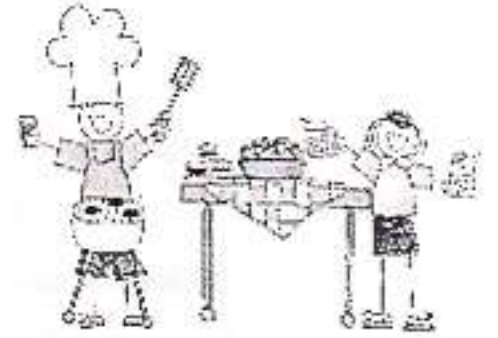


# PARADISE LIFE

## AUGUST, 2025



S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1 Faith Newman	2 Fred Reed
3 Charlotte Sprague	4 Jeane McFadden	5 Luke Ragsdale *Rob & Jeane McFadden	6 Nancy Keller *Floyd & Diane Askey *Garrett & Molly Rowan	7 Craig Limrick *Harold & Nancy London	8 *Bob & Denise Smith	9 Stephanie Fillman Tera Peace Kenlee Smith
10 Laura Keller	11 George Alexander	12 Tiffany Hand *John & Sheri Bailey	13 *Barry & Rosanne Fillman *John & Bea Kroh *Kevin & Melanie Shepler Holli Polito	14 Mike Stockdale Samantha Rice Elizabeth Rice *Heath & Sunni Reddinger	15 Josie Mae Reed	16 Brynlee McCloskey
17 Paige Szewczyk  <i>Corn &amp; Doggie-P-6</i>	18	19 William Becker Chuck Pifer Keenan Yohe *Dean & Sandra Reed	20 *Ray & Sherry Keller Ryan Pifer Hunter Trithart	21 *Greg & Kelly Keller Jason Polito	22 Dan Peace Donna Trithart	23 Cassandra Becker *Jim & Lydia Crooks *Bob & Annette Roy
24 Piper Alexander  <i>Backpack Blessing</i> 31	25 *Rod & Penny Pifer *Kyle & Adrienne Barr	26	27 Isaac Pifer	28 Elaine Fillhart	29 Chelsea Alexander Melissa Shepler	30 Elizabeth Pifer Heath Reddinger Cheyenne Lupole Sydney Peterson



## Sunday School Summer Service Project

Paradise Sunday School's summer service project was a remarkable endeavor, assembling cake kits to donate to the B.R.A.N.C.H.H. food pantry in Big Run.

With the help of our amazing congregation, we were able to provide them with a total of 35 cake kits, a true testament to the power of community!

The kits included a disposable cake pan, cake mix, frosting, sprinkles, candles, balloons, and a can of soda to use in the cake mix in place of eggs, oil, and water. The kits were lovingly assembled by the kids during their class on July 20<sup>th</sup>, and completed with ribbons by the Sunday School teachers.

On July 22<sup>nd</sup> we delivered them to the First Christian Church in Big Run, where Robin McKee, who heads up the B.R.A.N.C.H.H. food pantry, was overjoyed! The kits will be a blessing to those in need during their August food distribution.

Robin gave us a little history of the upgrades made to their church basement, where the food pantry is based, and the growth of their food pantry. During the summer months, they see a drop in the number of people coming in, but in July, 36 people utilized the food pantry, a reminder that every contribution counts. In the colder months, that number will nearly double, highlighting the importance of continued support.

Robin shared that the program takes quite a bit of work, but it is now nearly self-sustaining, a shining example of faith in action. She had recently been feeling the weight of her commitment and was a bit discouraged - until she received our message out of the blue.

Despite moments of discouragement, God always provides, and our service project was a timely reminder of that promise.







August 17<sup>th</sup> Corn and Doggie Roast

September 20<sup>th</sup> Love Fest

October 26 Fall Festival

We'd love to hear your feedback on the change of date and festivities for the Homecoming Service. Did you like the change of date? How can we improve for next year?

## leg·a·cy

the long-lasting impact of particular events, actions, etc. that took place in the past, or of a person's life.

