

## Report of the Archivist 2013-2014

At the time of last year's report, Greg Farr and I had inventoried and packed just under 600 cubic feet of archival materials. When we moved in March, approximately 1200 cubic feet of manuscripts, records, and artifacts that illuminate the history of our mission in Connecticut were transported to the new space in Meriden. In addition to the collection, we moved the extensive resource library.

Greg Farr left us to accept full time position after Independence Day. As we celebrated his good fortune and his time with us, it was hard to say good-bye. His talent and dedication to the project of moving the archives proved invaluable. The energy brought by Greg in creative solutions for indexing our holdings and his innovations for record-keeping, packing, preparing for moving, and mapping the new vault are a lasting gift to our diocese and our rich history. I can most assuredly say that such an undertaking without Greg's invaluable contribution and God's help, our collection would not be as organized as it is today.

With regard to reference questions, I responded to just under 300 in 2013, and have responded to just under 400 in 2014. Because of the physical upheaval of moving, we only received about a dozen visitors last year. In our new location, we have new custom-built bookcases, and the actual shelving of our library is an ongoing process. Though we have had some challenges in the new space, it is a pleasure to be above ground where there is sun and light, as well as the company of my colleagues in the office, instead of being the sole occupant in the old basement.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of September of this year, we lost a long-time friend and colleague, Peter Knapp, who served on the Archives Committee for more than thirty years, many of them as chair of the committee. An archivist at Trinity College, historian and scholar, Peter was a supportive advocate for our Episcopal archives. His untimely death came as quite a shock to the committee. It is a reminder that we in Connecticut are blessed with so many dedicated volunteers working behind the scenes in a variety of ministries to keep the Church vibrant and relevant.

As always, I am grateful to the Archives Committee: The Rev. Dr. Borden Painter, the Rev. Steve Ling, Ms. Diana Barnard, who is archivist at University of St. Joseph; the Rev. Dr. Andy Zeman, Chancellor Bradford Babbitt, Esq., Keith Hook, and the Rev. Canon Robert G. (Jerry) Carroon, Archivist Emeritus. Dr. Painter and Ms. Barnard, especially, worked long hours with the Relocation Committee, and all of the archivists spent significant time helping to plan the move. I also want to thank the bishops, who elected to keep the archives on site with the rest of our diocesan administrative offices.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Margaret Smith