

# MGL CAST

RUTHIE (Mom)	<i>Jill Moody-Ledbetter</i>
BILL (Pop)	<i>Michael Richardson</i>
RICHARD (Son)	<i>Cody Banning</i>
MADDIE (Daughter)	<i>Summer Robinson</i>
THOMAS (Son)	<i>John Hall</i>

# MGL CREW

DIRECTOR	<i>Lora Rice</i>
PRODUCER	<i>Valerie Valentine</i>
STAGE MANAGER	<i>Cassie Mikel</i>
STAGE CREW	<i>Tyler Basham Brooke Banning Katherine Holmes Melissa Vitale Dakota Prescott</i>
LIGHTING	<i>Jeremy Marston Katherine Holmes</i>
SOUND	<i>Eric Krigbaum Chuck Howard</i>
SET DESIGNER	<i>Scott Black</i>
SET CREW	<i>Scott Black Jeremy Marston Tyler Basham Cassie Mikel Lora Rice Thomas Hollenbeck Shannon Tracy Krysta Tracy</i>

# SHOW SETTING

*Bill & Ruthie's living room,  
the home where they raised their (now adult) children.*

<u>Act One</u>	<u>Act Two</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Scene 1 – Thanksgiving 1980</i></li> <li>• <i>Scene 2 – Christmas 1990</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Scene 1 – New Year's Eve 1999</i></li> <li>• <i>Scene 2 – Sometime a few years later</i></li> </ul>

*There will be a 15 minute Intermission between Acts.*

# SPECIAL THANKS

*Dana Spahn*

*Carl Dolan*

# Director's Note

I have been onstage or backstage in at least one show per year since 2000 – with the exception of 2014 when my own life took an unexpected detour. I was diagnosed with H1N1 flu, which led to pneumonia, sepsis, and ARDS. For 64 days I was in an induced coma, dependent on a ventilator for my very breath. This prompted an unbelievable outpouring of love, prayers, and support from my family, friends, neighbors, and even strangers. The doctors prepared my family for the worst, offering little hope that I would ever breathe on my own again. It was indeed a long road, including several months of physical and occupational therapy, and more than a year tethered to an oxygen tank. But God responded to those prayers by healing me and bringing me to a place where I could once again do the things I enjoy. I was able to return to the stage earlier this year and am now sitting in the director's chair! I certainly never envisioned this detour in my life, but it led me to recognize how precious life is and how important are our relationships with one another. It was well worth it.

*~ Lora Rice*



All five cast members are FSLT veterans. They were each asked to answer the following question:

*“As young people, we make plans and dreams about where the future will take us. What is something in your life that you didn’t plan, but has turned out better than you could have ever expected?”*



### *Cody Banning*

I never expected to get sick, or end up in a wheelchair. But because of that I was brought to the world of theatre, got my B.A. in Theatre, and became a professional actor. Just goes to show that God’s plan may not be ours, but it can be even better.

### *John Hall*



If my father hadn’t died when I was twelve, I’d have probably never taken an interest in theatre, and I probably wouldn’t be typing this right now.



### *Jill Moody-Ledbetter*

By nature, I’m a planner and as an adult, many things have not gone as planned (like a career change after 17 years...who knew I could transform from a business woman in insurance to working with children. I’m now rewarded on a daily basis and feel like I can give back to the world for my many blessings!) I’m sure God laughed at me many times over the years! An older, wiser me is deciding to let go and let God reveal what ‘He’ has planned for my life...

### *Michael Richardson*



I always wanted children. After my divorce, I assumed that it wasn’t in the cards for me. How very unplanned and fortunate for me that Anthony and Jimmy came into my life. Seven beautiful and wonderful grandchildren! I am blessed.



### *Summer Robinson*

I have a hard time with trying to control my life and I know that makes God laugh everyday. I knew I always wanted to Act and Dance for the rest of my life, but had no idea where it was going to lead me. I never knew I’d find my passion working with children everyday, where I try to be a shining light in their lives. I also had come to the conclusion that I was never going to get married, and then I met Cody. It’s amazing to think that one person was made perfectly for you. Nine months as Mrs. Robinson have been incredible. For the future? Well I’m still trying to control things. I know God might be laughing, but He’s also got me covered in grace.

FORT SMITH LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS

MAKING GOD LAUGH

WRITTEN BY SEAN GRENNAN DIRECTED BY LORA RICE

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