As we embark on this new chapter at PCC, I am reminded of the truly blessed legacy this Church and its members have given to all of us over the years. Stories, preserved documents, and photos tell of hard work, laughter and a love of the Lord worshipping among their brothers and sisters. In the coming months I'd like to highlight some of these echoes of the past. If you have something you'd like to share please talk to Ty.

Today's submission is from Diane Carlson.

### Hebrews 10:24-25

"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."





# Dedication Service

Paradise  
United Church of Christ



Sunday, April 24, 1960

8:00 p. m.



## A HISTORICAL SKETCH OF THE PARADISE CHURCH

The Rev. John Althouse was the first Reformed minister, and perhaps the first minister of any Denomination, to hold services in the Paradise community. He first preached in this locality in 1827. He lived near Punxsutawney and traveled widely throughout Jefferson, Armstrong, Indiana and Clearfield Counties. He was known as a Reformed Circuit Rider. The Kukater (sometimes written Connely) barn was one of the frequent meeting places. This is the farm where Luther J. Pifer lives today, and located about one half mile north of the present church.

A Congregation was organized of Reformed and Lutheran people in 1833 or 1834.

A hewn log church was built in 1842, called a Union Church, at a place now known as Union Cemetery.

The early records are skimpy, but it seems that Rev. J. Ferdinand Englbach served the churches of this area from 1845 to 1848, and Rev. Charles Henneman from 1848 to 1851. Rev. Brandt, of the Missouri Synod Lutheran was the pastor from 1851 to 1852.

Rev. Carl August Limberg, a 1854 graduate from Heidelberg Seminary, Tiffin, Ohio, came to serve the churches of the area, living in Punxsutawney. Apparently he had been in the area previous to this, for he had organized Trinity Reformed Church in Troutville and along with the 43 male members had signed the constitution on October 23, 1853.

The Paradise Reformed Church was organized under Rev. Limberg's leadership in 1854. They continued to worship in the Union Church until the present church was erected in 1876. He served the Clearfield Charge (sometimes referred to as the Troutville Charge) until 1864. The Charge included four churches: Trinity at Troutville, Paradise, St. Peter's at Punxsutawney, and Little Round Top, later called St. John's. A parsonage was erected in Troutville in 1855 or 1856.

Rev. Limberg became the First Superintendent of the Orphans' Home in Butler, Pa., (now St. Paul Children's Home, Greenville, Pa.) October 10, 1867.

Sunday School was conducted in the Union Church composed of both Lutheran and Reformed people. However, due to the great distance a majority of the pupils lived from the church, it



seemed more convenient to hold Sunday School in the old Bonnett School House. This school was located below the present Paradise Church. There Sunday School, composed of both Lutheran and Reformed people, was held eight to ten years previous to their separation about 1873.

The Lutheran people built their own church about 1873. Several years later the Reformed congregation did the same. The Cornerstone of the present building was laid in 1875 and the church, costing \$3000., was dedicated in August, 1876. The land was donated by Mr. Jonas Pifer.

Early in 1876, during the vacancy which followed Rev. Hoffmeier's pastorate, The Clarion Classis realigned the churches of the Charge. St. Peter's, Punxsutawney, and Little Round Top formed a new Charge, while Trinity and Paradise made up The Paradise Charge. Rev. John Wolbach became the pastor of the Paradise Charge June 1, 1876. The Paradise Church and Trinity Church maintained the parsonage in Troutville, buying out the shares held by St. Peter's and Little Round Top.

The first organ was purchased during the ministry of Rev. J. F. Wiant.

Sunday School was conducted throughout the whole year in 1896 or 1897 for the first time. This was during the pastorate of Rev. J. P. Bachman. Previous to this, Sunday School was conducted during good weather, from May through September.

Under the leadership of Rev. S. C. Stover, the vestibule and steeple were added to the church in 1900 and the present parsonage was erected in 1901 for \$2157.31. A new Case Organ was purchased during this same period.

B. Catherine Pifer, a member of the congregation, went to Japan as a missionary in 1901. She served there for 40 years, returning just prior to World War II.

German sermons were discontinued with the coming of Rev. H. N. Smith in 1904. Prior to this one sermon every month was in German.

