

PLAYBILL[®]

MCS Drama Department Presents:



Middletown Christian Cafetorium
Thursday, November 21st at 7pm
Friday, November 22nd at 7pm
Saturday, November 23rd at 2pm

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER

by Barbara Robinson

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is the story of the Herdmans, who are the worst kids in the history of the world. They lie, they steal, they bully other kids, and they smoke smelly cigars. There used to be only one place where you'd never see them—church. This all changes when Charlie Bradley brags that his Sunday school offers free snacks. All six of the Herdmans show up at church in search of pizza, cookies and Hawaiian Punch, and end up in the Christmas pageant. Charlie's mom, Grace, is the novice director, who not only casts them in the show but, much to the dismay of the other kids, let's them play all the leads. Grace instantly finds herself caught between two forces of nature—the Herdmans and Helen Armstrong, who speaks for all the outraged citizens of the town. Grace has two choices: get rid of the Herdmans or let them stay and risk being blamed for the worst pageant in the history of the world.

Coming Spring

March 20-22, 2025



Ronald Dahl's Willy Wonka Jr. follows enigmatic candy manufacturer Willy Wonka as he stages a contest by hiding golden tickets in five of his scrumptious candy bars. Whoever comes up with these tickets will win a free tour of the Wonka factory, as well as a lifetime supply of candy!

*Audition packets available beginning
December 2nd – See Mrs. Sowards*

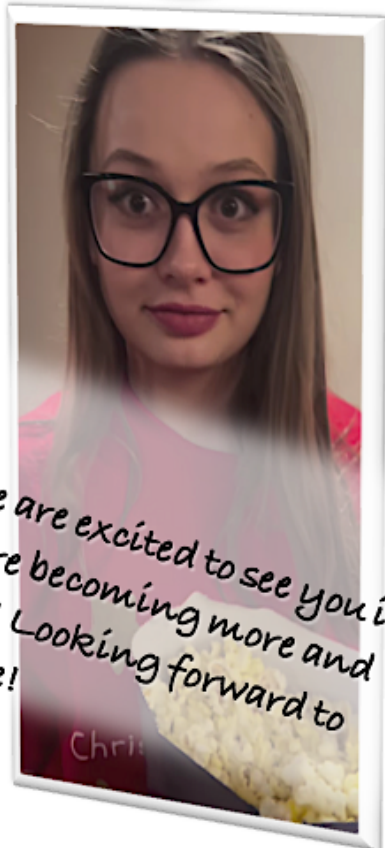
Gracie Isabelle Brown,

We are so excited for your first production! We are grateful that God has been faithful and that you were able to participate and use your gifts for His glory. So proud of you for stepping out and trying something new - we know you'll do amazing!



Elise Danielle Brown,

You are becoming such a talented actress! We are excited to see you in another production. With each new role, you are becoming more and more confident in the gifts God has given you! Looking forward to another great show - you're going to do awesome!





Ezra Wonderly (Father; Bob Bradley)

10th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Ezra's 3rd MCS drama production. He has been in two previous drama productions playing Rudolph in "The Matchmaker" and Mufasa in "The Lion King Jr."

Special Thanks: Ezra would like to thank Mrs. Kouba for the opportunity and encouragement to play this role in such an awesome show!



Helen Lucas (Mother; Grace Bradley)

12th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Helen's first MCS drama production on the stage. Previously, Helen served as one of the makeup crew in Mary Poppins Jr. Helen has also appeared as an extra in her church's Easter productions.

Special Thanks: Helen would like to thank Mrs. Kouba and Mrs. Sowards for giving her a chance to audition and everyone in the cast who has supported her through this process.



Kadence Kouba (Beth Bradley)

6th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Kadence's 2nd MCS drama production on the stage. Previously, Kadence was on our stage in Mary Poppins as Neliu the Statue and The Bird Woman. She has also been in the Music Man as Mrs. Parroo and The Best Little Theater in Town as Mr. PennyPacker.

Special Thanks: Kadence wants to thank her mom for helping with auditions, letting her do shows, and being there for her! She also wants to thank Brely Ellis for introducing her to acting and theater, which plays a big role in her life!



Lola Sowards (Gladys Herdman)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Lola's 3rd production with MCS as she also participated in The Lion King and Mary Poppins Jr. Lola also performs in plays at PAA (performing arts academy) in Middletown.

Special Thanks: I would like to thank Mrs. Kouba and my mother (Mrs. Sowards)!



Hannah Kaufman (Mrs. Armstrong)

11th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Hannah's 4th production with MCS as she also played Ermengard in The Matchmaker, Sarabi in Lion King, and Mary Poppins in Mary Poppins Jr. Hannah has also participated as a member of the ensemble in Godspell.

