



NEWS LETTER

SUMMER - 1990

A PRAYER GARDEN OF HAPPINESS

First plant four rows of peas:

Prayers
Promptness
Politeness
Purity

Next plant four rows of lettuce:

Let us be faithful to duty
Let us be unselfish
Let us be truthful
Let us follow Christ

Next plant three rows of squash:

Squash gossip
Squash criticism
Squash indifference

No garden is complete without turnips:

Turn up for Church
Turn up with a smile
Turn up with new ideas
Turn up with determination for something good and worthwhile

The Rev. Lesley Daley
St. Luke's
Hastings, Minn.





OUTREACH COMMITTEE

PROGRESS REPORT

by

Mel Element, Chairperson



What is Outreach? Like so many, I had a vague idea of what reaching out could entail - a broad spectrum of Christian activities that would be endless.

According to Stephen F. Hopkins, a staff member of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Outreach Committee, Outreach is "a vague term used to refer to a wide variety of activities. In general, we use it to speak of that action taken by faithful Christians both personally and corporately as they seek to extend Christ's ministry of love and restoring wholeness to a broken world. More specifically, we use the term 'Outreach' to refer to the action we take towards a Gospel vision of peace and justice in our own community and in societies around the world."

As a result of our first meeting on February 25, 1990, the new Outreach Committee of St. John's identified the general framework for our action plans to include:

1. The work of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) and other international goals, as well as the work of the Anglican Church Women (ACW).

In many parishes, global outreach has involved the commitment to sponsor a refugee family.

2. Local needs within our parish.
3. Evangelical and Inter-Faith work.
4. Teaching programs.

Also, during our first meeting, it was concluded that one of our first priorities would be the enhancement of communications and the co-ordination of activities, both within and outside our parish. You have already witnessed results from this undertaking in the form of the monthly calendar and the host of activities outlined therein, as well as the names and telephone numbers, for the impressive list of committees and members of St. John's, prepared by Lynda Woolrich.

As a result of our meetings on March 19 and April 23, additional activities have been engendered and they are described briefly as follows:

- A questionnaire/data sheet has been sent to all parishioners (200 in all) requesting information as to skills, interests, etc. This data will help all other committees in identifying resources available to respond to God's call for work in this parish. It is important that you complete and return your data sheet! Inclusive with the sheet would be an individual or family photograph to develop a pictorial library.

- We are investigating those with special needs for transportation to and from Church; we will be looking for a co-ordinator for this activity.

- Additional signs for wheelchair accessibility will be posted; as well, we will be looking for city support from Derwyn Shea for a curb drop-off zone in front of the Church.

- Development of a program for teenagers who have a need for understanding and a forum for finding answers to their unique problems.

- Reviewing ways to provide the Eucharist to shut-ins.

- Bruce Alton has spearheaded a plan to upgrade the narthex as a major communication centre; plans and budgets are being prepared for submission to the Rector's Warden and the Finance Committee.

- A self-help group for children of alcoholic parents will be covered by a separate letter from Yvonne Johns and will be a project co-ordinated by Outreach.

- A number of excellent speakers have been identified for our special Sunday teaching forums; we will report on these events separately.

- We have provided some assistance to Jennifer LaMarche in co-ordinating the Trust Fund Concert held on May 13, 1990 at St. John's.

- Bruce and Carol Alton put forth an excellent concept for our Christian Education program, i.e. a Friday Night Film Series whereby a small group of eight to ten would attend a theatre, view a film and critique its message. The results would be listed in our communication centre as films of interest to the parish at large. We solicit your ideas on this matter and your potential participation beginning this fall.

- We have also discussed the need for a retreat/meditation program and a separate letter from Brother William will be forthcoming on this subject. If you are interested in such an endeavour, please contact a member of the Outreach Committee, and we will organize a program.

In conclusion, we are pleased with the initial results of our Outreach activities to date, and we look forward to including you in a meaningful way in our future programs.

God bless.



**** GOOD NEWS ****

As you all know, STOP 103 is very happy to receive your donations of food, egg cartons and juice bottles, but not clothing. They have neither the space nor the facilities to handle and dispense clothing. However, there is an address to which clothing can be delivered. From there it is given directly to anyone who comes in to ask for it - at no charge. It is situated at Keele Street and Rogers Road, which is very handy for this neighbourhood:

York Community Services
1651 Keele Street

Please drop off your unwanted clothes - they'll be put to good use!