Rev. C. R. Hartman confirmed a large class of young people, perhaps the largest ever, having nine boys and eleven girls for a total of twenty. Monthly offering envelopes were used for the first in 1913. Previous to this all giving was by subscriptions. Under



the old system, all members were asked to subscribe (pledge) a stated amount for each individual need, including the pastor's salary.

Rev. William H. Cogley was the first preacher to come in an automobile. A basement was put under the church and a furnace installed during his pastorate.

June 26, 1934 the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America united to form the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Thus, the Paradise Church became a member of the new Denomination.

The first Vacation Bible School was held while Rev. A. H. K. Hoshauer was pastor. Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Reed presented the church with a Rosewood cased piano during this period.

The church records show that the Paradise Church has made many improvements, large and small, over the past years. The interior of the church was replastered and painted in 1938 and electric lights were installed in the sanctuary in 1939. This was during the pastorate of Rev. Alvin Master.

New Evangelical and Reformed Church Hymnals were purchased during the pastorate of Rev. Stanley Baker. A new furnace was installed in 1943. Hot and cold air pipes were added in 1945 and the blower fan was installed in 1946.

An outdoor sign identifying the church was put up in May, 1951. Indoor rest rooms and the present kitchen were installed under the vestibule in the summer of the same year.

The 75th Anniversary of the present edifice was held on Sunday, August 19, 1951. More than 600 persons were registered during the all day program. Rev. William H. Cogley and Rev. Adam Hoshauer, two former pastors, brought the messages at the morning and evening services respectively.

The iron hand railing at the front church steps was provided in 1952 by Sarah E. Wiant in memory of her father, Rev. Wiant.

Electric lights were installed in the basement and a new and bigger furnace installed, both in 1955.

June 25, 1957 we found ourselves a part of the great effort to make the divided church a United Church of Christ Jesus. The Evangelical and Reformed Church united with the Congregational



Christian Churches to form The United Church of Christ. Once again the Paradise Church became a member of a new Denomination.

A well was drilled and an electric pump installed in the summer of 1938 to provide a more adequate water supply.

Miss Mollie Pifer gave a new Lowery electric organ in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Pifer, and two brothers, James and Charles. It was dedicated at a special service August 24, 1958. Mrs. Paul Spotts and Mr. Carl Hollenbaugh gave an organ recital. The Sunday School purchased a new piano later that same year.

December 20, 1959 the congregation took the biggest step it had taken for a number of years. It approved an estimated \$11,000 remodeling project including new church furniture. The work was started on February 8, by Mr. Donald Reed, contractor. The work progressed rapidly and upon the installation of the new furniture, March 31 and April 1, the project was completed for approximately \$10,000. The members are to be commended for their wonderful response, both of time and money.

Thanks to the cooperate spirit and the generous response of all concerned, we are able to come here today to dedicate a beautiful and worshipful sanctuary and chancel. As we dedicate our remodeled church to the glory of God, let us dedicate ourselves anew that we might be led to even greater heights of worship and service.





## ROSTER OF MINISTERS

Rev. Carl H. Limberg	1854 - 1864
Rev. Herman Biefield	1864 - 1865
Rev. Paul Wald	1865 - 1867
Rev. Louis Christ	1868 - 1871
Rev. Charles F. Hoffmeier	1872 - 1875
Rev. John Wollbach	1876 - 1884
Rev. B. S. Metzger	1884 - 1889
Rev. J. F. Wiant	1890 - 1896
Rev. J. P. Bachman	1896 - 1899
Rev. S. C. Stover	1900 - 1903
Rev. H. N. Smith	1904 - 1908
Rev. C. R. Hartman	1909 - 1912
Rev. Albert A. Black	1912 - 1917
Rev. William A. Cogley	1917 - 1923
Rev. A. H. K. Hoshauer	1924 - 1932
Rev. Raymond C. Strine	1932 - 1936
Rev. Alvin Master	1937 - 1940
Rev. Stanley C. Baker	1941 - 1943
Rev. Walter L. Schacht	1943 - 1946
Rev. Richard C. Heintz	1947 - 1949
Rev. Charles O. Leibig (supply minister)	1949 - 1954
Rev. Albert W. Kovacs	1954 - 1955
Rev. Charles O. Leibig (supply Minister)	1955 - 1956
Rev. William A. Boyer	1956 -



## Paradise Community Church Consistory Meeting

July 9, 2025

President Diane Carlson opened our July meeting in prayer. Those in attendance were Holli Polito, Dean Reed, Bob Roy, Brooke Limrick, Bobbie Becker, Brenda Weber, and Wendy Perry.

