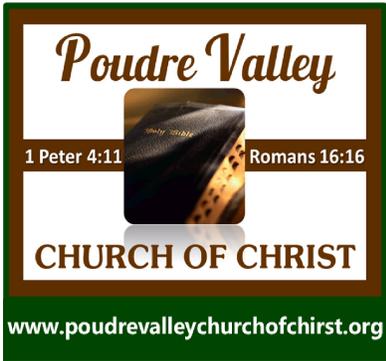




Richie Thetford

4511 Bishopsgate Drive
Windsor, CO 80550
(970) 682-8481
richiethetford@gmail.com
www.thetfordcountry.com

**Support Letter
AUGUST 2021**



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

Meeting Times

Sunday

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



August 30, 2021

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

Dear Brethren,

As you receive this month’s support letter I hope it finds you doing well and prospering in the ways of the Lord. We are so very blessed to be a Christian as we keep our focus on living for and serving God the best we can on a daily basis. I, along with my family, appreciate so much your continued financial support and the prayers that you offer on our behalf regularly. I thank God regularly for your love, kindness, willingness, and ability to help provide for my needs. This is never taken for granted. It is also my prayer that you are safe and healthy as you keep on pressing on in His kingdom.

On several occasions the apostle Paul spoke of brethren who had been refreshing to him (Acts 27:3; Romans 15:32; 1 Corinthians 16:17-18; 2 Timothy 1:16; Philemon 1:7). I want you to know that you also are refreshing to me!

FAMILY NEWS

For the most part we are well and doing fine. I say “for the most part” because some aches and pains have come upon some of us. **Malinda** has been struggling with a very sore shoulder that has probably been brought on by all the lifting and work that has been associated with moving. **Kaleena** is also struggling with a shoulder problem. I have been bothered by a painful sciatica issue. It has been giving me problems off and on since last November.

Malinda and I will be celebrating our 40th wedding anniversary on September 12th. I am so very thankful for her. God has truly blessed us with a wonderful life together, along with our three children. As is true with everyone who celebrates a milestone birthday or anniversary, we seem to reflect on how fast the time has gone while a myriad of memories swirl around in our head. There truly are many, many precious memories and the words “I do” have truly served as a commitment toward each other as we love each other and allow God to be the very center of our life, marriage, children and home! We are – because of Him.

Caleb began his first ever full-time job as an accountant with an accounting firm in Fort Collins, CO on August 2nd. He absolutely loves his work and the people he is working with. His degree in Accounting has paid off in a big way. He is doing what he really likes to do. But I must say, that I am the happiest about his love and dedication to the Lord. He serves as the treasurer for our local congregation. He also preaches and teaches the adult Bible class when I am away in gospel meetings. In addition, he is now leading singing occasionally and does a good job.

Kaleena started back for her last two semesters at Front Range Community College. She only has two classes each semester and, Lord willing, will be graduating with her Associates Degree in May 2022. Her plan is to then go to Colorado State University in the fall of 2022. She still actively plays the piano and the violin.

Kristin, our oldest daughter, still enjoys living in her own apartment and comes over and visits us on a regular basis. Her apartment is only a few streets away from the church building so we go to her place between the morning and afternoon service to eat and have time to visit more. Our house is a 20 minute drive away so it is so convenient to be able to go to her place after the morning service. She still enjoys her job but she did begin driving to her office about four weeks ago. Because of COVID she was working from home for about 17 months.

POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST



We had an outstanding gospel meeting with **Ron Griffin** from Paducah, Kentucky. He and his wife Carey, along with Carey’s brother Ron Buxton and his wife Teala were with us from August 6–8. Ron preached 6 very good lessons including two lessons on “humanism.” We had some visitors on Sunday but we did not have any visitors on Friday or Saturday. I firmly believe it was because of the concerns people are having over the COVID delta variant that is spreading all over Colorado now.