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

I want to thank everyone for the check for \$260 that I received as a going away gift at the surprise party on May 13. I have purchased an extra long garment bag for my liturgical vestments and will use the rest of the money to help pay for a set of stoles I ordered from England. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. You have all made me feel very much at home over the past two years, and have supported me in my preparation for the next phase of my life.

By the time this newsletter is in your hands, Rick and I will be on our way to Calgary. We will be stopping in Minneapolis to visit family and friends for about a week, and then will drive on to Calgary, where I begin work on June 17 at St. George's Anglican Church as assistant. We do not have a permanent address as yet, but you can contact us through the church. The address is 244 Templemont Drive N.E., Calgary, Alberta T1Y 6G5. The phone is 403-280-3579. We would appreciate any notes or other correspondence from St. John's.

We will be in temporary quarters for the first few months, while Rick finds a job and we look for more permanent housing. I will be ordained a deacon sometime in September. I will let you all know when the date is set for sure, and would love to have some of you present.

Again, Rick and I are very sad to leave St. John's, and will miss you all. You have played a significant part in our lives, and we will never forget you.

---Maggie Muldoon-Burr



REMINDER:

Please remember that as summer and vacation time approaches, a post-dated cheque covering your weekly contribution would be helpful in keeping up with the ongoing expenses of the church.



A YEAR TO REMEMBER!

by

Betty Marmura



Somebody once remarked that the most festive festival it is possible to celebrate is divine worship. Anyone seeking to test the truth of these words would do well to attend the family services at St. John's. While Good Friday may seem an odd service to single out, as I stood with my husband and our son, Tim, that morning and looked at the now familiar faces gathered around the chancel - a child, quiet and earnest beside her mother; an infant in his father's arms, a grandparent, couples, singles - I felt again every deeply the sense of privilege and joy of being a part of that company.

I find myself constantly reflecting upon these past nine months at St. John's as I prepare to return to Saint Luke's pastoral charge on July 1st. Images of the first few Sundays here come particularly to mind: Ruby and Stan (Pickin) greeting us at the door, quietly and gently waiting out Tim's wild leaps into the stratosphere. Being myself at the time half-numb with apprehension, I was overjoyed to find the sanctuary teeming with young and energetic children, who could mask at least some of the commotion from our section of the pew. However, even good camouflage can't fool all the people all the time.

I knew that Father Robert and Brother William could see everything from the pulpit, but my greatest apprehension centered upon St. John's very distinguished-looking lay reader. I thought to myself: "This chap looks very Anglican", by which I meant that he undoubtedly desired to do liturgical things properly, in good order and without making a scene. With this anxiety heavily upon me, I watched Mr. Weston carefully for signs of wrath, or other equally biblical responses to Tim's soliloquies. My vigilance was rewarded, but not in the manner I had anticipated.

Cy (Weston) was much too busy with his young charges to pay much attention to the action on the periphery. Watching him, and David (Holmes) and Robert and William with Peter and Colin and all the young folk who serve so faithfully, has been a most revealing experience. There is a Spirit of gentleness abroad that grows, before one's eyes, as celebrants and servers share, week by week, in the work of the liturgy.

Aquinas believed that the most important thing about the church is the divine self-gift: the hidden presence of God. However, we can only know what the church is "connaturally"; that is, by being inborn, or of the same nature, through sharing in its life. As the young and the old and the mute and the blind come together at St. John's to celebrate the presence of the risen Lord, we are all blessed with something gratuitous and joyful beyond words.

There are thoughtful Christians these days who are convinced that the church's most believable form of witness, and the most effective thing it can do for the world, is the creation of a living, breathing, visible community that celebrates the presence of Christ in its midst. They believe that the most powerful and unique witness that we have to offer a deeply troubled world is the gathered church - the place where God is forming a family out of strangers.

"The church exists", wrote that most Protestant of theologians, Karl Barth, "to set up in the world a new sign which is radically dissimilar to the world's own manner, and which contradicts it in a way which is full of promise!"

