

# Meetinghouse Crier

April 2011

Volume 11 Issue 4

## April at a Glance

- 4/3 - First Sunday Evening Worship Service, 6:30pm
- Joint Lenten Service here at Franklin Church, Wed April 6th at 7pm. Rev Mark Turcio preaching (Please bring finger foods for fellowship after service)
- 4/13 Joint Lenten Service at Lebanon Baptist Church Pastor Sharon Ledbetter (Lebanon First Congregational) preaching
- 4/22 Good Friday Joint Lenten Service at Goshen Congregational Church Pastor Peter is preaching
- Easter Sunrise Service will be on the Rocks at 6:00am, with breakfast immediately following! Come early and bring a friend

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## Pastor's Note

Don't go out!  
 In months gone by, I have spoken to you about maintaining fellowship, connectedness with the Body of Christ. While it is of course true that we can pray and worship God anywhere at any time, we have been called by Him into community, family, body life. And it's not really a matter of whether or not we're comfortable with that concept, it is a matter of what God has called us to.

To make this point quite clearly, I will here include a recent submission from a faithful parishioner. This is entitled, "The Silent Sermon".

*A member of a certain church, who previously had been attending services regularly, stopped going. After some time, the preacher decided to visit him. It was a chilly evening. The pastor found the man at home alone, sitting before a blazing*

*fire. Guessing the reason for his preacher's visit, the man welcomed him, led him to a comfortable chair near the fireplace...and waited.*

*The preacher made himself at home but said nothing. In the grave silence, he contemplated the dance of the flames around the burning logs. After some minutes, the preacher took the fire tongs, carefully picked up a brightly burning ember and placed it to one side of the hearth all alone. Then he sat back in his chair, still silent. The host watched all this in quiet contemplation. As the one, lone ember's flames flickered and diminished, there was a momentary glow and then its fire was no more. Soon it was cold and dead.*

*Not a word had been spoken since the initial greeting. The preacher glanced at his watch and realized it was time to leave. He slowly stood up, picked up the cold, dead ember and placed it back in the mid-*

*dle of the fire. Immediately it began to glow once more with the light and warmth of the burning coals around it. As the preacher reached the door to leave, his host said with a tear running down his cheek, "Thank you so much for your visit, and especially for the fiery sermon. I will be back in church next Sunday".*

In these quotes from the Word of God, we find "body language".

*Rejoice with those who are rejoicing. Cry with those who are crying. (Rom 12:15)*

*And if there is pain in one part of the body, all the parts will be feeling it; or if one part is honored, all the parts will be glad. (1 Cor 12:26)*

God knows what we truly need, and He has provided it for us in Christ and in Christ's Body... one another.

Pastor

## Iron Sharpens Iron Report

If you missed it, then you missed it!!



The dozen or so men who attended, had a great time of fellowship, and spiritual enrichment when they travelled to Bloomfield together to attend

the Iron Sharpens Iron (ISI) conference. It was the biggest gathering of any ISI in the entire country, at over 3500 men! What an inspiration to that many men praising God and exalting the name of our Savior. Despite the large number there, the goal of all who attended was the same; that we may all be-

come more Godly fathers, brothers, husbands and friends. You men who attended, begin to speak to your wives about the Women's ISI, coming soon!





### BUT STILL HE LINGERS NEAR

Mary had a little Lamb.  
The Virgin Mary gave birth  
to our Sacrificial Lamb.

His fleece was white as  
snow. The very Purity of  
our New Born Savior.

Everywhere that Mary went  
the Lamb was sure to go.  
He is always with us.

He followed her to school  
one day which was against  
the rules. He is no longer  
allowed to be spoken of in  
public school.

He made the children laugh  
and play to see the Lamb at  
school. *With Him in our life  
we feel light-hearted and such  
joy. And so the teacher turned  
Him out. The courts have  
declare the very presence of  
Him is NOT allowed in public  
in any form, (THEY THINK!)*

But still He lingers near.  
He is always with us wherever  
we are and under ALL circum-  
stances.

“What makes the Lamb  
love Mary so” the teacher  
did declare?

His undying Love for us is  
eternal. This  
government that  
we live under  
today can never  
take Him out of  
our hearts. This  
Great Nation  
was founded  
under God,  
established  
under God and  
Will Always  
remain under  
God in the  
hearts of the  
NOT SO SILENT  
Christian com-  
munity **wherever** we are.



## WITH GOD, ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE

This past February,  
Ron and Laurie’s son  
Matthew Bogue, had  
an opportunity to  
ski down the slopes  
in Colorado.  
Matthew had been  
an avid and extreme  
skier until stricken  
with multiple sclero-  
sis. With help from  
Vertical Express - a

ski challenge in  
Steamboat Springs,  
Colorado, for people  
suffering with multiple  
sclerosis - and the  
prayers of his loving  
and caring family and  
friends, Matthew  
experienced his  
dream once again.  
There has been an  
extraordinary



Matt Bogue on the slopes!!

change in  
Matthew’s  
life as he  
seeks to find  
ways to en-  
courage  
others with  
multiple  
sclerosis.