Ron retired from full-time preaching but does serve as one of the elders at the 32nd Street church of Christ in Paducah, Kentucky. My family and I are blessed to be supported by the 32nd Street congregation. Any congregation would be greatly encouraged by his loving, kind, and caring way of presenting the gospel of Christ. I am honored to know Ron and Carey and I pray that God will grant them many more years of faithful service in His kingdom. If you want to hear Ron's lessons go to the following link and scroll down to his picture and click on a sermon. <http://www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org/variousworks.html>



Percy and Betty Wilson placed their membership with our congregation! We are so glad to have them with us. They moved to Greeley, CO where they are now living with their daughter so she can help care for them. Percy is able to drive when the weather is good. This coming winter when we have some snow, Ken and Cherryl Tope will plan to pick them up and bring them to services.

I received an email from **Rick Yerby** letting me know that he and his family will be moving to Greeley, CO in the next few weeks. They are planning on coming to visit us. I don't know anything about him and his family at this time other than he said that they are moving here from Texas. It is a hopeful sign that he found our congregation on-line and wants to come and visit us. I hope to be able to update you with some more news in my September news letter.

I did not receive any new requests for Bible Correspondence Courses in August. One more individual did finished the course. I have four individuals now enrolled and taking the course. These individuals are all out of state but they are learning more about God and His word.

On Sunday we were FINALLY able to have our "scripture and song" service centered around the them of "**Wonderful Words of Life.**" I have tried to put this together on the afternoon of the month that has a fifth Sunday. Because of COVID, and not meeting, and then meeting without our afternoon service for quite sometime, we haven't been able to do this in over 17 months. Everyone really enjoys this service because we read scripture, sing songs, and hear an invitation lesson centered around a particular theme. The service went really well. The next "scripture and song" service will be planned for the fifth Sunday afternoon in October.

We are continuing our adult Bible class in the book "**Christians in a Secular Age**" that was written by Mike Willis. This is a very interesting book. There is so much valuable, thought provoking comments in this class on this material that it has been so enjoyable to teach, and receive the feedback over this material. I enjoy classes like this!

We have now had between 1 and 8 visitors every Sunday except for one since June 20th. We have had several Sunday's where the attendance has been between 19-24. Our membership is now at 14. We have gained four new members since March and we have had to withdraw from one individual. If you get the opportunity to come to this area of Colorado, please plan on visiting with us – you'll receive a very warm welcome!

Finally, I did complete the nine part series on the theme of "Worldliness" on August 1st. These lessons can be heard on my personal website at www.thetfordcountry.com. Click on the "sermons" tab. Then click on the "Worldliness" link under the section titled "SERMON SERIES."

MY SCHEDULED PREACHING TRIPS

At this time I am scheduled to preach two gospel meetings in the upcoming year. These two gospel meetings are as follows:

April 1-3, 2022: 10th Street church of Christ, Dalhart, Texas
Evangelist: None

April 8-10, 2022: South Fayetteville church of Christ, Fayetteville, Tennessee
Evangelist: Eric Reynolds

SERMONS

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

AM	August 1	WORLDLINESS: Smoking and Tobacco Products
PM	August 1	Faith and Works
AM	August 8	Gospel Meeting with Ron Griffin from Paducah, KY
PM	August 8	Gospel Meeting with Ron Griffin from Paducah, KY
AM	August 15	Longing For Heaven, My Eternal Home
PM	August 15	Pursue Peace
AM	August 22	Prayer
PM	August 22	Monthly Singing
AM	August 29	Worship
PM	August 29	Scripture and Song Service " Wonderful Words of Life "

CLOSING

Now that school has started, most families are not traveling now. However, we have found that several couples do travel in the months of September and October. If you are traveling to this area please plan to worship with us on a Sunday. You will be our honored guests and you will be warmly welcomed. May God continue to bless you as you faithfully serve Him. Keep pressing on toward the goal. The apostle Paul wrote: *“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). Have a great month of September!

In His Service,

Richie Thetford, Evangelist
Poudre Valley church of Christ
Enclosed: August 2021 Bulletins

Bible study sites

www.thetfordcountry.com
rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

My financial support for **AUGUST** 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
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
Poudre Valley church of Christ, Fort Collins, CO	\$300.00
College View church of Christ, Florence, AL	\$300.00
Oaks West church of Christ, Burnet, TX	\$300.00
West Mason church of Christ, Mason, OH	\$300.00
South Fayetteville church of Christ, Fayetteville, TN	\$300.00
Olsen Park church of Christ, Amarillo, TX	\$150.00
Total Support	\$6,700.00