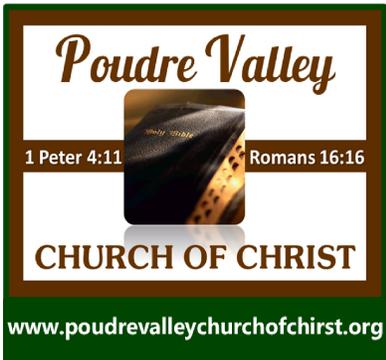




Richie Thetford

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**Support Letter
NOVEMBER 2021**

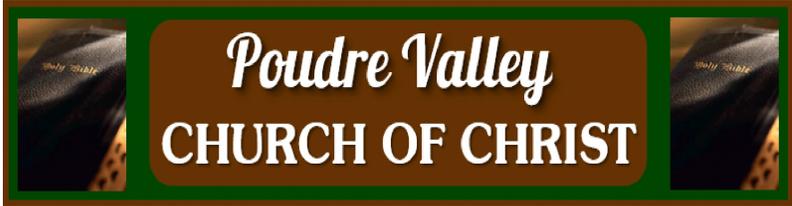


126 West Harvard St., Suite 6
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 215-5797

Assembly Times

Sunday

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



November 30, 2021

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

Dear Brethren,

From our family to yours, we do hope that you had a wonderful Thanksgiving day with your family and dear friends. We had a good time sharing our precious time with one another and being thankful for all the blessings that we enjoy (both material and spiritual) each and every day – all of which have been provided by our heavenly Father.

It seems like most of the country has experienced warmer than normal temperatures and we are no exception to that. We have not received any snow this Fall, and Winter is just around the corner. This is the first time in history that Denver and North along the Front Range has not received any snow before November 21st. We have gone all of September through November without snow! We also are having highs in the 50's and 60's. It is very pleasant and nice, but we really do need some moisture whether in rain or snow. Maybe this means we will get a lot of snow in December.

Malinda and I continue to be very thankful for each of you for supporting me in the work of preaching and teaching the gospel of Christ here in Northern Colorado. Your support and prayers on our behalf are cherished and we never, ever take it for granted. Because of you, I am able to talk with others and share God's plan of salvation on a regular basis. It is my earnest prayer that God will continue to richly bless each of you as you also strive to teach others the truth of the gospel of Christ.

FAMILY NEWS

I mentioned in my last month's letter that I would update you concerning my left thigh and sciatica pain. I was able to see the doctor who gave me the steroid injection and I felt that it was a very productive visit. He let me know that my issue is that I have arthritis built up in my hip area and that is why I am having the pain. The steroid shot relieved a lot of the pain. He told me that I may need to have an injection occasionally to get the pain under control if it gets bad again. I am so thankful that the pain is very tolerable now. At this time on most days, I do not have any pain, or just slight pain and I am hopeful that it will stay like that!

Malinda went to the doctor at the very end of October to have a red spot on her leg looked at. The doctor believed it was the result of a spider bite. She gave her some antibiotic cream and also an antibiotic to take orally for 7 days. On Saturday night, November 7th, she got very sick. She developed red whelps and rash all over her legs, stomach, and back. It was about 11:00 P.M. and I called and was able to talk to her own doctor who happened to be on call that night. She told her to not take any more of the medication and to drink as much fluids as possible so she would not dehydrate. I came very close to taking her to the emergency room at 2:00 A.M. Sunday morning but then she finally fell asleep for awhile. I asked Caleb to go ahead and teach the morning Bible class and preach the sermon and he said he could do it. I needed to stay home with her because I was concerned that she would need to be taken to the hospital at any moment later Sunday morning. In the end, I did not need to take her. It took her until Wednesday to start feeling better. She won't take that antibiotic again. Her bite is getting better and she is feeling good again. I am thankful that Caleb is always ready to teach and preach when needed. I heard that he did a great job.

Kristin was exposed to COVID-19 at her job by one of the ladies that she works with. The lady's husband and daughter tested positive for COVID but she tested negative even though she felt sick. Therefore, Kristin waited the required days and then went and got tested on the 22nd and received a "negative" result on the 23rd. We were all very happy to hear that because that allowed her to come to our house and enjoy our Thanksgiving holiday together on the 24th through the 28th.

