

# PARADISE LIFE

## FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Janet Eastman Ty Limrick Donna Pifer	2 Debbie Pifer	3 Rebecca Roland  <b>Choir 7</b> <b>FHF Meeting 7</b>	4 MaryAnn Love Jeffrey Sprague Millie Villella * David & MaryKay London <b>Bible Study 6</b>	5 Darcie Grenier Linda Muth Kayla Schreckengost <b>Book Study</b> <b>6:30</b>	6 Amanda O'Harah	7 Chris Haag Jaslyn Reinsel Briggs Rheaume
8 Penny Pifer  <b>Congregational Meeting and Luncheon</b>	9 Diane Carlson	10  <b>Choir 7</b>	11  <b>Bible Study 6</b>	12  <b>Book Study 6:30</b>  <b>Consistory 7:30</b>	13 John Blosch	14 Brandi Peace Andrew Pifer
15 Lauren Palm Tina Peace Sunni Reddinger <b>Love Fest 5:30</b>	16 Brad Pifer Charlie Shepler	17 Greg Keller  <b>Choir 7</b>	18 Isaac Pifer Melanie Rice  <b>Bible Study 6</b> <b>Ash Wednesday</b>	19 * Joe & Kim McDonald  <b>Book Study 6:30</b>	20 Jane Pifer	21 Madalynn Perry
22 Karen Villella Lori Yohe	23 Deidre Smith	24 Rory Neal  <b>Choir 7</b>	25 Pam Schindley  <b>Bible Study 6</b>	26  <b>Book Study 6:30</b>	27	28 Tom Douthit  <b>Feeding His Flock Meal 4:45-6</b>

### **Book study during Lent!**

Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur. Even if you didn't order materials, you are welcome to join us! Thursdays at 6:30.

### **Sunday School class for young adults/parents!**

Begins February 1<sup>st</sup>. Please join us today!




**Featuring:** Garrett Rowan

Chocolate Fountain and other Decadent Treats

Music • Praise • Testimonies • Godwink Stories

**Sunday, February 15, 2026**

"Sweet" Reception at 5:30 PM  
Music & Praise at 6:30 PM

# Paradise Community Church Consistory

January 6, 2026

Consistory met to organize for the new year on January 6, 2026 with Matt Smith, Brenda Weber, Bobbi Becker, Brooke Limrick, Bob Roy, Diane Carlson, and Linda Pifer in attendance.

Linda came with a request for storage for the flowers and decorations for the sanctuary. Her suggestion is not feasible in the spot she was requesting, but the concern will be brought before the property committee and men's group to see what can be done.

A new year brings new officers and committee representatives.

President -Dean Reed

Vice President- Bob Roy

Secretary- Brooke Limrick

Treasurer- Brenda Weber

Pulpit committee- Bobbi Becker

Property committee- Matt Smith

Member/Visitation- Wendy Perry

Men's group- Lane Weber

Women's ministry- Lisa Triponey

Bereavement-Bobbi Becker and Linda Blosh

Women's Service group- Bobbi Becker

Missions group- Deidre Smith and  
Bobbi Becker

## Upcoming dates

January 31 Bethlehem tear down

Feb 1 New young adult Sunday School class is starting

Feb 8 Annual meeting (turn in reports by Feb 1)

Feb 18 Ash Wednesday

April 2 Maundy Thursday

The secretary report was approved as read (Bob Roy motion, Bobbi Becker second) and the treasurer's report was reviewed and approved (Wendy Perry motion, Brooke Limrick second). Wendy Perry made a motion and Bob Roy seconded a \$500 donation to Fred Reed.

We had a cd mature on January 13. The current rate is 3.5% for a 6 month or a 12 month. After a discussion with Wendy, explaining the current interest rates are on a decline, consistory opted to lock in for 12 months.

Activities committee had a request for a potential budget or reimbursement should they incur expenses. They should submit receipts to Brenda as needed instead of a set budget.

The next meeting will be THURSDAY, Feb 12 at 7:30 pm.

Bob Roy made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Matt Smith seconded.

## Bethlehem Walk - 2025

### Dispersing of Donations

Donations received during the Bethlehem Walk totaled \$2,458.23. It was decided to add some additional Sunday School funds to this amount and provide \$400 to each of individuals that were presented to us that could use some help with extra expenses and also our prayers.

Rod Pifer, Jr. – battling cancer and recovering from surgery

Emily Swan – young mother from Reynoldsville; teaches at Central Christian School battling breast cancer, going through treatments and pending surgery.

Harper Peace – young daughter of Tyler & Kaylan Peace, being treated for a rare form of eye cancer.

Fred Reed – being treated for ongoing serious foot issues.

Jennifer Corban – Mother of Courtney Weber – not able to work due to back issues. Surgery pending.

