are received and staff will spend up to an hour per request. If more extensive research is required, you may wish to visit in person. Ask about the costs of reproductions.

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