Amen



ADULT CHILDREN OF ALCOHOLICS

Children who grew up in an alcoholic family bring with them into adult life many problems, such as a sense of shame, under-achieving, over-achieving, difficulty with decision making, difficulty with relationships, etc. It doesn't have to continue this way. Meeting with others who have similar experiences and problems, you can discover you are not alone. You can break the cycle.

We are going to begin a twelve-step program at St. John's. The first meeting will be held on Monday, June 11, at 8:00 p.m. Call Yvonne Johns, evenings at 429-3276.



"I'd be a lot better off if God had created more heaven and less earth"

Ten Commandments of Human Relations

1. *Speak to people. There is nothing as nice as a cheerful greeting.*
2. *Call people by name - not names. Sweetest music is to hear one's name called.*
3. *Have humility. There is something to be learned from every living thing.*
4. *Be friendly. If you want to have a friend, be one.*
5. *Be cordial. Speak and act as if everything you do is a pleasure.*
6. *Be interested in others. You can like almost everybody if you try.*
7. *Be generous with praise, cautious with criticism.*
8. *Give your word; then keep it.*
9. *Be considerate of the feelings of others.*
10. *Be alert to give service. What counts most in life is what we do for others.*



"LIVING THE EUCHARIST - TOGETHER AND DISPERSED"
A CONFERENCE ON THE LITURGY



WE GATHERED - on Friday evening, May 25th, at Friendly Acres, a beautiful conference centre in th Caledon Hills. As we gathered, Jamie immortalized the event on videotape - how embarrassing! After viewing the tape, we discussed the different ways in which people gather - for this conference, for family celebrations and for the Eucharist on Sundays. In small groups, we assessed our needs when gathering, and how those needs could be met.

WE DISCUSSED - on Saturday morning, "the Word" - how we feel its effect in our lives and how it relates to our experiences. In smaller groups, we dealt with the Word as it applies to such diverse experiences as Oppression and Justice; Slavery and Deliverance; Repentance and Forgiveness. Each group was assigned one of these topics to discuss, and present to the rest of us in whatever form we wished. The result was a colourful poster illustrating Creation and Rebirth, and several thought-provoking dramatizations.

WE BRAIN-STORMED - at Saturday afternoon's session on the Eucharist. After a short meditation, we were asked to "brain-storm" all the images or impressions of the Eucharist as we had experienced it over the years. The list seemed endless, and extremely varied as we shared our recollections of Eucharists past.

WE LISTENED - to each other as, on Saturday evening, we listed what ministry means to each of us. There were so many contributions to this list that we thought we might run out of paper! We listed the "fruits of the Spirit" (Galations 5:22) to be used as tools of ministry.

WE SHARED - in small groups, our concept of our personal ministry, then each of us made a Symbol of another's ministry, to be worn during the Eucharist the next day.

WE LAUGHED - and we will never forget David's comments on the amorous bullfrogs in the pond; of Robert's reading of the story of the "Prodigal Son", interrupted by the random thoughts of his "congregation"; or Lynda's anecdote about the man waiting to be rescued from the flood; or William's dejected portrayal of the poor widow.

WE SANG - sitting in the sun, with joy and enthusiasm, clapping and dancing, until our voices gave out!

WE ATE - wonderful "home-style" meals and home-baked snacks. We must have gained several pounds each at Sharon and Ray's "groaning board".

WE CELEBRATED - on Sunday morning, after planning the various parts of the service in small groups - a wonderful Eucharist full of joy, love and peace in the fresh air and sunshine. We expressed in words, music and fellowship the experience we had shared during the weekend. We hope to share with the rest of the Parish the deeper insights into the Liturgy - the work of the people - which we gained through this time of learning and sharing.

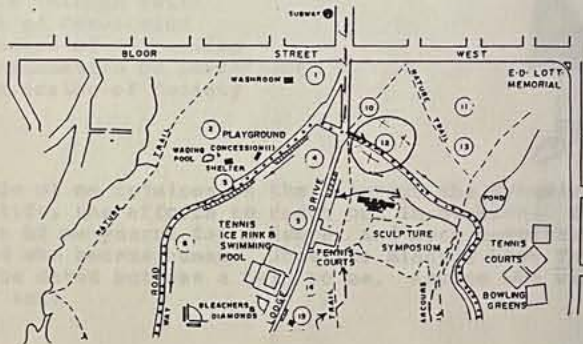
THANKS BE TO GOD - AHA!