Caleb was able to be off from his job for a few days at Thanksgiving. **Kaleena's** college classes were shut down for the complete Thanksgiving week so she was happy about that. All the area grade schools and high schools shut down on Thanksgiving week because of a shortage of staff. Since Kristin works for the School District, she was also off for the week. We had a great Thanksgiving together followed by two days of decorating our house together for the Christmas season. We enjoyed our time together!

POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

As mentioned earlier, Caleb was ready to go when he was informed that he would need to teach the class and preach the sermon on November 7th while I stayed home to care for my wife Malinda. Words cannot begin to say how much I sincerely appreciate Caleb and his ability and willingness to do whatever he can for the Lord in His kingdom! He put together a lesson on “**stubbornness**” in a hurry. He is a blessing to all of us!

We only had a few visitors during November. This is normal as we do not usually have visitors, especially from out of town during the late Fall and Winter months. Most people come to our area to enjoy the summer activities of camping and hiking in the Rocky Mountain National Park. Even though we did not have many visitors we enjoyed tremendous Bible classes and worship services with our own members. It is always an encouragement to be with these precious saints as they are good Bible students and have good input into each Bible class. Every Lord’s Day I am reminded of the words of David as he said, “...*Let us go into the house of the LORD*” (Psalm 122:1).”

We are somewhat limited in what we can do in our area because of the high numbers of COVID-19. Because of the over capacity of people in our local hospital ICU’s we still have a mask mandate in our county. This mandate has not affected our willingness and ability to worship God on a regular basis. We are praying that the cases will go down in this area so that we can return to our services without having to wear masks.

One individual completed their Bible correspondence course in November and one individual requested to begin the course. As a result I still have four active courses going on right now.

The adult Bible class that I am teaching in the book “**Christians in a Secular Age**” is progressing along at a slow pace. This book has so much valuable material in it for Christians to think about in the secular world that we live in that it has prompted a lot of excellent discussion among our members. I have asked the class if they would prefer that we just concentrate on a few points and finish one lesson per week or would they rather not have a time line and discuss the contents of the book along with the questions? It was unanimous that the students want to just take our time going through the material and have discussion about society and what we must do as we live as Christians in a society focused on humanism and other worldly issues. Sometimes we may only finish 4 or 5 paragraphs of a lesson. The comments are well thought out and add so much to each class session. Bible verses are constantly used to show why we as Christians are different from the world and have an obligation to “*seek first the kingdom of God*” (Matthew 6:33) in all we do.

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 **NOVEMBER** the following sermons were preached:

Bible Class	November 7	Christians in a Secular Age
Worship	November 7	Stubbornness (Caleb Thetford)
Bible Class	November 14	Christians in a Secular Age
Worship	November 14	Forgiving One Another
Bible Class	November 21	Christians in a Secular Age
Worship	November 21	Be Thankful
Bible Class	November 28	Christians in a Secular Age
Worship	November 28	Impartiality

CLOSING

I appreciate and love you so very much. From our house to yours, we hope that you have a great December as you celebrate the holiday season with your loving family and close friends. You are constantly in my thoughts and prayers.

As always, if you are planning on making a trip out this way in December or sometime next year, please be sure to come and worship with us. Your presence would be an encouragement to all of us.

Also, for your information, if and when you are surfing the web, please visit my blog. I try to post articles weekly dealing primarily with Christian living. The blog is entitled "Walking in the Light." The URL to the site is <http://rthetford.blogspot.com/>.

You can also check out the Poudre Valley church of Christ at the following locations:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/poudrevalleychurchofchrist>

Website: www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

May God continue to richly bless you. Keep on pressing on – stay the course. The apostle Paul encouraged: *"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).

In His Service,

Richie Thetford, Evangelist

Poudre Valley church of Christ

Enclosed: November 2021 Bulletins

Bible study sites

www.thetfordcountry.com

rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ

www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

My financial support for **NOVEMBER** 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