

Compiled by Natalie Schwarz

AltaVista and Yahoo may well be the best known search engines, but three of the new players, Fast Search, Northern Light and Google, have some attractive features. Fast Search at http://www.alltheweb.com/ claims the largest web coverage and fastest searching. Google (http://www.google.com/) has an uncluttered look and uses link popularity to rate sites. Northern Light (http://www.northernlight.com/) offers the custom search folders facility to enable users to hone in on a particular topic after their initial search has elicited mammoth results. Some of these search engines are more forgiving if search punctuation is not precise. Changes to search engines can be tracked on Greg Notess' Search Engine Showdown at http://www.searchengineshowdown.com/ or Danny Sullivan's Search Engine Watch at http://www.searchenginewatch.com/.

A recent article on using Internet searching to advantage can be found at http://marylaine.com/howto.html. In "When and How to search the Net" Marylaine Block provides a clear and concise guide for librarians. Another useful tool for the technically oriented librarian is Every File Format in the World at http://www.whatis.com/ff.htm

The New Testament Gateway is not a new site but its Latest Updates list at http://www.bham.ac.uk/theology/goodacre/links.htm is worth a regular visit.

In the area of Christian art the newly updated New Testament Visuals (http://www.nd.edu/~kcoblent/newtesta.html) and TextWeek's Art Concordance at http://www.textweek.com/art/art.htm are both valuable pictorial resource sites.

SearchEduc.com (http://searchedu.com/) has proved to be a useful search engine in the field of education. It searches over 20 million university and education pages and ranks results in order of popularity.

On the Australian scene, CathLINK Australia (http://cathlink.acu.edu.au/) was launched in February as a major new web-site linking Catholic libraries and information agencies across Australia.

Another new Australian site is New Creation Ministries based in Adelaide. Its URL is http://www.newcreation.org.au/. It offers a monthly thematic feature as well as information about its programs and publications.

A US site that provide articles on the future of information technology and theology is FishersNet (http://www.fishersnet.net/). Its newspaper style format presents a jaunty bimonthly offering.

A publishing site that offers more than just theological books is Zondervan. Useful tools at http://www.zondervan.com/ are excerpts from new reference books and a broad array of religious news links.

An electronic list of these sites can be obtained by e-mail from library@luthersem.edu.au.