# Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall Papers

## A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

**Manuscript Division, Library of Congress**
**Washington, D.C.**
**2013**

Contact information:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Additional search options available at:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms013105

LC Online Catalog record:
http://lccn.loc.gov/mm78031468

Prepared by Manuscript Division Staff

# Collection Summary

**Title:** Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall Papers
**Span Dates:** 1927-1964
**Bulk Dates:** (bulk 1933-1956)
**ID No.:** MSS31468
**Creator:** Marshall, Peter, 1902-1949
**Creator:** Catherine Marshall, 1914-1983
**Extent:** 10,000 items ; 31 containers plus 5 oversize ; 14.4 linear feet ; 6 microfilm reels
**Language:** Collection material in English
**Location:** Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
**Summary:** Presbyterian clergyman and chaplain of the United States Senate (Peter Marshall). Author (Catherine Marshall). Correspondence, notes, and sermons of Peter Marshall, and drafts, galleys, scrapbooks, movie scripts, and other papers about Marshall collected by his wife, Catherine Marshall.

# Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

**People**
Engel, Samuel G., 1904-1984--Correspondence.
Griffin, Eleanore--Correspondence.
Marshall family.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. Beyond our selves. 1961.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. Friends with God; stories and prayers of the Marshall family. 1956.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. God loves you; our family's favorite stories and prayers. 1953.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. Man called Peter; the story of Peter Marshall. 1951.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall papers. 1927-1964.
Marshall, Catherine, 1914-1983. To live again. 1957.
Marshall, Peter, 1902-1949.
Marshall, Peter, 1902-1949.
Marshall, Peter, 1902-1949. God loves you; our family's favorite stories and prayers. 1953.
Marshall, Peter, 1902-1949. Mr. Jones; meet the Master, sermons and prayers. 1949.
Peters, Jean, 1926-2000--Correspondence.
Rambeau, Marjorie, 1889-1970--Correspondence.
Todd, Richard, 1919-2009--Correspondence.

**Organizations**
Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation.

**Subjects**
American literature.
Bereavement--Religious aspects--Christianity.
Children--Religious life.
Christian life.
Clergy--United States.
Faith.
Families--Religious life.
Motion pictures.
Presbyterian Church--Clergy.
Presbyterian Church--Sermons.
Religion.
Sermons, American--20th century.
Spouses of clergy--United States.

Man Called Peter (Motion picture)

**Occupations**
Chaplains, U.S. Senate.
Clergy.

# Administrative Information

### Provenance

The papers of Peter Marshall, Presbyterian clergyman and chaplain of the United States Senate, and his wife, Catherine Marshall, author, were deposited in the Library of Congress by Catherine Marshall LeSourd in 1964 and converted to a gift in 1970. Additional gifts were received, 1968-1969.

### Processing History

The papers of Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall were arranged and described in 1966 and expanded in 1979 and 1985. The finding aid was revised in 2013.

### Transfers

Sound recordings and television tapes have been transferred to the Library's Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

### Copyright Status

Copyright in the unpublished writings of Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall in these papers and in other collections of papers in the custody of the Library of Congress has been dedicated to the public.

### Access and Restrictions

The papers of Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

### Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on six reels. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition.

### Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container or reel number, Peter Marshall and Catherine Marshall Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

# Biographical Note

**Peter Marshall**

| *Date* | *Event* |
|---|---|
| 1902, Mar. 27 | Born, Coatbridge, Scotland |
| 1927 | Emigrated to United States |
| 1931 | Graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Ga. |
| 1931 | Ordained a Presbyterian minister |

| | |
|---|---|
| 1931-1933 | Pastor of church in Covington, Ga. |
| 1933-1937 | Pastor, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga. |
| 1936 | Married Catherine Sarah Wood |
| 1937 | Named pastor of New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C. |
| 1947 | Named chaplain of United States Senate |
| 1949, Jan. 25 | Died, Washington, D.C. |