Php 4:11-13

*Not that I speak in respect of  
want: for I have learned,  
in whatsoever state I am,  
therewith to be content.  
I know both how to be abased,  
and I know how to  
abound: every where and  
in all things I am  
instructed both to be full  
and to be hungry, both to  
abound and to suffer need.  
I can do all things through Christ  
which strengtheneth me.*

## Support For Our Troops

We would like to ask members  
and friends of the Franklin Con-  
gregational Church to support  
this mission and outreach pro-  
gram to support our troops. We  
wish to send special bags of  
candy for our troops. Some of  
the troops visit an elementary  
school once a month and bring  
the children school supplies and  
fun items. I have ordered spe-  
cial candy with scriptural mes-  
sages on them for the candy  
bags and am asking that mem-

bers and friends who wish  
to help us in this project  
bring in additional candy  
and school supplies and  
fun items for  
kids. School supplies  
could include: notebooks,  
pens, pencils, markers,  
crayons, glue sticks, kids  
scissors, rulers, colored  
pencils, sharpeners, eras-  
ers, etc. Fun items could  
include: rubber bandz  
bracelets, stickers, small

puzzles, coloring  
books, etc. Candy should be  
in individual wrappers. Our  
soldiers might also enjoy gra-  
nola bars, and other snack  
items of that nature. (they like  
air-heads too, but don't ask  
me why!?) Decorative bags  
will be put together for ship-  
ment to the troops. We apolo-  
gize for the short notice re  
this project. We hope to have  
it all for shipping hopefully  
before April 14th.  
Please contact Bunnie and/or  
Sharon with your contribu-  
tions.



## Women's Study Report

The Franklin Women's Group has been meeting on Monday Evenings for three weeks now. They're deep into their study on,

A Woman's Heart:

God's Dwelling Place

Noted teacher and conference speaker Beth Moore, relates the Bible to the issues and problems that women deal with in their lives, families, careers, etc.

If you haven't partaken yet, there's still time to join! Al-

though they're a few weeks into the study, there's no place where you can't "break in" and have God's Word apply to your life's situations.

If you'd like to join and want a copy of the study materials, please contact Lynda Chapman or Pastor Peter, and we'll get materials for you. The cost is \$15 (scholarships available!)

Lynda Chapman  
sunshine4Lyn@sbcglobal.net,

Pastor Peter pastor-  
peter@FranklinChurchCT.com



The Women  
of Franklin  
are on the  
Move!



Don't miss the Fellowship Luncheon,  
Wednesday April 20th.  
We gather in the church  
parking lot @ 11:45am.

## Says Who...??

**You say:** 'It's impossible' **God says:** All things are (Luke 18:27)

**You say:** 'I'm too tired' **God says:** I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28-30)

**You say:** 'Nobody really loves me' **God says:** I love you (John 3:16)

**You say:** 'I can't go on' **God says:** My grace is sufficient for you (II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)

**You say:** 'I can't figure things out' **God says:** I will direct your steps (Proverbs 3:5-6)

**You say:** 'I can't do it' **God says:** You can do all things (Philippians 4:13)

**You say:** 'I'm not able' **God says:** I am able (II Corinthians 9:8)

**You say:** 'It's not worth it' **God says:** It will be worth it (Roman 8:28)

**You say:** 'I can't forgive myself' **God says:** I Forgive you (I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)

**You say:** 'I can't manage' **God says:** I will supply all your needs (Philippians 4:19)

**You say:** 'I'm afraid' **God says:** I have not given you a spirit of fear (II Timothy 1:7)



The Heart of Christ in the Center of Town

**You say:** 'I'm always worried and frustrated' **God says:** Cast all your cares on ME (I Peter 5:7)

**You say:** 'I'm not smart enough' **God says:** I give you wisdom (I Corinthians 1:30)

**You say:** 'I feel all alone' **God says:** I will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5)



Worship with  
the Saints of  
God, this Sunday



### Franklin Church

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THE COMMUNITY OF GOD, MEETS TOGETHER  
ONLY TO *CELEBRATE* CHRIST ON SUNDAYS;  
BUT *LEARNS* OF CHRIST AND *LIVES* CHRIST,  
ALL THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.

FranklinChurchCT.com



Come Check Us Out; hear messages,  
teachings, get calendars... ENJOY!

#### Weekly Services:

ADULT CHRISTIAN ED 8:45 AM  
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM  
WOMEN'S STUDY, MON 6 - 8 PM  
BIBLE STUDY, WED. 7-8 PM  
CONTEMPORARY SERVICE, FIRST SUN-  
DAY EVENINGS 6:30 PM

#### Rec Center Update...

The Franklin Rec Center continues to take shape!

Tammy of "Tammy's Lunch", donated a Foos Ball Table for the Rec Center (now all we need is a pool table!).

Funds have come in from our "Dinner and a Movie" night, and some of the ladies are planning a "Bake Sale".

It has been wonderful to see the men of FCC getting together to sweat and get dirty, all for the Glory of God!

