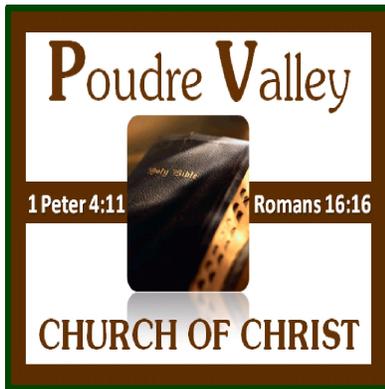




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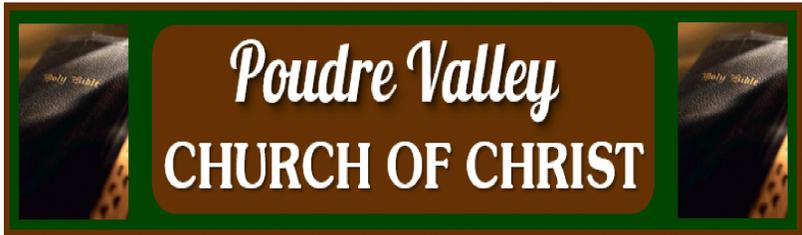
**Support Letter
JULY 2020**



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.



July 30, 2020

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

Dear Brethren,

I hope that you are staying safe and healthy as we all continue to navigate our way through this awful pandemic that has affected each of our lives in various ways. I'm sure that we were all very hopeful that by this time the virus would be fading away but unfortunately it now looks like it is something that will be with us for quite sometime. It is so very important that during times like this that we pray fervently to our heavenly Father and cast our cares upon Him (1 Peter 5:7).

Thank you so very much for your prayers on behalf of me and my family. I also thank you for continuing to support me in the much needed work that continues to be accomplished in this area of Colorado. You are in my prayers on a regular basis. I truly appreciate each of you as you truly are my dear family.

I trust that you are all doing well as you strive to do the work of the Lord in your area. May God richly bless each one of you as you let your light shine brightly for others to see Christ living in you. In this time of adversity it is so very important that others can see God and the His holy word in each step that we take. The apostle Peter wrote, *"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps"* (1 Peter 2:21).

FAMILY NEWS

I am so very happy to report to you that my lovely bride of 39 years, **Malinda**, is back to her healthy self! She had a really rough two months from the first week of May until the first week of July. We are all so glad that she is back and able to do all the things that she loves to do once again. God has truly answered our prayers and continues to bless our family. She is able to work on her beading hobby and also doing a lot of sewing as she has been making face masks and other things for the family. She is now able to participate fully as she loves to do in our weekly Bible study that we are doing on-line with the other members of our congregation. On July 22nd we celebrated her birthday together.

Kristin, our oldest daughter continues to enjoy living in her own apartment. She stays busy with her job as she is continuing to work from home at this time. She thinks that she will be going back to their building around the middle of August. She enjoys writing and reading in her spare time.

Caleb has just completed his third week of a six week internship with an accounting firm here in Fort Collins. Because of the COVID-19, he has to do this internship on-line with the company from home. On August 24th he will begin his one year Master's of Accountancy program through Colorado State University. He is due to complete the program in May 2021. He will begin taking his Certified Public Accounting exams this fall. He is planning to have all four sections completed by the end of next summer. Once completed he'll be a C.P.A. He was able to enjoy a little down time from May through June.

Kaleena has her classes all lined up for the fall through Front Range Community College. All of her classes will be done on-line. Most of the classes through the college will be done on-line during the fall semester and hopefully the corona virus will be gone by the Spring semester – but who knows, it may be around for quite sometime! Kaleena has had some crash courses in home economics, specifically cooking, during her mom's illness in May and June. As a result she has become very proficient in making several different kinds of meals. She makes a terrific potato salad! I am so thankful for my wife and precious children. It is so comforting knowing that your children are true, dedicated Christians who really love the Lord and one another.

POUDRE VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

I am so very excited to let you know that we were FINALLY able to begin meeting together at our meeting facility on July 12th! However, because of the size of our facility and the requirements for social distancing, we can only have a maximum of 13 individuals in the space at one time. Therefore, we are not allowing any outside visitors at this time. We were hopeful that our county would be able to lesson our restrictions due to COVID-19, however our cases have really been spiking since July 4th. We have had 10 plus days of more than 30 cases each day. We have just been informed that if this continues and does not get under the 15 per day number that we may have to go back to the “safer at home” county policy which means for churches that we will not be able to have more than 10 assembled in an enclosed room. We are praying that this does not happen. Meeting together is great but there are certainly many changes that have had to be made to make sure that we can stay as safe and healthy as possible while we are assembling together. We have to keep our six foot distancing and we must wear face masks at all times. The only exception (right now) is that those preaching may remove their mask if they can maintain a safe distance from others. To help with this, my family is sitting up towards the front and the other members are sitting further back. Because of the “high risk” factors of most of our members we have to be especially careful.

