

Press Release

The Laymen Playmen is a Multidenominational Christian Community Theater Group from Hatfield, PA. We are a group of volunteers from all walks of life who get together once a year and put together a theatrical production for the community. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to the less fortunate here in the community through The Hatfield Pastor's Fund. Over the past 24 years we have been able to donate more than \$100,000 that has helped with basic necessities of life for many.

In the early morning hours of December 31st, the old sanctuary building of Grace Lutheran Church in Hatfield, PA suffered significant damage due to a fire as you can see in this photo:



This is the space that has hosted The Laymen Playmen productions for the past 24 years. As you will note, we were already preparing for our 25th

anniversary show, "Anything Goes". We had costumes pulled; props located and were beginning to ring out all of our light and sound equipment. Well alas, following this event, "Anything Goes" was more like "Everything's Gone". While we were all in shock and still trying to get our minds around what had just happened, one of our youngest cast members said, "God must have a big plan for us since the church burned down and we need to move on helping Hatfield". At that point, we knew what we had to do. On Monday, January 2nd the Board of Directors passed a resolution that we would indeed continue with our 25th anniversary show of "Anything Goes". Now we had 5 weeks and 3 days before opening night and not much more than a positive attitude and a cast that has been rehearsing since October. The outpouring of support that followed was indeed heartwarming. Space was offered to us from various facilities in the area for both rehearsals as well as our production. Props and costumes were offered from a number of local theatrical groups. Lighting and sound equipment was offered from a number of sources. Indeed, it quickly became obvious that the show would indeed go on.

I am pleased to announce that The Laymen Playmen's 25th Anniversary Production of Cole Porter's "Anything Goes" will be held at Lansdale United Methodist Church's Stringer Auditorium. They are located at 300 N Broad Street in Lansdale, PA. Our production dates remain as originally scheduled. That is:

Feb 9, 2012 at 8:00 PM
Feb 10, 2012 at 8:00 PM
Feb 11, 2012 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM
Feb 12, 2012 at 2:00 PM
Feb 16, 2012 at 8:00 PM
Feb 17, 2012 at 8:00 PM
Feb 18, 2012 at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM
Feb 19, 2012 at 2:00 PM

Tickets can be ordered by calling our ticket line at 215-368-9484. Leave a message regarding the performance date, time, and the number of tickets and a member of our ticket committee will get back to you.

Needless to say, our production costs will be higher this year than typical. Items including having to pay for replacement orchestration that was burned in the fire were unexpected. We would be more than happy to accept additional advertisements for our program or sponsorship's for this year's

production. Although updating our Website has taken a backseat to other priorities, standard forms, pricing, and instructions for Ads and Sponsorships can be found at www.laymenplaymen.org . If in doubt about these items, feel free to call our ticket line and leave a message there as well.

There remains much to be done, but the support of the community has turned our fears and concerns back into plans and actions. We all hope that you will consider coming out and supporting our efforts. We can promise you a wonderful evening's entertainment with the proceeds going to a wonderful cause. I would like to thank the Council, and all of the Congregation of Lansdale United Methodist Church for accepting us, and being willing to put up with the disruption of normal activities that we know that we represent.

God Bless,
Fred Wiesinger, President
The Laymen Playmen