The first topic was to get an update on how candidate zoom meetings were going with Holli. Kyle is requesting family insurance and dental, but is needing only 20% in housing instead of the allotted 30%. This is something consistory is willing to discuss if the search team should move forward with this candidate.

The secretary's report was read and approved by a motion from Dean with a second from Bob, and the treasurers report was reviewed and approved with a motion from Wendy and second from Dean.

### Old Business

- One call has marked for the ditch
- We're waiting for a return call from Byerly Furnace regarding the youth center.
- Nothing new to report about the stairlift.
- The properties committee will meet and address the chimney.
- There is a broken lock on a window. Burke and Sons will be contacted to fix.
- A new dehumidifier is needed
- Request for ceiling fans in the back Sunday school rooms. Looking into window a/c as an option.
- Erica and Brenda have finished the sign in front of the Church.
- The hymnals need a new church stamp on the inside. Brenda will print them.

### New Business

- St Paul Sr Living is hosting a white elephant sale in Troutville July 28 at 6:30 and has invited Paradise.
- Attorney Lunday has changed our name at the courthouse on the deed.
- The search committee has brought a concern with adequate internet as their interviews are freezing. Brenda will call comcast to check on a business account.
- Annette will get boxes for Operation Christmas Child
- A motion was made by Dean and seconded by Bob to streamline the price for our Sunday speaker to \$150. It was previously determined by the sermon vs conducting the whole service.

Next meeting August 13, 2025 at 7pm



## HOMEcoming AT PCC

When the topic of Homecoming came up, those who came to plan had a vision of how the event once was; a full day of time together - worshipping, laughing, and eating – so we knew changes had to be made. First we recognized that the holiday weekend kept many of our regular attenders away, so we moved the date to July 13. Once the ideas started to flow, we let God handle the details, especially the weather. It was HOT, but the rain stayed away, which is a miracle this year! 81 people came for a wonderful time of worship, with the choir singing “Old Time Religion” for their final anthem of the season. Melissa Shepler helped the children to visualize the strength of our church members as one body as opposed to our being very breakable on our own. Jim Lydick shared a moving message called “A Recipe for Life” and complimented us on our growth through this time of change. Maybe some saplings need to be planted?? During the service, many M&M’s were shared: the chocolate kind AND Memories & Miracles. Looking back brings joy, as does hearing all the miracles that God has performed and continues to do in our lives! The sharing and songs lifted our spirits to the heavens! Thanks to all who helped set up in the yard and then moved it across the road.

Following the service, we had a Paradise potluck like no other, and everyone was filled to the rim. But there’s always room for ice cream! Brooke Limrick organized a homemade ice cream contest, and eight different flavors blessed our taste buds. It was hard to choose a favorite, but Melissa Shepler’s peanut butter cup ice cream rose to the top! Thanks to all who made such delicious creations!

Marissa Douthit loaded the schoolhouse yard with games for young and old alike while we took some time to visit. The church yard had turned into a car show, which brought some new people to our fold. There was one really muddy entry, but the rest were shining like new and were quite fun to gaze upon. We are so thankful to those who brought their cars: Mike & Diane Carlson, Barry Fillman, Kevin & Missy Koppenhaver, Craig Limrick, Ty Limrick, Greg Peace, Larry Shepler, Bob Smith, and Denise Smith.

Time for the Talent Show! Annette Roy did a great job of encouraging people to participate, and we had a really great show. We had several musical offerings beginning with Ty Limrick singing “Oscar the Angel” by Randy Travis. Gail and Abby Pifer sang a song by the Judds called “Grandpa” while Bretley and Adrienne Barr had us clapping along with “Take It All Back” by Tauren Wells. Great job everyone! Then the skits became a bit less serious as the Ring Master and his sidekick Stretch attempted some semi-amazing tricks to keep us in awe. For the final act, Annette became Adrienne’s “Helping Hands” at the Paradiso Italian Deli. Adrienne could see but had to let blind Annette do the making of the sandwich, which was quite hilarious. Good thing the mustard was sealed or she would’ve gotten it in her face! We appreciate all those who worked so hard to make this a fun, memorable event!



