

Christ New Covenant Open Bible Church To Host Community Blood Drive

Christ New Covenant Open Bible Church will host a Community Blood Drive with ImpactLife, the provider of blood components for local hospitals. The blood drive will be from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Friday, April 3 at 210 S Prairie St, inside Fellowship Hall.

To donate, please contact Debbie Haun at (309) 246-5590 or visit www.bloodcenter.org and use code 61322 to locate the drive. Appointments are requested. You may also call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 to schedule.

Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through www.bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo I.D. is required to donate. For questions about eligibility, please call ImpactLife at (800) 747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before 2/6/26 are eligible to give at this drive.

About Blood Donation: Blood

donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors.

About ImpactLife: ImpactLife is a nonprofit community organization providing blood products and services to more than 100 hospitals and emergency medical service providers in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, and Wisconsin, as well as researchers and resource sharing partners across the country. For more information on blood inventories, donor promotions, and more, see www.bloodcenter.org and find us @impactlifeblood on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Threads, TikTok, X and YouTube.

Successful donors will receive an ImpactLife Donor Reward of their choice: EGIFT CARD, donation to charity or bonus points to use in our online Donor Rewards Store

Story Teller Brian Fox-Ellis To Be Guest at Retired Teachers Meeting

Marshall Putnam Retired Teachers will be featuring area storyteller Brian Fox-Ellis at their first 2026 meeting Tuesday, March 24. Fox-Ellis will be speaking about "John Adam's--Architect of our Democracy." The meeting will be held at 10 AM at Shandy's Bar and Grill in Henry. Luncheon will be off the menu.

This program is part of an Illinois Arts Council grant for the fine arts. Marshall Putnam Retired Teachers are pleased to present several fine arts programs to teachers and the general public for 2026.

Henry Presbyterian To Share In An Irish Legend On March 22

Join us on Sunday, March 22, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. for a free movie and a variety of soups, drinks, popcorn and cookies.

A young British slave who was owned by pagan barbarians, encounters a divine appointment that moves him to return to Ireland and convert the people there to Christianity.

After years of adventure, intrigue, miracles and discovery, he becomes the patron saint of Ireland.

Come and enjoy the scenery and the history of "St. Patrick, The Irish Legend."

Three Sheets in The Wind . . . by Mary

Do You Know What Time It Is?

Do you know what time it is? If so, you are a step ahead of me. For the past couple of weeks, I've been wandering around in an unusual state of confusion. (I have a usual state of confusion, but this is different.) Something has tampered with my daily routine. It's not my schedule exactly, it's the time and the time that I do the certain important things at the same time everyday. There's a time to make the coffee, a time to take some pills, to feed the dog, to make sure the squirrels have corn, to watch the news, to think about cooking and on and on. It only takes one little miss, one little sidestep, one little forget to throw my entire routine into a day of chaos.

You might not think any of this is important, but it is. Somehow, somehow, somebody decided to change our time twice a year. They even came up with a little bit of a jingle to make it sound like fun. "Spring forward, fall back." Well, I'm not a springer. I'm not even a slow trotter. I'm more of a plodder, a cautious plodder, a one foot in front of the other cautious plodder, an eyes on the ground, one foot in front of the other cautious plodder. In other words, I feel no real need to spring my clocks in a new direction. But I did.

As the time change was set to make it's move in the early morning Sunday hours, late that Saturday night I journeyed from room to room to room to spring all my clocks forward. When I was young, I had a clock and a watch and somehow I managed to always know what time it was. Now, I have clocks, clocks in every room. Some of the clocks hang on the wall, some sit on tables, some are beside the bed. All of them are important, because even though I'm not on a tight schedule, I want to know what time it is. Seems like an accomplishment. As for my watch, did I set it. Did it set itself. I'm not sure. It's a dilemma, and it won't be that long before we are required to "fall back."

Once again, I'm at odds with the happy little jingle. "Fall back." That's a possibility, and one that I don't want to face or be part of, because of the consequences. It's not a word I appreciate and one that I don't want in my vocabulary. It's not a happy word. I'm all too familiar with the word, and remember the embarrassing moment I spotted a new bracelet on my arm with the dreaded warning, "fall risk."

It must also be mentioned here that time change is sorely noticed by

my wonderful labrador retriever. He has a terrific inner time keeper that operates on Greenwich Mean Treat time. He starts the day by dialing into "MDB or Morning Dog Bone" time, the same every day. There are daily intervals of snacks leading up to the 5:00 p.m. Main Meal Time and Dessert Treat. This will sustain him till 10:00 p.m. when he plants his tired body in front of the refrigerator waiting for his bedtime delight, usually a little cheese. For the first few days of that awful time change, he walked the house in circles. Then, when he realized something had changed, he showed up at odd times to beg and ask for treats. Finally, he has reset, but it's made him suspicious.

What will we do to surprise him next.

I'm sure those people who felt the need to mess with our clocks were well educated, careful thinking do gooders who felt they were doing what was "best" for their friends, neighbors, relatives and constituents. By changing the time twice a year, Illinois would be a better place to live with hundreds and thousands of native Illini residents happily standing on chairs to change the time on their kitchen clocks, "singing spring forward, fall back."

I suggest the powers that be get together, pick one and stick to it. Somehow, getting them to agree on anything, even something as non-political as time change, doesn't seem likely.

I'll finally get used to this one, and won't you know it, it will be time to make the move to either spring or fall. Let the chaos begin.

County Board

(From Lacon Front Page)

Sloan said the presentation and the sign installation was the extent of their involvement and this was more of a "hand off" to the board to pursue in whatever way they felt appropriate. More could be done in the future to mark the site, but no official plans are currently being pursued.

Board members were unsure of how to proceed with Marty McLaughlin asking who would maintain the sign? Justin Meierkord suggested that by endorsing what was proposed, would the board be encouraging trespass on the field?

Sloan said the presentation was only a way to get the board to think about the situation. The cemetery is protected by law and cannot be damaged.

In other business, Han Soon, a resident of Marshall County, spoke during public comment providing information regarding the possible creation or expansion of zoning ordinances for data centers. Soon provided statistics on the impact of these data centers including electricity and water usage, noise levels and grid reliability.

In his letter to the board Sloan elaborated saying, "The problem, as I see it, isn't with the technology of data centers it's with the lack of a plan." He concluded his observations by recommending zoning ordinance action to ensure the protections of Marshall County residents, as well as the county's infrastructure.

The board would go on to approve some appointments including the re-appointment of Donald Regnier to the Wenona Fire Protection District for a three year term and Hank Gauwitz to the board of review for a term ending in March of 2028. An extension of the intergovernmental agreement between Marshall and Putnam Counties regarding the joint employment of the Zoning Administrator was also approved by the board at this meeting.

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Bill Sondag Publisher
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CLEARANCE SALE

221 E Santa Fe, Toluca, IL 61369



Thursday, March 19th: 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 20th: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 21st: 8:00 a.m. to noon

Racks of brand new boutique clothing for \$10:
Judy Blue Jeans - \$30 ♦ Outerwear \$20 and under.

Tons of brand new home decor by PD home
Melrose & more for wholesale or less prices.

Boutique displays, primitive finds, craft supplies, metal signs below cost.

Household, wedding decor & so much more.

There will be some great shed finds as well.

This will be held in an indoor building. This is the 1st of 2 sales to liquidate overstock merchandise.

The boutique trailer will be at this location with some new spring summer merchandise which will be

discounted 25% off.

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*Ingersoll Rand Marketing Insights, Trane Claim Consumer Survey, September 2014
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