We were planning on setting up internet service in our building so that we can allow those who may not be able to attend because of risk factors to still view the service on-line. After checking on the monthly cost, we have decided this was too much and so we are not going to be streaming our service right now. Fortunately at this time, everyone is able to attend. That may not be the case if the city of Fort Collins reverts back to the “safer at home” policy.

We will not be having our Sunday morning Bible class or our Afternoon Worship Assembly for the foreseeable future while the COVID-19 risk continues to be high. We are doing our Bible class on-line using Zoom software each Tuesday night at 7:00 P.M. We are all enjoying the study of “**Minor Bible Characters**” by Heath Rogers. The participation is at 100%. In late August we will probably be changing the time of this class to a Sunday afternoon time slot.

Kimberly (Nadine) Laughren has joined us for our on-line worship service every Sunday morning since May 24th and has also been attending with us since we began meeting at the building on July 12th. In addition, she has also been on-line with us for our Bible class every Tuesday night at 7:00 P.M. I began an on-line Bible study with her every Thursday night. This study has been going very well as we are working toward getting her more focused on the Lord and getting her to understand the importance of continuing to meet together and to be restored to the Lord. It is my personal belief that within the next week or two that she will publicly repent of her past unfaithfulness and be restored into a proper relationship with Christ. I am very hopeful that my August letter will report her as doing this and being a member of our congregation.

There have been no new Bible correspondence courses started this month. There are currently seven individuals who are still taking our Bible correspondence course that we offer. Most of the ones who enroll are from various places within the United States. I have not had any return courses from 3 individuals who are enrolled in the last six weeks. If I do not hear anything more from them by the end of August I will close them out.

Our members, **Joel** and **Vicky Reid** have had a very difficult five months. They traveled to California to see Vicky's mom and dad and other family members on the 8th of March. While there the COVID-19 was hitting hard and most of California closed completely down which included all the churches in the state. Then when they were ready to come back to Colorado we had to inform them that our congregation and all the churches in Colorado also closed down because of the virus. Then in early July they found out that Vicky's dad, **Max Bradford**, contracted the dreaded COVID-19, spent a few days in the hospital and then passed away at the age of 95. He was a faithful gospel preacher for well over 70 years. They went back to California to attend his memorial service. Then on the way home Joel received a call letting him know that his older brother passed away in Colorado Springs. They have been traveling back and forth to Colorado Springs to deal with those arrangements, etc. They have had a tough several months and they have been in our daily prayers.

Mitchel Potter's sister, Jean Finley, passed away from Cancer about two weeks ago. She has been sick for quite sometime and has been in hospice for about four weeks before her death. At a time when our dear brethren could really use a comforting hug, we have to keep our distance. Joel and Vicky have self-quarantined themselves on at least two occasions since returning from California. Mitchel has to be very careful because of his age. We are in constant contact with our beloved brethren and at least we get to be with them each Sunday now. We continue to pray for Joel and Vicky and Mitchel as they deal with their family loss.

MY UPCOMING PREACHING TRIPS

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

Because of the COVID-19, my gospel meetings have been cancelled for this year. The only meeting I have scheduled right now in the future is the April 2021 meeting at Cedar Park. The Lord willing, I am available to hold gospel meetings in the fall of 2021 and beyond.

SERMONS

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

| | | |
|----|---------|------------------------------------|
| AM | July 5 | Finding Wisdom |
| PM | July 5 | No Afternoon Service |
| AM | July 12 | I Know Whom I Have Believed |
| PM | July 12 | No Afternoon Service |
| AM | July 19 | True Conversion |
| PM | July 19 | No Afternoon Service |
| AM | July 26 | Feeling Alone? |
| PM | July 26 | No Afternoon Service |

CLOSING

We are so sorry that we have not been able to enjoy visitors this year as some have traveled in the state and through the state heading to various vacation spots. We are hopeful and are praying that the virus will soon go away and that we can once again welcome visitors along with being able to invite our neighbors to worship with us. Please stay safe and healthy as you too navigate through this difficult time. I love and appreciate each of you so very much!

In His Service,

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

Bible study sites
www.thetfordcountry.com
rthetford.blogspot.com

Poudre Valley church of Christ
www.poudrevalleychurchofchrist.org

My financial support for **JULY** 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 |