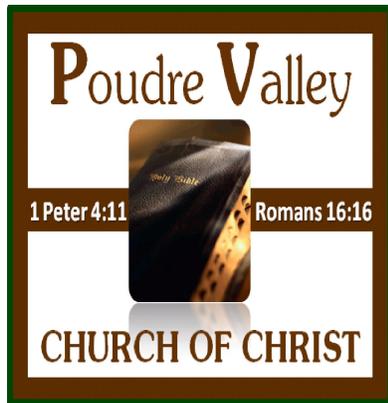




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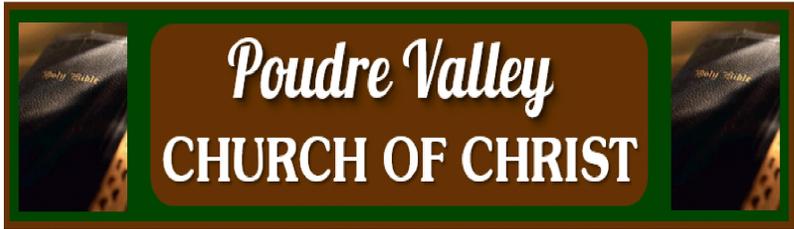
**Support Letter  
 MARCH 2020**



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.



March 30, 2020

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

Dear Brethren,

As I sit down to write my monthly support letter to you, for the first time in my life and most likely yours, there is so much uncertainty with what we have come to accept in our lives as the “norm.” We have a world wide pandemic called COVID-19 or “Coronavirus” that has caused a total change of how we do things in our day to day lives. The one thing that stands out to me more than anything else are the changes that we all have had to make in our weekly worship to almighty God. To help reduce the spreading of this terrible virus, we are urged to stay home and that includes for most Christians worshipping God in the privacy of our homes.

We often times don’t realize how well we have it and appreciate all the blessings we have in life until something happens that changes our “norm.” For me, not being able to be at our normal worship services with my beloved brothers and sisters in Christ hurts the most. Perhaps when we are able to meet together again, we will do so with a renewed zeal and dedication to the Lord and for one another as we appreciate so much what we have in our love for God and for each other. I am praying earnestly that this virus will soon be conquered and we can once again meet together. May we also pray that our economy will not suffer greatly, that individuals will not lose their businesses, income, homes, etc. We truly need to “pray without ceasing” during these times of distress in our nation.

Thank you so very much dear brothers and sisters in Christ for supporting me in the work that I am doing here in Northern Colorado. You have been in my daily prayers and I am asking that you include my family, the brethren who make up the Poudre Valley church of Christ, and me in your prayers. We need each other more than ever now. As you cautiously go through your daily tasks, remember that "God will never leave you nor forsake you" (Hebrews 13:5). In addition, continue to "... 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). We can pray, and should pray, and then allow God to do that which only God can do!

## FAMILY NEWS

Our family is doing fine at this time. Our daughter Kristin was not feeling well the week of March 16<sup>th</sup> and was not able to come and worship with the rest of us on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. She is feeling much better now. Three weeks ago she was instructed to stay home and do her job from there, which fortunately she can easily do. She has enjoyed that, except that it is too quiet and sometimes a little lonely not having anyone there. All the colleges in the state have been completely closed down for the rest of the semester. Our daughter Kaleena is finishing up her semester by doing her classes on-line.

Caleb is also finishing his last few courses on-line. Unfortunately Colorado State University has cancelled everything which includes the graduation commencement that he was going to participate in on May 16<sup>th</sup>. He was notified two weeks ago that he is the top Accounting Major in the CSU Business School for his five years of college. He is also among the top two for finalist for the top Finance Major also. He is graduating with a degree in Accounting and a degree in Finance. He also will receive a minor in Spanish. The school has informed him that they are going to try to have all the May graduates to be able to walk during the December 2020 graduation. The May 2020 graduation was a special graduation class for CSU because it is the 150<sup>th</sup> class. We all were looking forward to his graduation but you know what — God is in control!

Malinda is doing well now after not feeling good during the week of March 16<sup>th</sup> also. She was battling some stomach issues but is doing fine now. Her feet issues that she has had over the past few months have greatly subsided which we are all thankful for. May God continue to bless our family as we serve Him faithfully on a daily basis.

## POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

I had a gospel meeting in **Ranchester, WY** on March 8-11. Ranchester is a very small town of about 850 people just about on the Wyoming and Montana border. Believe it or not, this small congregation of two individuals is the ONLY truly conservative, sound congregation in the state of Wyoming! **Bob** and **Jan Reich** have rented a small space in town that seats around 30 people and have been meeting there for 36 years. Men such as Bobby Graham, Jerry Henderson, Jarrod Jacobs, myself, and other sound preachers have held meetings there over the years. This is a dedicated couple devoted to God!