**Catherine Marshall**

| ***Date*** | ***Event*** |
|---|---|
| 1914, Sept. 27 | Born, Johnston City, Tenn. |
| 1936 | Graduated, Agnes Scott College, Decatur, Ga.<br>Married Peter Marshall |
| 1951 | Published *A Man Called Peter.* New York: McGraw-Hill |
| 1955 | Film release of *A Man Called Peter* (motion picture) |
| 1959 | Married Leonard LeSourd |
| 1967 | Published *Christy.* New York: McGraw-Hill |
| 1983, Mar. 18 | Died |

# Scope and Content Note

The papers of Peter Marshall (1902-1949) and Catherine Marshall (1914-1983), husband and wife, span the years 1927-1964, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1933-1956. Personal materials of Peter Marshall comprise about a fourth of the collection, including a small amount of correspondence and a large file of notes for his sermons. The sermons, about 850 in number, cover the period 1933 through January 1948 and include such well-known sermons as “Singing in the Rain,” “Go Down Death,” “Under Sealed Orders,” “The King is in the Audience,” and “Rendezvous in Samarra.” There are also synopses of many of the sermons and various indexes that list the sermons by title, date, location, subject matter, and quotations used. The collection is organized into seven series: Peter Marshall: Sermons, Peter Marshall: Correspondence, Catherine Marshall: Correspondence, Catherine Marshall: Book and Article File , Scrapbooks, Addition I, and Addition II.

Catherine Marshall's papers, in addition to treating her own career as an author and lecturer following the death of her husband, are mainly oriented to the life of Peter Marshall and to her biography of him, *A Man Called Peter.* Most of her correspondence consists of mail from persons who read her numerous books and saw the motion picture based on the biography.

A significant portion of the papers concerns the production by Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation of *A Man Called Peter*. There are verbatim records of the conferences attended by Catherine Marshall and representatives of Twentieth Century-Fox during planning of the film. In addition to many versions of the film script, these records present the metamorphosis of the work from printed page to celluloid. Important correspondents include screenwriter Eleanor Griffin, producer Samuel G. Engel, and the film's principal performers, Richard Todd, Jean Peters, and Marjorie Rambeau.

Also in the collection are other manuscripts of Catherine Marshall's published works, some of which include both original drafts and corrected copies of proofs.

The Scrapbooks series is composed mainly of printed material including some correspondence relating to Peter Marshall's election as chaplain of the United States Senate, his death, and Catherine Marshall's subsequent career as an author. Addition I and Addition II contain miscellaneous sermons and ideas for sermon, written prayers, seminary papers of Peter Marshall, and other material.

An appendix to this finding aid lists the names and dates of correspondents in the Peter Marshall: Correspondence series of the collection.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in seven series:

- Peter Marshall: Sermons, 1933-1948
- Peter Marshall: Correspondence, 1927-1956
- Catherine Marshall: Correspondence, 1949-1961
- Catherine Marshall: Book and Article File
- Scrapbooks (Oversize), 1946-1960
- Addition I, 1932-1946
- Addition II, 1934-1964

# Description of Series

| *Container* | *Series* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 1-8<br>**REEL** 1-8 | **Peter Marshall: Sermons, 1933-1948**<br>Texts of sermons by Peter Marshall and related material.<br>Organized into two groups and arranged as filmed, with Group 2 preceding Group 1. Numbers to sermons were assigned by Marshall. Includes various indexes.<br>Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,847 |
| **BOX** 8<br>**REEL** 8 | **Peter Marshall: Correspondence, 1927-1956**<br>Family letters and general correspondence of letters sent and received by Peter Marshall. Names and dates of correspondents are listed in an appendix.<br>Arranged by type and therein chronologically.<br>Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,847 |
| **BOX** 9-13 | **Catherine Marshall: Correspondence, 1949-1961**<br>Letters sent and received by Catherine Marshall.<br>Arranged chronologically, with travel correspondence organized according to location and miscellany filed at the end of the series. |
| **BOX** 14-26 | **Catherine Marshall: Book and Article File**<br>Drafts and production material of Mrs. Marshall's published books and articles and an unpublished work. The manuscript of *A Man Called Peter* also contains papers concerning the movie version of the work.<br>Arranged by title of work. |
| **BOX** 27-31 | **Scrapbooks (Oversize), 1946-1960**<br>Mainly biographical material about Peter Marshall and publicity relating to the books and movie about him.<br>Arranged in chronological sequence. |
| **BOX** 32 | **Addition I, 1932-1946**<br>Miscellaneous sermons, prayers, articles, and seminary papers of Peter Marshall.<br>Arranged by type of material. |
| **BOX** 33-36 | **Addition II, 1934-1964**<br>Material for sermon ideas, typescripts of sermons and prayers, and miscellany relating to Peter Marshall.<br>Arranged by type of material. |

