

Earl Clement Davis

Unity Church Paragraph Pulpit¹

Pittsfield, MA

1907²

Unity Church Paragraph Pulpit.

07

A Church is a fellowship of men and women working together for the common uplift and betterment of mankind. Its right to exist rests solely upon its efficiency in the work which it is trying to do. The Church is a the [sic] fellowship of those who are trying to live clean, noble, spiritual lives. Such people unite themselves together into groups as circumstances permit, and at stated times meet for the purpose of communion together in the presence of The Great Good Will. At such times of meeting they come to a clearer understanding of the truth of human life and the relation of life to the Infinite. At such times, also, they gain the strength and impetus to noble thinking and noble living which can come only through such a common worship. Just as the power station is the place where the electricity is collected or generated and from which it is sent forth to do its work, so the Church is the place where our ideals of life are focused and given that vitality that makes them living forces in the world. From the church we go forth to be better and to contribute our share to the world's work.

¹ Among the manuscripts left by Earl Davis were a collection of sheets announcing services. These included several with the title, "Unity Church Paragraph Pulpit," which gave a kind of abstract of the sermon. It seems almost certain that these sheets were used for announcements made in the local newspaper about upcoming services.

² Only a few of these sheets had dates on them. This particular sheet had "07" handwritten on it. Based on this and the generic character of the contents—also that it was typed on different paper than all the other, 1908, sheets, I surmise that this was a general orientation to the Unity Church published in 1907.