NAN WESTON





P I C N I C
COME ONE - COME ALL
ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL
PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 1990
11:00 A.M.
HIGH PARK - SITE 12
(see map below)



SECOND CHANCE

If you're still doing your spring cleaning, St. John's Trust is having their Garage Sale on Saturday, June 16 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon on the front lawn of the Priory. There will also be a special table run by Georgia Helleiner with treasures from Thailand. Donations of any baked goods would also be appreciated.

P.S. PLEASE - NO WINTER CLOTHING!

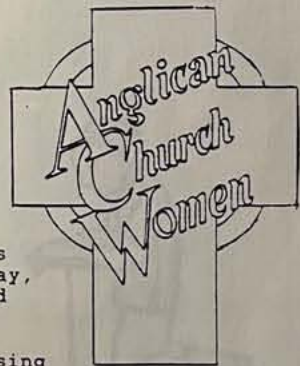
ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

We are very happy to report that the sum of \$700 was raised at our recent Rummage and Bake Sale held on Saturday, May 5th. We would like to thank all those who contributed baked goods, clothing or their time.

On Monday, May 28th, St. Ann's Group held their closing dinner for this season. A presentation was made to Bernice Sim who has been President of the St. Ann's Group for many years and who is now retiring from that position. Bernice has been a driving force behind the many successful ventures undertaken by that Group. Thank you, Bernice, for your years of faithful service.

St. Ann's Group will resume their monthly meetings in September.

ACW Executive



BOOK REVIEW

This is Conversion: A positive answer to the question no Christian can escape. Joost De Blank; Modder and Stoughton, London 1958

This is a book I bought at our recent A.C.W. Rummage Sale. Joost De Blank is the former Archbishop of Cape Town, South Africa and a person who combines the best of both our catholic and evangelical traditions in Anglicanism. Though printed in 1958, it is a timely book, with our present emphasis on Liturgy, Outreach, Day Care, and Special Needs Trust.



The chapter headings summarize the book:

1. The Fact of Conversion
2. Conversion in the New Testament
3. By Grace Through Faith
4. The Act of Conversion
5. The Process of Conversion
6. The Consummation of Conversion
7. The Conversion of Society

The catholic side of me rejoices in the liturgy, the dynamics of growing parish life, the efforts to reach out in mission. The evangelical side of me yearns for a deeper and more committed personal faith in the God who became human. Joost De Blank's book This is Conversion may be dated but was a help to me. Anyone who wants to borrow it, just ask.

William, O.H.C.

THE NEED FOR SILENCE AND PRAYER

At the last meeting of the Outreach Committee a discussion developed around the needs of some people at St. John's for Silence, Prayer, and personal spiritual growth. In our busy age there is certainly a need for balance, reflection, and the journey inward.

One proposal of the Outreach Committee was a Quiet Day - a Day of Reflection - possibly on a Saturday at St. John's. This kind of day might possibly begin with Morning Prayer, three directed meditations, a silent lunch and conclude with either Evening Prayer or a simple Eucharist. Most of the day would provide time and space for solitude.

If you are interested in such an experience, please indicate to me over the next few Sundays.

William, O.H.C.



R E P O R T

THE 138th SYNOD

From May 10 to May 12 delegates gathered for the first residential Synod of the Dioceses of Toronto at Trent University, Peterborough.

This session of Synod was mainly a working one to develop a Statement of Mission, Intentions and Goals. Synod will reconvene on Saturday November 3, 1990 to make decisions about business matters.

In the past year the Bishop has worked with a Long Range Planning Committee to develop a draft Statement of Mission, Intentions and Goals for the Diocese. These items were presented by members of the committees and then reviewed and revised by Synod through small group sessions.

Delegates chose which goal they wished to discuss and were then assigned to a small group. In these group sessions delegates reviewed the particular goal statement and made recommendations for revisions. As well the group identified activities which the diocese could undertake to achieve the goal.

In addition to the working sessions on Mission, Goals etc. several motions were adopted including:

- Principles for Development of Church Property
- A Day of Prayer for persons living with A.I.D.S. and those caring for them.
- A report on the Anglican Village Aurora which included a recommendation that the project be discontinued.