Bailee Reitz – 3-year-old daughter of a co-worker of Melissa Shelper. Has been experiencing life-threatening seizures due to epilepsy which have required life flighting.

Matthew Leeseman – 14-year-old boy from Rossiter, battling bone cancer, receiving ongoing treatments and surgery. Currently in UPMC Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh.

Pax Jones – four-year-old boy from Punxsy, born with a club foot and a rare condition, longitudinal deficiency disorder, has undergone several surgeries and is facing another major one in February.

## **LOVE FEST IS BACK!**

Our very first Love Fest was to be on Valentine's weekend last year, and the weather caused us to postpone – but let's pray for good weather this year as we have an amazing night of praise planned. Garrett Rowan, a truly gifted guitarist who married into our church family, reached out and offered his talents to us, so on Sunday night, February 15 at 6:30, he will be leading us in praise and worship. We are still asking you to bring an offering of praise, whether that's a song, a scripture, a testimony, etc....it's all welcome as we come together to bring glory to God! If you've never attended a Love Fest, we hope you'll join us as the Spirit does awesome things at these services! We will also be collecting a love offering for Garrett as he isn't asking for compensation, and we appreciate him so much!

But DO come early as at 5:30, our Sweetheart Bar will be full of sweets for your desserting pleasure! There will be a chocolate fountain flowing with decadence along with many other goodies that will help you show some love to your tummy. Whether it's from a sugar high or the Holy Spirit, God takes pleasure in our praise, so grab your sweetheart and come along!

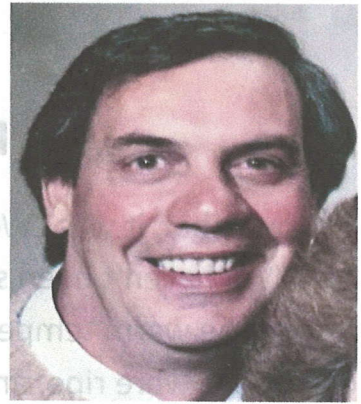
## **COMING SOON: PAINT AND BRUNCH**

We need your help: we're out of cards!! Last year, a group of ladies met who had very little confidence in their ability to paint cards, but Erica States was very skilled in teaching us what to do, step by step, and the cards we made were amazing! Since then, we have been sending those beauties to the visitors who have come to our church, and we would like to continue this tradition as handmade cards are such a blessing.

Please join us on February 28 at 10 am for another round of painting. You are welcome to bring your favorite breakfast food for our amazing brunch buffet, and we will enjoy each other's company as we make some beautiful creations to make people feel welcome at Paradise Community Church!

## In Memoriam

### Joseph Michael Vilella



Joseph Michael Vilella, 82, of Punxsutawney, passed away on Tuesday, December 30, 2025, at Christ the King Manor in DuBois.

He was born in Punxsutawney on March 28, 1943, a son of the late Samuel Paul Vilella and Frances Mary (Labozzsetta) Vilella.

On April 8, 1961, he married Mildred Irene Muth.

Joe began his career at IA construction as a laborer, doing the hard hands-on work that taught him the value of discipline, teamwork and perseverance. With time, experience and determination, he advanced into heavy equipment operating that shaped roads, buildings and communities.

Mr. Vilella was a member of the Teamster's Local 205 in McMurray.

He loved spending time at the races at Richmond, Watkins Glen and the Poconos. Each hunting season Joe enjoyed hunting in the quiet woods and the connection it gave him to nature. Above all, he truly loved to eat, never missing a chance to enjoy a good, hearty meal, especially when it was shared with family or friends.

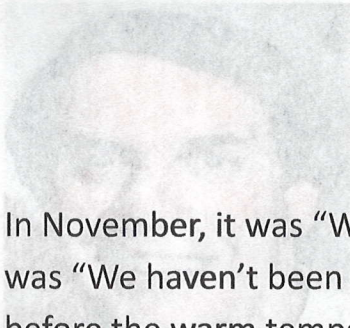
In addition to his wife, he is survived by two children, Kevin (Karen) Vilella and Janet (Tom) Douthit; four grandchildren, Keith (Deb) Vilella, Kurt (Dana) Vilella, Marissa Douthit and Brandon Douthit, four great grandchildren, and six great-great grandchildren; three sisters, Carmella Roman of Reynoldsville, Pauline (Jerry) Hallman of Punxsutawney and Joann (Jim) Nelles of DuBois.

Preceded in death by his parents and brother in-law Pete Roman.

Friends will be received on February 7, 2026, from 9 a.m. until the time of service at 11 a.m. at Paradise Community Church.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. officiated by Pastor Barry Fillman.

His ashes will be interred at Maple Grove Cemetery.



