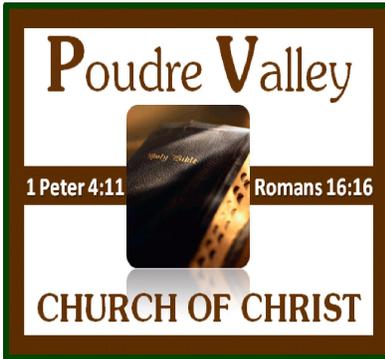




**Richard Thetford**

712 McGraw Circle  
Fort Collins, CO 80526  
(970) 682-8481  
richardthetford@gmail.com  
www.thetfordcountry.com

**Support Letter  
DECEMBER 2020**

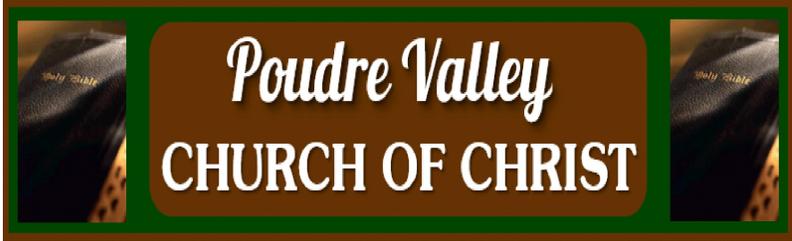


126 West Harvard St., Suite 6  
Fort Collins, CO 80525  
(970) 215-5797  
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

**Meeting Times**

Sunday

Bible Class.....9:30 A.M.  
Worship Assembly.....10:30 A.M.  
Worship Assembly.....1:30 P.M.



December 30, 2020

**Oaks West church of Christ  
c/o The Elders  
P. O. Box 675  
Burnet, TX 78611**

Dear Brethren,

We just finished another Christmas with our family and now another new year begins! We hope that you have enjoyed the holidays with your families and dear friends and that you were able to avoid getting the COVID-19 during this almost “anything goes” 2020. I always look forward to each new year that the Lord blesses me with. It is another opportunity to read and study more of His inspired word and to be able to grow spiritually, becoming a better servant of Christ than I was the previous year.

I am a strong believer in daily Bible reading. Each one of us in our family strives to read the Old Testament through once and the New Testament twice during the year. This is in addition to additional studies and Bible classes that we engage in throughout the year. The Lord has blessed each one of us by giving us life on this earth. He wants us to prepare ourselves every day so that we are better equipped to share and teach the gospel message to others and remain steadfast in faith and loyalty to Him so that we can receive the crown of life when our earthly life ends (James 1:12).

Thank you so very much for supporting me this year. As I have stated before, I count myself extremely blessed to be associated with you in being able to preach and teach the gospel of Christ on a regular basis here in Northern Colorado.

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**FAMILY NEWS**

We had an outstanding family Christmas together and will also be celebrating together on New Years Eve and day. Because of the COVID-19 that is still bad in our country and also here in our county, we were not able to have our annual Christmas party get together that we host each year for all the members of our local congregation. We also were not able to invite any others to our home for the holidays so that we can keep others and ourselves safe from the virus. On Christmas Eve we had one of the most joyful days ever with our family as we played some crazy made up games, exchanged ornaments, enjoyed good food, and just had one of the best times we have ever had! It has been a hard year for most families and with our children (Caleb and Kaleena) doing their college classes on-line all year and engaged in a lot of work to do for those classes it was just good to be able to unwind and get into the holiday spirit together!

Malinda, Kristin, and Kaleena spent Wednesday the 23<sup>rd</sup> preparing the feast that we enjoyed on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. Caleb and I pitched in with the dishes and other cleaning that needed to be done. Caleb and Kaleena finished their semester at Colorado State University and Front Range Community College the week of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Caleb will be entering his last semester of college on January 21<sup>st</sup> as he completes his Master's Degree in Accounting with a graduation in May 2021. He will then begin his full-time job at an Accounting firm here in Fort Collins in July. Kaleena will be finishing her Associates Degree in 2021 and is planning on attending Colorado State University in 2022. We all have been able to stay safe and healthy throughout 2020 and for that we are extremely thankful. It is our prayer that you also were able to stay healthy this past year.

On Sunday, December 27, 2020, Malinda's brother, **Michael Laurence** passed away at the age of 71 from severe complications of COVID-19. Mike was in a rehab center going through physical therapy for his hip that he injured in November. He was released and sent home on Saturday, December 19<sup>th</sup> and then began feeling bad. On Sunday he went to the hospital and he had a positive COVID test. They admitted him and he quickly began feeling worse along with getting a fever. On Saturday morning, December 26<sup>th</sup> he slipped into a coma and never woke up again. He died the next day. Malinda's mom and dad have passed away and also her oldest brother who was killed in action at age 24 in Vietnam. Mike was her last remaining sibling. We will miss him here on earth but we are confident that his soul has gone on to Abraham's bosom where he will be comforted. He was a very faithful Christian man, husband, father, and grandfather. He loved his brothers and sisters in Christ and had so many loving friends. Please say a prayer for Malinda, our family, and also for all of Mike's family. May we all stay the course to gain our final reward in heaven.

## POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

There is nothing new to be able to report concerning the local church. Except for Nadine Laughren, all of our members have been able to continually meet at the building for our morning worship service. Nadine works for the post office and there have been several cases of COVID-19 in the facility. She does not think she has it, but she is being careful to not take the chance of passing the virus on if she happens to have it. She has had a sore throat and a runny nose for a few weeks and she has told us that she will be staying at home for awhile just to be safe. We are still meeting at the building every Sunday morning at 10:30 A.M. for our worship service. We are not having our Bible classes or afternoon service at the building right now and probably won't for the next several months. We are doing our adult Bible class on-line each Sunday afternoon at 1:30 P.M.

We began a new study in our adult Bible class entitled “**Spirituality**” on December 20<sup>th</sup>. All the members are really enjoying this study and it is proving to be very profitable in helping us become even more grounded in our faith and service to almighty God.

My Friday evening Bible study with **Nadine Laughren** has been put on hold until January 8<sup>th</sup>. She is working long hours right now at the post office and she also has some other things that she is needing to do. We have agreed to begin the class in January.

I was able to make contact again with **Amber White** and she told me that she is still in the process of doing the first lesson in the correspondence course that I sent her. She told me that she would be mailing it back soon – but that was three weeks ago. I am now concerned that she may not complete the lesson and continue with others. I will continue to try to contact her to see if she wants to continue doing it or perhaps be interested in another type of study.

This COVID-19 is making it very difficult for Bible studies and other things that one can do for the cause of Christ. We are praying that this virus will soon be gone so that we can invite others to our services and to gain some new Bible studies. At this time I only have 3 active Bible correspondence courses right now. One person completed their course in December.

## MY SCHEDULED PREACHING TRIPS

**April 2021** Cedar Park church of Christ, Cedar Park, TX  
Evangelist: Paul White

Because of the COVID-19, my gospel meetings were cancelled for 2020. I am available to hold gospel meetings in the fall of 2021 and beyond.

## SERMONS

During the month of **DECEMBER** the following sermons were preached:

AM	December 6	<b>Growing Spiritually</b>
PM	December 6	No Afternoon Service
AM	December 13	<b>Our “Good” Can Be God’s “Wrong”</b>
PM	December 13	No Afternoon Service
AM	December 20	<b>The Crucifixion of Jesus</b>
PM	December 20	No Afternoon Service
AM	December 27	<b>I Am Not Ashamed</b>
PM	December 27	No Afternoon Service

## SUPPORT

As I reported in last month’s support letter, I have been able to replace the support that I have lost this month. Our congregation along with two other congregations will begin supporting me in January 2021. Therefore, I have all the support that I need at this time. Thank you for continuing to support me in the work that I am doing here in Northern Colorado. I love and appreciate you very much!

## CLOSING

As we all prepare to begin a new year in our service to God, I want to leave you once again with my favorite Bible passage by the apostle Paul. He encouraged the Corinthian brethren and he encourages us today by saying, “*Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord*” (1 Corinthians 15:58). God has blessed us with many different talents and it is up to us to make sure we use those talents for His glory.

The Lord willing, as soon as we can have visitors again here at our local congregation we hope that you will be able to plan a trip out here to visit us. We would love to see you! Take care and have a safe and prosperous 2021!

In His Service,

Richard Thetford, Evangelist  
Poudre Valley church of Christ  
**Enclosed:** December 2020 Bulletins

### Bible study sites

www.thetfordcountry.com  
rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ  
[www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org](http://www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org)

My financial support for **DECEMBER** was as follows:

Cedar Park church of Christ, Cedar Park, TX	\$1,200.00
North 32nd Street church of Christ, Paducah, KY	\$1,150.00
Westview church of Christ, Hartselle, AL	\$800.00
Crescent Park church of Christ, Odessa, TX	\$600.00
New Georgia church of Christ, Rogersville, AL	\$600.00
Twin City church of Christ, College Station, TX	\$500.00
Adoue Street church of Christ, Alvin, TX	\$400.00
Green Meadow church of Christ, San Angelo, TX	\$400.00
College View church of Christ, Florence, AL	\$300.00
Smoky Hill church of Christ, Centennial, CO	\$300.00
Oaks West church of Christ, Burnet, TX	\$300.00
Olsen Park church of Christ, Amarillo, TX	\$150.00
<b>Total Support</b>	<b>\$6,700.00</b>