## HOMECOMING SOFTBALL GAME



After the talent show, we all had time to go home, jump in the pool (or cool off in AC), and ride out the storm that ended in a timely manner (God is good!) so we could close out our Homecoming day. One of the traditions that we've missed has been the softball game after the Homecoming meal. Our newly-formed PCC team was supposed to play the Soldier Church in Troutville, but when that got cancelled, plans went ahead for a pick-up game instead. What a great turnout of players! Those playing with pitcher Lori Yohe were Dean Reed, Samuel Shepler, Tom Burkett, Deja Burkett, Brooke Limrick, Jackson Triponey, Cody Pifer, Bob Roy, Charlie Shepler, and Gail Pifer. Craig Limrick was the pitcher for the opposing team of Jeff Pifer, Joey Bowser, Darcie Grenier, Patty Burkett, Ty Limrick, Dave Yohe, Bri Triponey, and James Becker.

The game was off and running with a hit by Craig, but he was tagged out by the much faster Deja between bases. Jackson had a great hit to the pitcher who CAUGHT it, and was heartily booed by the spectators. Ty almost had an in-the-park home run but was stopped short by great defensive play. Deja had an RBI, bringing Samuel across the plate, while cousin James belted out 2 home runs and dad Tom cracked one also. Craig gracefully slid into 1<sup>st</sup> after a hit, and then gracefully tripped into home (they SAY the field was really slippery!).

After a brief intermission of Briar, Bretley and Grady putting on a batting clinic, the game resumed but began to get out of control. Charlie had a nice hit to right field, where Patty tried to make her glove connect with the ball, but her throw was off. Darcie had some "incidental contact" with catcher Dean on the way to first. Lori had a hit and made it safely to 1<sup>st</sup> after distracting Joey with her animal noises, then Dean threw his hat to make it on – poor Joey. After Brooke attacked the pitcher for catching her fly ball, it was time to call it a night. We appreciate all those who came to watch, even those who were googling heckles in the crowd (we won't use names, Annette!). We ALL had a blast and hope everyone can make it to our next game on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. What a great day of time well spent together! Thanks to all who had a hand in planning a memorable day for our congregation!







# HELLO July





On Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> Women's Service Group hosted a Christmas in July meeting in honor of Michelle. Michelle loves Christmas and always hosts the Christmas (December) meeting for the group. During the December meeting we share Christmas themed readings instead of our usual short devotion at the beginning of every meeting. Since Michelle was not feeling well last December, we did not have a meeting, so we decided to host this Christmas in July meeting in her honor. We started the meeting with snacks and desserts provided by group members and then proceeded with some readings. There were several readings shared by group members including, Donna Pifer, Debbie Pifer and Elaine Fillhart, Lori Yohe shared a story that she had heard from one of the commentaries that she listens to about a church that has pictures from all over the world of Mary and Baby Jesus with each picture representing each culture. Diane Carlson shared her family tradition started by her grandmother of giving each family member an ornament every Christmas by giving everyone present an ornament that she had purchased on her recent trip. Bobbi shared an acrostic that she had written for Michelle, which is also in the Paradise Life this month. Michelle then opened some of the gifts that were given in her sunshine Basket. The remaining gifts in the sunshine Basket were sent home with Michelle for her to open and enjoy when she needs a little pick me up. Thank you to everyone that shared a gift with Michelle in her sunshine basket. Thank you to everyone that joined us at Michelle's Christmas in July get together and made it a great evening for Michelle.