## PCC HITS THE SLOPES!

In November, it was “We haven’t been caroling in a while!”, and after Christmas it was “We haven’t been sledding in a while!” These things had to happen quickly before the warm temperatures returned, so on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, Lori confirmed that conditions were ripe, and Lisa began scouting the hills. Since she grew up remembering the thrilling adventures on Yohe Hill, which is on Mark Pifer’s farm, a contact was made, and the guys went into action! Originally, we thought we would use the lane, but Mark had greater things in mind and worked on a track down Yohe Hill while Larry Shepler plowed the lane.

Thanks to social media, we got the word around quickly enough for sledding the next day, with over 30 people coming out for some fun! The toboggan went well on the test run down the lane, but once the kids hit the HILL, there was no desire to sled on the lane! There were many crashes and aborted runs in order to keep small children from dying, but the hill was amazing. It’s easy to forget that some of us are on the older side, but a trip down the slope will help you remember that fact. The killer yellow sled gave some backaches while plastering faces with snow, and thankfully Dave Yohe didn’t go TOO far down the hill on his Go Devil. Yikes!

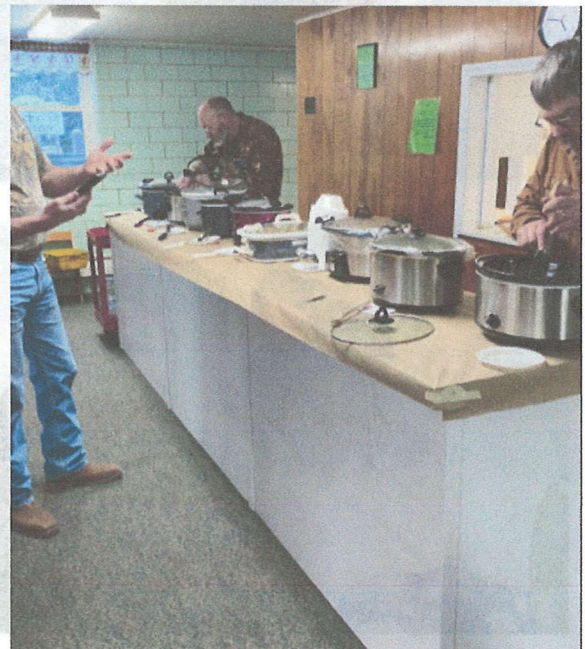
After a couple hours, we were happy to thaw our bodies by the fire that Alex and Erica States made for us on the spur of the moment. That was so greatly appreciated! We also send out heartfelt thanks to Mark and Larry for jumping into action, making it possible for us to have a wonderful time together!





## Game Dinner

The Men's Group hosted the first Wild Game Dinner on Saturday, January 17, 2026 beginning at 5 pm. Pastor Dick Whitaker opened with prayer. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal with mostly wild game dishes including cured venison roast, wild boar in jerk sauce, wild turkey in shiitake mushroom sauce, squirrel stew, bacon wrapped venison back strap, chili, venison meatballs, pheasant, venison steak and garlic cheese spread on crackers, summer sausage, biltong, venison pot pie, venison sausage, and various side dishes and desserts. The delicious meal was well attended by 58 people. Following the meal, Pastor Whitaker shared scripture and a message about faith. Tickets were drawn for donated prizes including gloves, slingshots, gift baskets, knife, auto maintenance gift certificates, and a case of oil.



## Set Your Sails

In life, we cannot control which way the wind blows, but we can control our course by the way we set our sails. Hence it is not the trials or obstacles in life that determine our destiny, but how we respond to the difficulties we face. Winds will blow, trials will come, our ship may rock, but these things need not prevent us from sailing toward our destination. We know that Jesus controls the winds that blow in our life, so if we set our sails with faith in Him, we can rest in the midst of any storm. We face many things that we cannot change. Anyone can give up, but to hold things together when everything seems to be falling apart indicates where we have placed our faith and how we have set our sails. The winds of life are intended to help us on our journey – for without wind we cannot sail toward our destination.

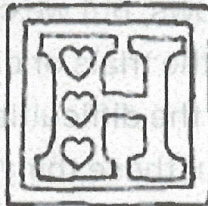
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When we are unsettled by the chaos of life, it's easy to forget that God is standing in the middle of the storm **with** us. No matter what we're going through, He is there. He is here. Next to us at that moment, in this moment, ready to reach out and rescue us.

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## Even If

Sometimes life deals us a tremendous blow. Other times the miraculous happens. God desires that we cling to Him – even if our loved one isn't healed, even if we lose our job, even if we are persecuted. Sometimes God rescues us from danger in this life, and sometimes He doesn't. But the truth we can hold firmly is this: "The God we serve is able, loves us, and is with us in every fiery trial, in every even if"



He answered,  
"Love the Lord  
your God with all  
your heart and  
with all your soul  
and with all your  
strength and with  
all your mind'; and,  
'Love your neighbor  
as yourself.'"

Luke 10:27



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