The United Library recently received Historical Records Preservation Grant from the Illinois State Historical Records Advisory Board (ISHRAB) and the Illinois State Archives. The grant was awarded to provide financial support for the organization, digitization, and preservation of the Lucy Rider Meyer and Chicago Training School for Home, City, and Foreign Missions archives.

The Chicago Training School’s founder and first principal, Lucy Rider Meyer, was a pioneering religious leader of social service and women’s education in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Since the merger of two schools – Garrett Biblical Institute and Chicago Training School – in 1934, the United Library has been the repository of the Chicago Training School records as well as the personal papers of the Meyers (Lucy Rider Meyer and Josiah Meyer) and some of the early deaconess movement leaders. Despite the historical value of the collection, it has not received much attention until recently. Organizing and digitizing the entire collection will be a great contribution to the historical records preservation efforts of the Illinois State as well as the United Methodist Church. The grant program begins on July 1, 2014 and ends on June 30, 2015. Library staff are very thrilled about this important project, and look forward to providing the public with easy, open access to these valuable documents in the near future.

Library Receives Grant for its Digitization Project

Theological Libraries Month

October is Theological Libraries Month! Theological Libraries Month is sponsored by the American Theological Libraries Association (ATLA). Established in 1946, the American Theological Library Association (ATLA) is a professional association of over 800 individual, institutional, and affiliate members providing programs, products, and services in support of theological and religious studies libraries and librarians. ATLA’s ecumenical membership represents many religious traditions and denominations.

The goal of Theological Libraries Month, as stated on the ATLA website, is to advance the importance and value of theological libraries and library services to targeted faculty, administrators, staff, and students.

To that end, The United Library will be holding a used book sale, distributing special bookmarks, encouraging library patrons to enter ATLA’s Book Spine Poetry contest, presenting a series of Children’s Story Time sessions, especially for the community’s youngest members, and hosting a reception for the entire Garrett community on Wednesday, October 8th, from 3:30pm to 4:30pm in the library’s reference room. Please join us for cake and conversation and an opportunity to learn more about The United Library and what it can do for you.
Greetings to all of you in the Garrett Evangelical Seminary community. I am very pleased to have joined the staff of United Library in late July of this year. No doubt you have already discovered that the staff members here are a very dedicated and personable group of individuals with whom to interact. Although I was born and raised in Illinois, I have been in New Jersey for the last 25 years, having gone there to earn my Master’s in Library Science (MLS) at Rutgers University. I also earned a Master of Arts degree at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, where I worked as a professional librarian for most of my time while in New Jersey. My goal as a theological librarian in the area of technical services is to help library users find the information they need to accomplish their educational goals by cataloging and classifying the many types of resources available and working with colleagues to make them discoverable in the library as well as online. I am grateful for the opportunity to be back in Illinois and to be a part of the United Library team that works together to serve you as you strive to learn, teach, and put into practice your many and varied gifts.

Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology: New Online Resource

The Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology is an online reference resource for the study of hymns created to be the successor to the Dictionary of Hymnology published by John Julian in 1892. The two lead editors are Professor J. R. Watson and Dr. Emma Hornby, both from the UK. Hymnologist Carlton Young is regional editor for the US. The new Dictionary includes over 4000 entries written by over 300 authors from over 30 countries. There are many articles on individual hymns and hymn writers, including an article on Garrett’s own Ruth C. Duck. There is a simple search box for searching the collection as a whole. An easy way to navigate the collection is by clicking on “Categories” on the top toolbar. From there you can browse under General, Eras, Traditions, Hymns, People, Places, and Collections. Alternatively, you can click on “Browse arti-

Book Sale

As part of our celebration of Theological Libraries Month, The United Library will be holding a Used Book Sale in the Reference Room.

The sale will run October 1st through October 31st, or until we sell out!

We received a number of large donations from local clergy, friends of the library, and seminary alumni who recently retired and no longer wished to maintain a large personal library. When donated books are received, they are evaluated for inclusion in the library collection. Books that are duplicates or do not meet the collection guidelines are made available to students, faculty, staff, and library friends in the used book sale. Items in the sale include theological and religious books from the mid-twentieth century to current titles, as well as popular fiction, classics, children’s books, and a number of French-language books. Books cost 50¢ for paperbacks and $1.00 for hardbacks. Certain items of exceptional value may be priced higher. Proceeds go to The United Library to support its work for the seminary students.

