

Historiography Report to 2013 Convention

Karen Shepherd September 23, 2013

The archives of the Episcopal Diocese of Fort Worth are housed in the conference room at the diocesan offices. David Leedy, the first archivist/historiographer of the reorganized diocese, compiled an impressive collection of historical importance representing the Fort Worth diocese, the Dallas diocese of which we were a part, the Missionary District of Texas and The Episcopal Church. Some items date back to the early 19th century.

I have spent this year as last becoming familiar with the collection and adding new pieces of our current history, as well as compiling notebooks and digital files of diocesan committee meetings. In a beginner's attempt to conduct video interviews, I recorded a number of folks before and during last year's convention in Stephenville, especially those who represented churches meeting outside their buildings. Katie Sherrod, in a masterful feat of editing, cut out extraneous noise and bits of conversation and created an excellent video, "Our Stories, Our Selves." I hope to add to the collection of interviews this year.

Another facet of the historiographer job which I particularly like is fielding questions from researchers looking into people, places and things Episcopal. I have enjoyed communicating with queries from as near as Rockwall and as far as British Columbia.

Because history is ongoing, the archival function needs help from across the diocese to send in photos, event posters, newsletters—whatever tells the story of your parish. Those can be in paper or in digital form. Send them by mail to the diocesan office or to karen.shepherd@edfw.org.