# Container List

| *Container* | *Contents* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 1-8<br>**REEL** 1-8 | **Peter Marshall: Sermons, 1933-1948** |
| | Texts of sermons by Peter Marshall and related material.<br>Organized into two groups and arranged as filmed, with Group 2 preceding Group 1. Numbers to sermons were assigned by Marshall. Includes various indexes.<br>Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,847 |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Indexes |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Lists of sermons (incomplete) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Index to locations of sermons (incomplete) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Synopses of sermons (incomplete) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Quotations used in sermons (incomplete) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Subject index (incomplete) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Poems |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Lists of sermons |
| | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Notebook, Christmas list |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Indexes to locations |
| | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 1<br>**REEL** 1 | Synopses of sermons |
| **BOX** 2<br>**REEL** 1-2 | Sermons |
| **BOX** 2<br>**REEL** 1-2 | Group 2 |
| **BOX** 2<br>**REEL** 1-2 | Numbered |
| **BOX** 2<br>**REEL** 1-2 | Nos. 1-119 |
| | (12 folders) |
| **BOX** 3<br>**REEL** 2-3 | Nos. 120-249 |
| | (14 folders) |
| **BOX** 4<br>**REEL** 3 | Nos. 250-359 |
| | (11 folders) |

| *Container* | *Contents* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 5 **REEL** 3-4 | Nos. 360-479 (13 folders) |
| **BOX** 6 **REEL** 4-5 | Nos. 480-608 (14 folders) |
| **BOX** 7 **REEL** 5 | Nos. 610-624 (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 7 **REEL** 5 | Unnumbered |
| **BOX** 7 **REEL** 5 | 1933-1948 (4 folders) |
| **BOX** 7 **REEL** 5 | Undated (9 folders) |
| **BOX** 8 **REEL** 5-6 | Group 1 |
| **BOX** 8 **REEL** 5-6 | Nos. 2-487 (some numbers absent) (10 folders) |
| **BOX** 8 **REEL** 8 | **Peter Marshall: Correspondence, 1927-1956** |
| | Family letters and general correspondence of letters sent and received by Peter Marshall. Names and dates of correspondents are listed in an appendix. |
| | Arranged by type and therein chronologically. |
| | Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 13,847 |
| **BOX** 8 **REEL** 6 | General, 1937-1948 (3 folders) |
| **BOX** 8 **REEL** 6 | Family, 1927-1956, undated |
| **BOX** 9-13 | **Catherine Marshall: Correspondence, 1949-1961** |
| | Letters sent and received by Catherine Marshall. |
| | Arranged chronologically, with travel correspondence organized according to location and miscellany filed at the end of the series. |
| **BOX** 9 | Chronological |
| **BOX** 9 | Jan. 1949-1952 (16 folders) |
| **BOX** 10 | Feb. 1952-Sept. 1953 (23 folders) |
| **BOX** 11 | Oct. 1953-Feb. 1957 (23 folders) |
| **BOX** 12 | Mar. 1957-July 1959 (20 folders) |
| **BOX** 13 | Aug. 1959-Dec. 1961 (2 folders) |

