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"Helping Colorado Springs find its way Home"**

# PLAYBILL®



## March

## 2020



**FIRST COMPANY**  
First United Methodist Church

420 N Nevada Avenue | Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Phone: 719.471.8522 | [www.fumc-cs.org](http://www.fumc-cs.org)





Presents  
**God's Favorite**

By Neil Simon

Directed by Martin J. Fennewald

God's Favorite was first produced on December 11, 1974 by Emanuel Azenburg and Eugene V. Wolsk at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre, New York City.

**THE SCENE**

The action takes place in the Benjamin mansion on the North Shore of Long Island.

**ACT ONE**

Scene One: Midnight.  
Scene Two: Two weeks later.

**INTERMISSION**

15-minutes. Enjoy \$2 Root Beer Floats in the lobby.  
Supports the church's Youth Tour.

**ACT TWO**

The devastation after.

**God's Favorite**

Is presented through special arrangement with Samuel French  
[www.SamuelFrench.com](http://www.SamuelFrench.com)

## FIRST COMPANY BOARD

Wayne Heilman ..... Chair  
Lisa Robinson..... Secretary  
Marty Fennewald ..... Artistic Director  
Rev. Steven Harter..... Minister of Music and Arts

## MEMBERS AT LARGE

Trudy Fennewald, Jamie Foster, Debbie Louis,  
Stacy Mackin-McLeod, Daniel S. Robbins, Dan Russell

**Upcoming Shows**

**A Night of 1-Acts**  
August 2020

**"Aces High" by Landon Phillips**  
Presented at John Wesley Ranch  
June 12th and 13th  
Brookdale Skyline  
June 17th  
Broadmoor Community  
June 20th

**Fall Show: "Anything Goes"**  
Auditions August 17th-19th  
Shows: October 30th - November 8th



## CAST OF CHARACTERS

In Order of Appearance:

Joe Benjamin ..... Daniel S. Robbins  
 Ben Benjamin ..... Austin Allen  
 Sarah Benjamin ..... Sarah Atkinson  
 Rose Benjamin..... Terri Oderman  
 Danny Benjamin ..... Shelby Evanoika  
 Mady..... Mary Pearsall  
 Morris ..... Jamie Foster  
 Sidney Lipton ..... Catherine McGuire

## PRODUCTION CREW

Martin J. Fennewald..... Director  
 Lynn Wheeler..... Stage Manager  
 Trudy Fennewald ..... Makeup  
 Leslie Stoneburner..... Light Board Operator  
 Shelby Evanoika ..... Sound Operator  
 Alex Robbins..... Design and Art  
 Marty Fennewald..... Set Design  
 Marty Fennewald, Dan Robbins, Marty and Mary Pearsall,  
 Lynn Wheeler, Terri Oderman ..... Set Construction  
 Catherine Marshall..... Costumes  
 Jamie Foster ..... Media

## SPECIAL THANKS

Steve Harter, the First Company Board,  
 and the staff of First United Methodist Church

Our families and friends who supported us (the cast & crew) during all of  
 the rehearsals and prep for this show!

**DOWNTOWN WORSHIP TIMES**  
 7:30 AM - Informal (Chapel)  
 8:00 AM - Traditional (Sanctuary)  
 9:30 AM - Contemporary (Sanctuary)  
 11:00 AM - Traditional (Sanctuary)

**PRAIRIE CAMPUS WORSHIP TIME**  
 10:00 AM - Prairie Campus Service

Banning Lewis Preparatory Academy  
 9433 Vista Del Pico Blvd.  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80927  
 719.471.8522 x204 | fumcprairie.org

420 N Nevada Avenue  
 Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
 719.471.8522 | fumc-cs.org

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.



First Company is the church's drama group. They have been presenting major theatrical and musical performances here at FUMC for over 25 years in the church's theatre. Creativity and passion for performing arts by everyone involved are the main keys to the success that First Company achieves in every show they present.

## MEET THE CAST



**Daniel S. Robbins** (Joe Benjamin). Since 1990, Daniel has written, directed or acted in drama productions at several churches in Colorado Springs. He directed two major shows for First Company, and has acted in several others. Daniel is a senior audio producer for Focus on the Family, having worked in professional media for 35+ years.



**Austin Allen** (Ben Benjamin) has enjoyed working at First Company Theatre. He hopes to grow within this community, and have fun doing it.



**Sarah Atkinson** (Sarah Benjamin) is ecstatic to be back with her First Company family! She has been awarded the Best of the Springs silver medal for Best Actress as well as first place in the Pikes Peak Opera League's Young Voice Competition. Some of her favorite credits include Gertrude McFuzz in Seussical and Sister Mary Robert in Sister Act. She would like to thank her family, friends, and boyfriend for constantly supporting her dreams and aspirations.



**Terri Oderman** (Rose Benjamin) is excited to be making her debut with First Company. As this is her first substantial role, she is grateful to be working with such a supportive cast and director. She has appeared in Forest Gate Community Theater's production of Mary Poppins and the Abu Dhabi Choral Group's production of The Wedding Singer. When not acting or singing Terri loves to ski, hike, and travel.



**Shelby Evanoika** (Danny Benjamin) is excited to be on stage in her 5th show with First Company. She is thankful for the amazing friends and family that surround and support her in all she pursues. She recently appeared as Miranda in The Tempest (Counterweight Theater Lab), Nurse Nova Cane in Dr. D.K Molar, and Sister Mary Martin of Tours in Sister Act (First Company). Shelby loves sharing her passion for theater and music with others and hopes you enjoy the show!



**Mary Pearsall** (Mady) is delighted to rejoin First Company in "God's Favorite" as Neil Simon is one of her favorite playwrights. She has had a passion for theatre since childhood, and has performed in myriad productions through the years. Her latest roles here in the Springs were in The Thorn, The Music Man, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, Anne of Green Gables, and Heidi.



**Jamie Foster** (Morris) is delighted to be back with First Company. He recently played King Alonso in The Tempest, Pablo in Sister Act, Grandpa Potts in Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, and Matthew Cuthbert in Anne of Green Gables. As always, he's most grateful for his family and friends who support his theatre passion.



**Catherine McGuire** (Sidney Lipton) is very pleased to be part of this hilarious Neil Simon morality tale "like no other." Recent credits include It's a Wonderful Life, Harvey, The Vagrant, and Sylvia at Funky Little Theatre. She has also performed with SET, Star Bar, and Craft Productions. Her latest short film, "Lights Over Chau-tauqua" can be seen on Amazon Prime. Thanks to Fred for putting up with the craziness and to Marty for the chance to play. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!