At the closing on May 12 a tree planting service was held with many people helping to plant the tree.

The Residential Synod also gave time for socializing. A great way to meet and share ideas and fun with other delegates.

It was a pleasure and privilege for this delegate to attend the 138th Synod.

Evelyn Butler
Lay Delegate to Synod



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?
Or are you just contented that your name is on the list.
Do you attend the meetings, and mingle with the flock?
Or stay at home in comfort to Criticize and knock.
Do you take an active part, to help the work along?
Or are you merely satisfied just simply to belong.
Think it over members, you know right from wrong,
Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

Taken from the Mounted Police Newsletter.



April 21/90

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the
"good news". Congratulations
and well done. Keep going.

God Bless,

+ Team Finlay

March 28th

Dear Father Robert

Thank you so much for
your help, support and encouragement
concerning our chamber evening. The
students and the parents were so
pleased we had the performance in
your beautiful church. It was very
special! Thank you again for all
your help. Warmly,
Mrs. Rose Meyer

March 28, 1990




Dear Father Robert:

I regret that I am unable to send a cheque
large enough to express our gratitude for your
hospitality last evening.

It was a wonderful concert made so, in
large part, by the warmth of your church.

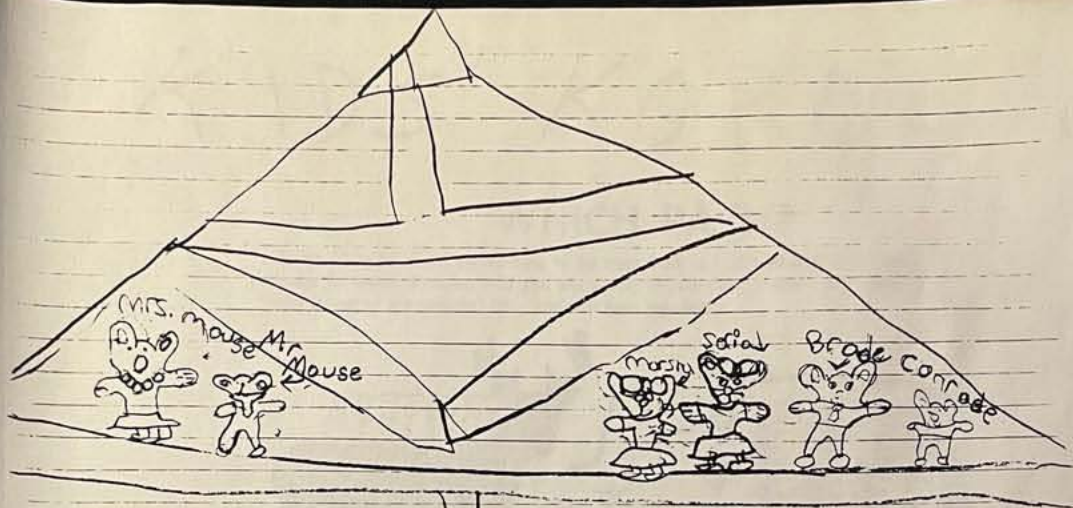
Thank you very much.

Yours truly,


Robert A. Lawson,
Principal.

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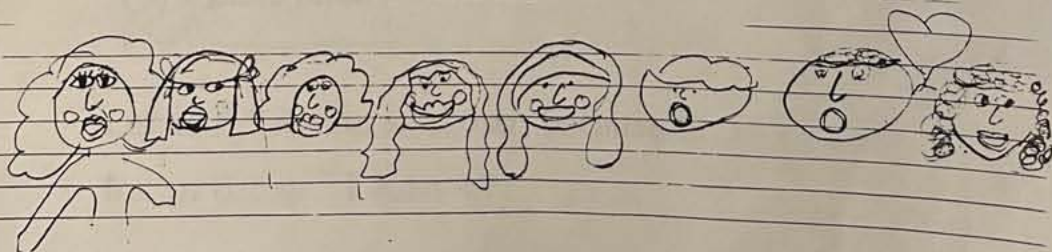
THE BAT OF ST. JOHN'S