| *Container* | *Contents* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 13 | Trips to Scotland (1951), Hollywood, Calif. (1957), Natchez, Miss., California, and Europe (1958) |
| | (8 folders) |
| **BOX** 13 | Miscellany |
| **BOX** 14-26 | **Catherine Marshall: Book and Article File** |
| | Drafts and production material of Mrs. Marshall's published books and articles and an unpublished work. The manuscript of *A Man Called Peter* also contains papers concerning the movie version of the work. |
| | Arranged by title of work. |
| **BOX** 14 | *Beyond Our Selves* |
| | (11 folders) |
| **BOX** 15 | (4 folders) |
| **BOX** 16 | (1 folder) |
| **BOX** 16 | *The First Easter* |
| **BOX** 16 | *Friends with God* |
| | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 16 | *God Loves You* |
| | (4 folders) |
| **BOX** 17 | *Let's Keep Christmas* |
| **BOX** 17 | *A Man Called Peter* |
| | (17 folders) |
| **BOX** 18 | (17 folders) |
| **BOX** 19 | (15 folders) |
| **BOX** 20 | (11 folders) |
| **BOX** 21 | (4 folders) |
| **BOX** 22 | Correspondence, Nov. 1952-Dec. 1955 |
| | (13 folders) |
| **BOX** 22 | Option agreement, 19 Nov. 1952 |
| **BOX** 22 | Movie conference |
| **BOX** 22 | 4 Dec. 1953 |
| **BOX** 23 | 29-30 Apr. 1954 |
| **BOX** 23 | Background |
| | (3 folders) |
| **BOX** 23 | Movie outline |
| **BOX** 23 | Step sheets |
| | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 23 | Chapter breakdown |
| **BOX** 23 | Working script |
| **BOX** 24 | Working script |
| | (3 folders) |
| **BOX** 24 | First draft continuity |
| **BOX** 24 | Temporary script |
| **BOX** 24 | Revised final script |
| **BOX** 24 | Shooting final script |
| **BOX** 24 | Miscellany |
| **BOX** 24 | Printed matter |
| **BOX** 25 | *Mr. Jones, Meet the Master* |

| *Container* | *Contents* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 25 | *To Live Again* |
| | (14 folders) |
| **BOX** 26 | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 26 | Requests to quote from Catherine Marshall's books |
| | (6 folders) |
| **BOX** 26 | "Journal of a Trip to Scotland," unpublished |
| **BOX** 26 | Articles |
| | (3 folders) |
| **BOX** 27-31 | **Scrapbooks (Oversize), 1946-1960** |
| | Mainly biographical material about Peter Marshall and publicity relating to the books and movie about him. |
| | Arranged in chronological sequence. |
| **BOX** OV 27 | Peter Marshall's heart attack, 31 Mar. 1946 |
| **BOX** OV 27 | Election as Chaplain of the United States Senate, 31 Dec. 1947 |
| **BOX** OV 27 | Peter Marshall's preaching mission, Neosho, Mo. |
| **BOX** OV 28 | Senate prayers clipped from the *Congressional Record*, 6 Jan. 1947-31 Dec. 1948 |
| **BOX** OV 28 | Death of Peter Marshall |
| **BOX** OV 29 | Publicity and reviews of Catherine Marshall's *Mr. Jones, Meet the Master* and *A Man Called Peter* (1951-1952) |
| **BOX** OV 30 | Publicity relating to *A Man Called Peter* (1953-1954) and movie scrapbook concerning the film. |
| **BOX** OV 31 | Catherine Marshall scrapbook (1955-1956) |
| **BOX** OV 31 | Publicity concerning *Prayers of Peter Marshall* (1954-1955) |
| **BOX** OV 31 | Publicity concerning *To Live Again* (1957-1960) |
| **BOX** 32 | **Addition I, 1932-1946** |
| | Miscellaneous sermons, prayers, articles, and seminary papers of Peter Marshall. |
| | Arranged by type of material. |
| **BOX** 32 | Miscellaneous sermons, prayers, articles, and seminary papers |
| | (2 folders) |
| **BOX** 33-36 | **Addition II, 1934-1964** |
| | Material for sermon ideas, typescripts of sermons and prayers, and miscellany relating to Peter Marshall. |
| | Arranged by type of material. |
| **BOX** 33 | Senate prayers and other invocations |
| **BOX** 33 | Prayer meeting talks, ideas, outlines, and drafts |
| **BOX** 33 | Material for sermons |
| **BOX** 33 | Alcohol |
| **BOX** 33 | Biblical criticism |
| **BOX** 33 | Books of the Bible, outline studies |
| **BOX** 33 | Church and war |
| **BOX** 33 | Doctrines |
| **BOX** 34 | Education |
| **BOX** 34 | Immigration |
| **BOX** 34 | Marriage and divorce |
| **BOX** 34 | Poems |