There are 3 individuals who have been meeting with them who are not Christians for more than two months now on a regular basis. These three, along with Bob and Jan were there for both services on Sunday. We had these individuals along with several more who attended on Monday and Tuesday night. There were 13 on Monday and 14 on Tuesday. A man in town who received a mail out flyer about the meeting came Monday through Wednesday night. That was so very encouraging and Bob told me that the man is planning on worshipping with them on Sunday. It was truly a privilege and blessing to be able to preach the gospel and get a chance to see Bob and Jan again – and also to meet these other individuals. They are all in my prayers.

I was supposed to preach on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Cedar Park church of Christ in **Cedar Park, TX** but because of the COVID-19 virus it was cancelled. We are planning on rescheduling this visit for sometime in the summer. In addition, I was scheduled to hold a gospel meeting in **Dalhart, TX** on April 5-10 but that meeting was also cancelled due to the virus concerns and restrictions. That meeting will be rescheduled for September or October 2020.

Our services were cancelled completely on March 22 and 29. Colorado issued an order that there can be no gathering (assembly) of more than 10 people. In addition when there is a gathering of less than 10 everyone must keep a 6 foot distance. Not only did we cancel services, but every church in the state cancelled services on those dates. This was something that I had never experienced in my life and my children are seeing and experiencing things right now that may never happen again in their lifetime. At this time we are probably not going to be able to have our public worship assembly until mid April at the earliest. We will just have to wait and see how things progress concerning this virus.

Because of the “stay at home” if at all possible order, I have been able to get a lot of work done on some Bible class material that I am putting together on the book of Ecclesiastes. I hope to be able to get that all completed and put together within the next 2-3 weeks. I am also getting several lessons completed on our current study of “**Minor Bible Characters**” by Heath Rogers. We have only completed lesson one and are half way through lesson two. That’s where we were when we had to cancel our public services due to the Coronavirus. My son Caleb taught the first half of lesson two when I was preaching in Ranchester, WY.

As mentioned in last month’s letter, brother **Darrell Trammel** will be here to preach our yearly gospel meeting. Darrell is the preacher and one of the elders at the Oaks West church of Christ in Burnet, Texas. Our dates for the gospel meeting will be **July 31<sup>st</sup>**, **August 1<sup>st</sup>**, and **August 2<sup>nd</sup>**. This will once again be a Friday through Sunday meeting with a lesson on Friday night, two on Saturday, and finishing up with three lessons on Sunday. We are looking forward to it! We have scheduled **Ron Griffin** from Paducah, KY to be here in August 2021, **Jerry Blount** from Las Vegas, NM to be here in August 2022, and **Bobby Graham** to be here in August 2023 to preach in our gospel meeting at those times.

**Mitchel Potter** and I have had to discontinue our Wednesday morning breakfast together for the time being because all the restaurants are closed for dining in. We are staying in touch by text messaging and phone calls at least 2-3 times per week. We sure do miss our time together!

There were two new Bible Correspondence Courses started this month with no one finalizing their course. However one individual will be finished with his when he returns the last one that was sent to him about a week ago. I now have 8 Bible correspondence courses that are active.

## MY UPCOMING GOSPEL MEETING PREACHING TRIPS

**September or October, 2020** Tenth Street church of Christ, Dalhart, TX  
Evangelist: None

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

**Note:** At this time I do not have any gospel meetings scheduled for the fall of 2021.

## SERMONS

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

AM	March 1	<b>God's Existence</b>
PM	March 1	<b>Hell is Real</b>
AM	March 8	Caleb Thetford preaching (Meeting at Rancheater, WY)
PM	March 8	Joel Reid preaching (Meeting at Rancheater, WY)
AM	March 15	<b>Romans 6 (An Expository lesson)</b>
PM	March 15	Service Cancelled (Closed due to the Coronavirus)
AM	March 22	Service Cancelled (Closed due to the Coronavirus) (Met in our own homes)
PM	March 22	Service Cancelled (Closed due to the Coronavirus)
AM	March 29	Service Cancelled (Closed due to the Coronavirus) (Met in our own homes)
PM	March 29	Service Cancelled (Closed due to the Coronavirus)

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## CLOSING

It is my sincere hope that all pandemic concerns from the COVID-19 virus will be gone soon and we can be ready to receive visitors from various parts of the United States who normally come to Colorado to spend their vacation. We usually have between 2-6 visitors on most Sunday's from May through September and we are hopeful that this year will be the same. If you are still planning a trip this year, please come and visit with us. You would be our honored guest.

You continue to be in our daily prayers, especially during this time of uncertainty. Keep the faith and continue to care and comfort one another. Stay the course and when this is all over, we should be even stronger, zealous Christians in our work and worship for the Lord! Keep pressing on! We love you and appreciate you so very much.

In His Service,

Richie Thetford, Evangelist  
Poudre Valley church of Christ  
**Enclosed:** March 2020 Bulletins

**Bible study sites**

www.thetfordcountry.com  
rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ  
**www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org**

My financial support for **MARCH** 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>