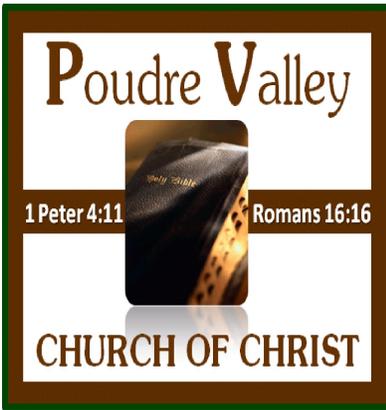




Richie Thetford

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**Support Letter
MAY 2020**

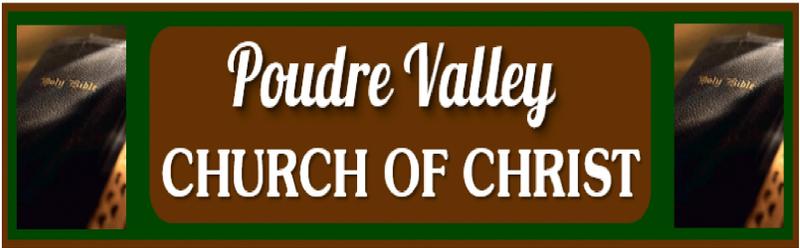


126 West Harvard St., Suite 6
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 215-5797
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

Meeting Times

Sunday

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



May 31, 2020

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

Dear Brethren,

You are in my thoughts and prayers on a regular basis as we strive to do the best we can for God and others during these trying and difficult times. I can't believe that we have had to endure yet another month of "isolation" from our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, family, and others. During times such as this I have to constantly remember that God is certainly in control of all things and He always knows what is best for us.

Dear brothers and sisters, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your continued love, financial support, and prayers for me and my family during these difficult days. I know that I am truly blessed to have such faithful and loving Christians supporting me as I diligently strive to preach and teach the truth of the gospel of Christ to others at every possible opportunity that I have. I never have and I never will take for granted your ability and willingness to make sure that I am taken care of. Thank you so very much!

At this time we are still not meeting together in our meeting facility because of the state of Colorado's strict guidelines on number of people, distances, and other factors that are required at this time. In addition to that, most of our members fall into the "high risk" category. We, along with many others are currently streaming our worship service to our members.

FAMILY NEWS

My wife Malinda has not been well for most of this month. She has had some severe stomach issues and some other physical issues that she has been struggling with. She has had one trip to the emergency room where she was given an IV to get her hydrated. She has also had two doctors appointments this month to try to get things taken care of. She is still not doing well. She is really tired of feeling so bad and is looking forward to feeling better (she does not have anything associated with the corona virus).

Our daughter, Kaleena, has been a real trooper through her mom's illness as she has, without any complaint whatsoever, stepped in and has learned to do many different food preparations. She is a sweet, caring, wonderful daughter! Caleb finished his college courses on May 16th and is now officially graduated with his undergraduate degrees in Accounting, Finance, and a minor in Spanish. Unfortunately because of the COVID-19, his 2020 graduating class was not able to attend a graduation ceremony on campus. Also because of the corona virus, we cannot have our church family and friends over to the house so we just had our own family graduation for him on May 25th along with our Memorial Day meal get together. Kaleena finished her second year of college at Front Range Community College on the 11th. They both are glad to have a little time off now without having all the school work to do.

POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

During the whole month of May we have had the "safer at home" policy (phase 2) of our state lock down. Some places have been able to open up such as restaurants that can serve food to go or drive-thru. Other business have been able to open up at a 50% or less capacity and practicing social distancing while also wearing face masks. This past week, churches are now allowed to open, however there are many restrictions that must be adhered to. In addition to that, most of our congregation consists of individuals that fall into the "high risk" area and are highly encouraged by the state of Colorado to not meet yet in group gatherings. At this time we are still streaming our worship service for our members using "Zoom" software. It is gone very well but nothing at all takes the place of being able to worship together in one place! I have been able to preach a regular sermon each Lord's Day morning and then still upload it to my website along with the outline and PowerPoint charts. Even though this isn't the best way, I am thankful that during the age in which we live we can still see each other and talk with each other electronically.