Bobbi Becker and the Women's Service Group



## MICHELLE

### M – MOTHER

*Michelle is a mother not only to her own children but to every child that she meets.*

### I-INCREIBLE

*Michelle is an incredibly giving person. Whether she has known you forever or if she just met you, she would give you the shirt off her back. Whatever you need if she has it, it is yours.*

### C- CHRIST LIKE

*Michelle's life is very Christ centered, and she lives very Christ like. She lives every day with a joyful spirit and a positive attitude.*

### E- ENDEARING

*Michelle is an inspiration to those who know her. She is happy no matter what and always tries to see the good in everyone and everything.*

### L- LOVING

*Michelle is a shining example of God's love. Her love for her friends, family and others radiates from her.*

### L- LOYAL

*Michelle is a loyal friend for life. I have never heard Michelle say anything negative about anybody and she is always smiling.*

### E- EFFERVESCENT

*Michelle's bubbly personality is contagious. She lives every day with the enthusiasm of a child and has a passion to live life to the fullest.*

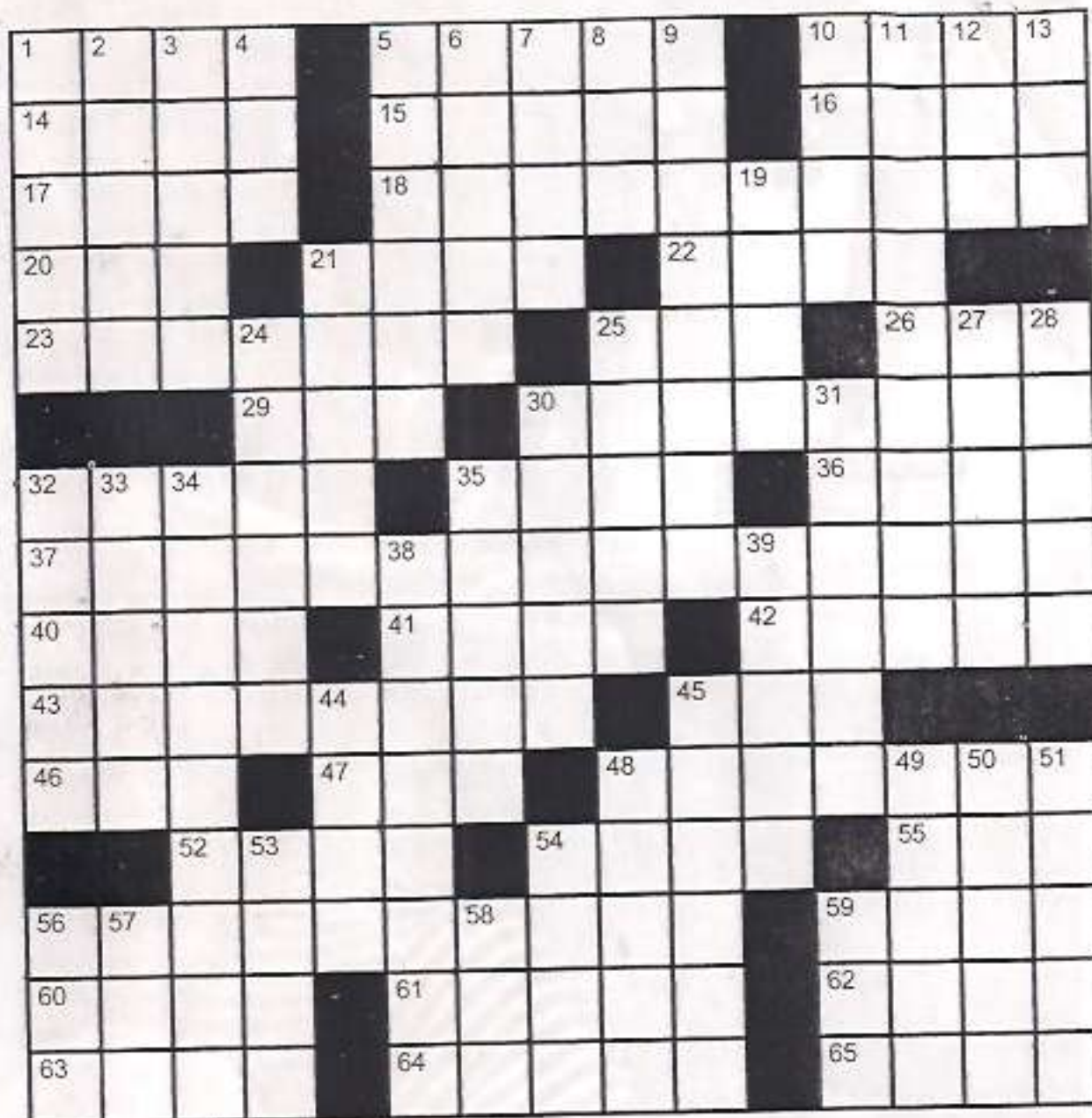






## ACROSS

1. Wharf
5. "The Greek" of an Oscar-nominated 1964 film
10. Glitch
14. Bimonthly magazine \_\_\_\_\_ Reader (anagram of TUNE)
15. Bordeaux bye-bye
16. Marty Robbins classic, "El \_\_\_\_\_"
17. Lends a hand
18. Call to the king who listened to Paul's case in Acts 26, to compose himself?
20. Biol., for one
21. Gawk at
22. 19-Down, *en español*
23. When God asked, "Can you offer Me a proper sacrifice?", righteous Genesis brother's answer?
25. Country singer Brown or actor Efron
26. Once around the track
29. North Atlantic fish
30. How Boaz was, before a certain Moabitess changed his life?
32. Veronica of TV's "Hill Street Blues" (anagram of A HELM)
35. Filmmaker Riefenstahl (anagram of LINE)
36. Klutz's cry
37. Why Abraham may have prayed so hard in Genesis 18 for God to spare Sodom?
40. 556, in Roman numerals
41. Old Testament prophet who wrote, "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!"
42. Church alcoves
