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Editorial

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The Christian Librarian **TCL** EDITORIAL

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Have you ever felt cramped? Out of space? Short of room? Working on this issue of *The Christian Librarian* is a continuation of a theme in my life lately. This issue is jammed packed with articles and features and ACL Conference information that must go out to our readers. There wasn't even room for "pull-quotes" -- those attention grabbing statements that highlight each article in hopes of attracting you to read further, and add an attractive graphic element to the page. We've even added extra pages so there would be enough room to fit it all in.

This summer's Conference in Nashville at Trevecca Nazarene University is sure to be an exciting event this year. Pre-conference features, post-conference tours, meetings, workshops, discussion groups... did I mention sleep? How can we fit it all in?

Maybe your library is feeling a little cramped lately. I moved in to a new office over the summer as our library has been undergoing renovations. Now I find I must move again to another office to make way for additional personnel. Where will we all fit? We've unpacked most of our book collection but many reference works remain in boxes. Will there be enough shelf space?

Our network administrators are warning that we must remove data from our network files because they are too full. Digital storage is now at a premium on our campus. Do you mean I really have to delete those old emails

and documents?

The entire university endured a complete revision of the website in the past month. The library had many decisions to make about that all-important first page. What needs to appear there? What do students look for first? If it begins to look too cluttered, what has to be eliminated? If a link is moved from the first page will anyone ever find it again? How can we fit it all in?

My closets and bookshelves at home too are filled to capacity. How did I ever get so much stuff?

And time? Is there ever time to do it all? I seem to never find time to clean out those closets and bookshelves. When time is short, I find that the people around me suffer, whether colleagues or patrons. An excellent remedy is found in Greg Smith's "The Core Virtue of Christian Librarianship", featured in this issue of TCL. Love is - or should be - the central focus of our lives both private and professional. It should be that which drives us into service for others for the Christ's sake.

I noticed another private twinge of conviction when reading Ray Doerksen's timely article, "Never on a Sunday". Through a personal study of the Ten Commandments I have found delight in actually resting on Sunday. Observing the Lord's Day has revolutionized my work week.

Enjoy this issue. It's packed with personal and professional challenges.

See you all in June,
Diane Garber
Design Editor