| *Container* | *Contents* |
|---|---|
| **BOX** 34 | Prayer |
| **BOX** 34 | Predestination |
| **BOX** 34 | Sacraments |
| **BOX** 34 | Stewardship |
| **BOX** 34 | Suicide |
| **BOX** 34 | Worship |
| **BOX** 34 | Notes, outlines and clippings |
| | (1 folder) |
| **BOX** 35 | (3 folders) |
| **BOX** 36 | Sermons |
| **BOX** 36 | *Scottish Sermons and Addresses,* galley proofs |
| **BOX** 36 | Miscellany |
| **BOX** 36 | Church records, weddings, baptisms, funerals |
| **BOX** 36 | Doctor of divinity, degree, Presbyterian College, S.C., 1938 |
| **BOX** 36 | Seminary class notes |
| **BOX** 36 | General |

# Appendix: Index to Peter Marshall: Correspondence Series

**General**

Rustin, John W. to PM [Peter Marshall], Sept. 21, 1937
Harris, Frederick Brown to PM, Oct. 7, 1937
Stokes, Anson Phelps to PM, Oct. 7, 1937
Hughes, Edwin H. to PM, Oct. 25, 1937
Sprunt, Thomas P. to PM, June 14, 1938, with enclosure: reports of diagnoses study
McCartney, Albert Joseph to PM, Nov. 12, 1938
Peacock, Virginia to PM, Mar. 18, 1939
Marshall, Peter to Florence Lambert, May 4, 1945
Marshall, Peter to Mrs. Lionel Nutter, Oct. 3, 1945
Nutter, Mrs. Lionel to PM, Sept. 18, 1945
Hoover, J. Edgar to PM, Apr. 1, 1946
Hassett, William D. to PM, Apr. 3, 1946
Berghoefer, Bruce K. to PM, June 1, 1946
Hagedorn, Hermann to PM, Nov. 27, 1946
Sherier, James to PM, undated [telegram]
Loeffler, Carl A. to PM, Jan. 5, 1947 [telegram]
White House to Rev. & Mrs. Peter Marshall, Feb. 8-18, 1947
Truman, President and Mrs. Harry S. to Rev. & Mrs. Peter Marshall, Feb. 18, 1947
Hoover, J. Edgar to PM, Apr. 1, 1947
Wiatrak, Edward T. To PM, June 10, 1947
Marshall, Peter to unknown-Dear Betty, Aug. 13, 1947
Anderson, Howard Stone to New York Avenue Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C., Oct. 13, 1947
Truman, Harry S. to Samuel Estill Whitaker, Apr. 1, 1948
Marshall, Peter to unknown-My Dear Miss Mary, May 28, 1948
Grapes, Maude to PM, Nov. 24, 1948
Haines, Dorothy L. to PM, undated

**Family**

Marshall, Peter to Barbara Marshall, June 20, 1927 [postcard]
Marshall, Peter to Mother and Dad, undated [4 letters]
Marshall, Catherine to PM, Jr., 1956 Jan. 21
Marshall, Peter, Jr. To Catherine Marshall, July 7, 1947 [postcard]
Marshall, Peter [Sr.] to Catherine Marshall, undated