43. In hillbilly terms, unrighteous Genesis brother's answer to God's same question from 23-Across?
45. GI's field ration
46. Be in debt
47. Roker and Gore
48. What a coffee-loving pastor does in the morning, while preparing his sermon on a key New Testament book?
52. "Don't go!"
54. Has a bite
55. Noon, on a sundial
56. In CB/trucker terms, the new name "Paul" used by Luke for Saul, starting in Chapter 13?
59. Halle Berry's role in the 2002 James Bond film "Die Another Day", \_\_\_\_\_ Johnson
60. Criticism, informally
61. Control tower device
62. Landed
63. Junkyard dogs
64. Bargain hunters' targets
65. One of Louisa Alcott's "Little Women"



## DOWN

1. Prefix meaning "somewhat"
2. City in upstate New York
3. "\_\_\_\_\_ the Queen of England!"
4. Affirmative
5. Came back the other way after "zigging"
6. Three-time Pro Bowler \_\_\_\_\_ Beckham Jr.
7. Communion, e.g.
8. "Don't \_\_\_\_\_ fool!"
9. Baked with breadcrumbs & cheese, like some potatoes (from the French for "by grating")
10. \_\_\_\_\_ and Span (cleaner brand)
11. Creamy pastries named for a French emperor
12. Egyptian cobra
13. \_\_\_\_\_ long way
19. More than well-off
21. Ancient Greek coins (anagram of LOBOS)
24. Like vinegar, chemically speaking
25. Native American people who have lived in their river valley south of Gallup, NM for thousands of years
27. Easy \_\_\_\_\_
28. Attention-getting sounds, as in a library
30. Mark with a period, again
31. 2012 time-travel action movie with Bruce Willis and Joseph Gordon-Levitt
32. "I \_\_\_\_\_ idea!"
33. Let happen
34. Bogart, Streep or The Rock
35. Paints a word-picture
38. Train storage area
39. Outfits
44. Sound made while sinking into a hot bathtub, perhaps
45. Parking devices that take coins
48. Islam's equivalent to Judaism's "kosher"
49. What 11-Down's namesake went into, twice (first on Elba, then on St. Helena)
50. Take home the top prize
51. \_\_\_\_\_ sense (strong feeling of intuition)
53. Sounds of disapproval
54. Old Icelandic saga (anagram of DADE)
56. Winners of 25 Super Bowls (and losers of 26)
57. Actor Gulager of TV's "The Virginian"
58. No, to a Scotsman
59. Vaccine injection, in British slang