R. Watson and Dr. Emma Hornby, both from the UK. Hymnologist Carlton Young is regional editor for the US. The new Dictionary includes over 4000 entries written by over 300 authors from over 30 countries. There are many articles on individual hymns and hymn writers, including an article on Garrett’s own Ruth C. Duck. There is a simple search box for searching the collection as a whole. An easy way to navigate the collection is by clicking on “Categories” on the top toolbar. From there you can browse under General, Eras, Traditions, Hymns, People, Places, and Collections. Alternatively, you can click on “Browse arti-

Books that are duplicates or do not meet the collection guidelines are made available to students, faculty, staff, and library friends in the used book sale. Items in the sale include theological and religious books from the mid-twentieth century to current titles, as well as popular fiction, classics, children’s books, and a number of French-language books. Books cost 50¢ for paperbacks and $1.00 for hardbacks. Certain items of exceptional value may be priced higher. Proceeds go to The United Library to support its work for the seminary students.

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Lynn Berg
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New Website Design

We’ve made some changes to The United Library’s website to serve our wide community of users in better ways. The primary reason for the changes was to embed a new discovery tool, USearch, onto our homepage. We’re really excited to offer this tool to our users and think it will vastly improve your search capabilities. To learn more about USearch and how to use it, check out our Quick Tip Tutorial on Using USearch. We work closely with the Northwestern University Library and share a common catalog. Northwestern will be retiring NUcat, the online catalog we’ve been using, in the near future, so it was important that we make this switch to a new tool this summer.

We still have everything you need on our new website. Just as on our old site, our hours, current news, new arrivals and frequently used quick links are all available from the home page. We’ve condensed our menu options from two menu lists to one. While USearch does search through nearly all of our electronic databases, if you’d prefer to use a given database’s native interface or simply see what we subscribe to, you can find our list, by subject, under the menu heading Books, Collections, & More. We have some new pages added to the Research menu heading, such as our new library guide, Citing Sources. Perhaps most importantly, searching for resources can now be done from the home page.

A few other things worth mentioning: if you can’t find something on our site, try using the search box at the top of the page. Additionally, you can get in touch with us anywhere you see this circular button.

Take a look around, let us know what you think and we hope the new tools and layout serve you well this coming school year.

USearch: A New Discovery Tool

USearch is here! You may remember us discussing the impending arrival in the last newsletter. We are pleased to say that it has been implemented and, though still an ever evolving system, has been met with success.

USearch is a comprehensive discovery tool that provides credible, relevant results culled from the library’s online and print collections as well as content in the library’s databases. This expanse of search scope means that you can search for both physical books and media, as well as online articles all from the same place. This will save you time and help you gather a variety of resources on a single topic all from one search box.

Here’s how it works: The best way to get started is by entering a search term into the Everything tab. USearch includes hundreds of millions of items, including all books in the United Library catalog, the Northwestern University Libraries catalog, e-books and e-resources in the catalog, as well as scholarly articles and information contained in the libraries’ subscription databases and journals. The United Collections tab limits your search to only books physically located in the United Library in addition to e-books. The Reserves tabs limits your search to items on reserve at The United Library. The Articles tab searches our online databases and journals. USearch has access to the indexes of almost all of our subscription databases.

The USearch starting point embedded on our library’s homepage is a simple search box, so just enter the most important words to start your search. You have a lot of choices when it comes to sorting results. Refining by item type is one way or you could choose to sort by date which truly comes in handy when scouting for recent articles.

Some additional functionality that will be added in the coming months is access to your library account management through the USearch interface. This will also allow users to save, manage and send a set of searches to their e-shelf. USearch also has the ability to set up an email alert if items that a user has expressed interest in are added to the catalog. Think about it? Always being the first to know when a new article is published on your dissertation topic! We’ll be keeping the community informed on this process and look forward to continuing to modify the tool to best suit Garrett’s needs.
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Library Participates in the Crosswalk to Work Program to Offer At-Risk Youths Summer Employment

With the recommendation from one of Garrett–Evangelical’s board members, Anne Driscoll, the United Library participated in the “Crosswalk to Work” program this past summer to provide two high school students with summer employment. In partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago and Youth Guidance, the social services organization rooted in Chicago, the Crosswalk to Work initiative is a pilot program to connect at-risk teens to summer and/or after-school jobs in businesses, nonprofits, and local institutions. Social workers from Youth Guidance help identify appropriate 15–19 year olds that have successfully participated in the organizations’ employment readiness training. They match students with their potential employers, and local churches in the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago sponsor their employment financially.

The library staff had a great experience working with two selected high school student interns for ten weeks over the summer. They both were pleasant, hardworking, and most of all, eager to learn whatever jobs were presented to them. They had a chance to work on a variety of library projects from doing inventory and filing to data entry and scanning in the friendly and structured environment. We all enjoyed the students’ presence and work with them, and felt blessed to be part of this mutually beneficial program. We hope to continue to participate in the Crosswalk to Work program.