by Clare Crummey - 8 years of age

Once ther was a bat named gorges. He had 4 freinds, ther names were, Marsha mouse, Brade mouse, Seria muse and Conrade mouse. (They were all mice) And of course Mrs. mouse and Mr. mouse. "Tomorrow is Ester!" said Mrs mouse "and we are going to watche the good Saterdag servise and thers even going to be a baptisme!" "Oh goody, goody!" cride the kids. They washed ther fur and comed their wiscker, and put on ther best bows, skeirts, jackest and tise. Then they sat down on a beam." Oh look ther's Gorges mommy!" shouted suddenly Brade (that was just at the time when a little boy named Jeremy was going to get baptised.) "Over here Gorges! shouted the mice! just then the lights snapped on! (They had been off and ther wher candles) Gorges started to fly when Jeremy said "Look at the bird! "Gorges was very started because of the lights, but now what Jeremy said was just TO MUCH!

When Gorges finally sat down on the beam he said "Some humans have no respekt for animals! Birds indeed!" the kids started to laphe, but Mr and Mrs. Mouse said "SUSH! We are at a servise and at servises we do not talk!" finally it was easter! "We are going to wacht the servise today, Marshy Brade, Seria and conrade! "anonced mr and mrs mouse" Great! "the kids anserd. Some time later dering a hyme the kids started to danse, then suddenly Conrade bumped Marsha right off the beam, then Seria bumped Conrade, then Seria and Brade bumped into each other and fell off the beam, but Gorges flew down and caught them! They had a party for Gorges.

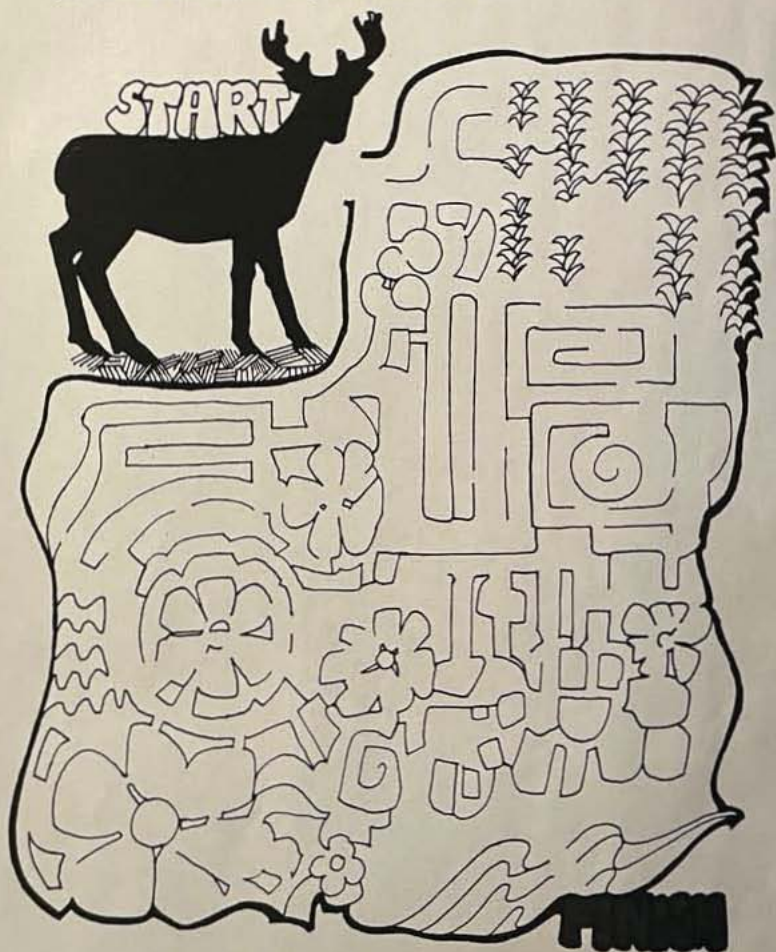
- The End -



KIDS' KORNER

WHICH PATH?

Psalm 42 talks about us wanting to be near God as much as a thirsty deer longs for water. Pretend that you are a very thirsty deer. Which path would you follow to the stream? Only one will take you there.



Bible verse

Print an **o** in each blank. Read the verse.

Let us l__ve one an__ther, because l__ve c__mes
fr__m G__d. 1 John 4:7