We are going to start an on-line Bible class one night of the week for our members beginning sometime within the next two weeks. The on-line class will be a continuation of our Sunday morning Bible class material of "Minor Bible Characters." We are looking forward to being able to do this together on-line.

A young lady (**Kimberly Nadine Laughren** - age 26) who is the daughter of Ann Laughren who attends the Olsen Park church of Christ in Amarillo, TX has been in contact with me. Jeff Nunn, one of the elders at the Olson Park congregation gave me her information and asked if I would get in touch with her and try to encourage her as she is going through some difficult times. I have been in touch with her on a weekly basis by phone and text. She was able to get set-up with the "Zoom" software and joined us for our worship services on May 24th and May 31st. She is a Christian but has been out of duty. It is my hope and prayer that she will be restored and will begin attending with us regularly.

I have a new Bible correspondence course that started this month from an individual in the state of Georgia. There are currently seven individuals actively taking our Bible correspondence course that we offer. Most of the ones who enroll are from various places within the United States.

It is unfortunate, because of the COVID-19, **Mitchel Potter** and I will not be able to go door to door this Spring and Summer. We are really going to miss this opportunity to be able to spread the gospel message to our neighbors and also for the companionship that we enjoy with each other. Caleb and I are going to work on getting set up for on-line streaming at our building when we are able to meet back there again. We will need to secure internet access in the building and then set up our computer, ipad or iphone to record the service. Because it has worked so well during this "isolation" period, this may give us another way to invite friends, family, and neighbors to view us on-line and open doors of opportunity that we would otherwise not have had to be able to teach others.

During the month of May I have prepared more sermons than I normally prepare in a given month. I have already prepared our Bible class material that we will be studying after our current study is completed. I may start preparing some material that will go beyond that also. I have been able to do more reading, and even more study of God's Word which I am thankful for. I am desperately missing the interaction with my brothers and sisters here and also in other places. My gospel meeting that was scheduled in Dalhart, TX has been cancelled completely because of the virus. Therefore, I do not have any other gospel meetings scheduled for the remainder of this year.

Because we have not been able to meet at our building, and even when we do it will have to be done in such a way as to keep our six feet distancing along with other restrictions, we have had to cancel our upcoming gospel meeting that was scheduled with Darrell Trammel from Burnet, TX. This pandemic has caused us and no doubt you, to have to make many changes over the past few months and also in the months ahead. We can only do what we can do. God, however, is in total control!

MY UPCOMING PREACHING TRIPS

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

SERMONS

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

AM	May 3	Life Only in Christ
PM	May 3	No Afternoon Service
AM	May 10	The Peace of God
PM	May 10	No Afternoon Service
AM	May 17	Restoring the Church
PM	May 17	No Afternoon Service
AM	May 24	Observance of the Lord's Supper
PM	May 24	No Afternoon Service
AM	May 31	Earthly and the Eternal
PM	May 31	No Afternoon Service

CLOSING

Normally at this time of year I am encouraging you to make your plans to come to our beautiful state to vacation and visit us at the Poudre Valley church of Christ. However, this year is quite different. I'm hoping that the National Parks and other tourist areas will open soon. But most importantly, I hope that we can open our doors soon so we can be with one another and to welcome visitors to our assembly once again.

In the meantime, be safe and stay healthy and live your life totally dedicated to God and serving Him. We can only control what we can control and we are taught by God to not worry about things. The apostle Paul wrote *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God"* (Philippians 4:6).

In His Service,

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

Bible study sites

www.thetfordcountry.com
rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

My financial support for **MAY** 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
Total Support	\$6,700.00