Special Thanks: Hannah would like to thank her mother for her constant support and encouraging her to continue to be a part of the MCS Dramas!



Hope Mapel (Hobie)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Hope's 2nd production with MCS previously participating in Mary Poppins Jr.

Special Thanks: Hope would like to thank Mrs. Sowards and Mrs. Kouba for all they do for the drama department!

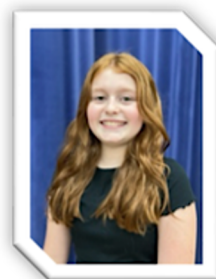


Audrey Mellish (Angel Choir Member)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Audrey's very first production with MCS.

Special Thanks: I would like to thank my friends and family, especially my cousin, Ellie, who inspired me to be in drama.

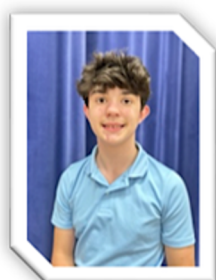


Nora Wonderly (Imogene Herdman)

7th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Nora's very 1st production with MCS.

Special Thanks: Nora would like to thank Mrs. Kouba and Mrs. Sowards for the time and hard work they've invested in the cast and putting on the play.



Liam Chernesky (Leroy Herdman)

6th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Liam's very 1st production with MCS, and he says, "This has been AMAZING!"

Special Thanks: Liam would like to thank the directors, crew, and cast for making this such a wonderful experience.



Robby Winfree (Reverend Hopkins)

10th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Robbie's first production with MCS.

Special Thanks: Robbie would like to thank the directors. He is thankful for a place where he can make friends and learn a lot about the world of theatre.



Emma Shroyer (Mrs. Slocum/Clark)

7th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Emma's 2nd production at MCS. Last year she was in Mary Poppins in the ensemble.

Special Thanks: I would like to thank my directors and fellow actors for making this production come to life. I would like to also thank my family for their support and encouragement, and I thank all of you who have put your hard work in this play and to make this the BEST Christmas pageant ever!



Elise Brown (Mrs. McCarthy)

8th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Elise's 3rd production with MCS as she also participated in The Lion King as a Hyena and Mary Poppins Jr. as a Police Officer.

Special Thanks: My directors who put so much work into this and do so much for us. Thank you, Mrs. Kouba and Mrs. Sowards, and crew, sound, lights etc. for helping put this together! We wouldn't be able to put this on without you!



Finley Kittle (Claude Herdman)

6th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Finley's 2nd production with MCS as she also participated in Mary Poppins Jr. She has participated in 19 other productions with her favorites being The Music Man and this production!

Special Thanks: Finley would like to thank Kadence, Liam, Gracie, Mrs. Kouba, and Mrs. Sowards for making the production so much fun!



Jamie Collins (David)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Jamie's 2nd production with MCS as she played the messenger in Mary Poppins Jr.

Special Thanks: Jamie would like to thank both the wonderful directors. Her favorite memory from this production is Mrs. Kouba and her Chicken!



McKenzie Todd (Juanita)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is McKenzie's first production with MCS.

Special Thanks: Mallory Todd cause she inspired me to be in the play.



Leah Robertson (Shirley)

5th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Leah's first production with MCS.

Special Thanks: Leah would like to thank Mrs. Sowards and Mrs. Kouba for all they do!



Gracie Brown (Beverly)

6th Grade

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is Gracie's first ever production and she is super excited!

Special Thanks: I want to thank my mom, for letting me be in this play, and my friends for encouraging me!



Ava Brown (Alice Wendleken)

6th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Ava’s 1st production with MCS.

Special Thanks: Ava would like to thank her family and her awesome MCS directors Mrs. Kouba and Mrs. Sowards for everything they do!



Xander Kouba (Ralph Herdman)

10th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Xander’s 3rd production with MCS as he has played August in Matchmaker, Ed in The Lion King and George Bank in Mary Poppins Jr.

Special Thanks: My MOMMY and God!



Carmen Hayes (Ollie Herdman)

6th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Carmen’s 2nd production with MCS as she participated in Mary Poppins Jr.

Special Thanks: My Mom-mom and Papaw for supporting me and God for giving me talent, Mrs. Sowards and Mrs. Kouba for letting me be in this play. For all the people who come and see it, thank you!



Camilla Dandoy (Maxine)

6th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Camilla’s 2nd production with MCS as she participated in Mary Poppins Jr. in the ensemble and as the Queen Bee.

Special Thanks: Camilla would like to thank Mrs. Sowards and Mrs. Kouba for all they do!



Noah Brown (Elmer Hopkins)

8th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Noah’s first production experience.

Special Thanks: I want to thank Mrs. Kouba and Mrs Sowards for helping me with this new experience with acting. I also want to thank my family for encouraging me.



Colson Kellerman (Charlie Bradley)

5th Grade

“The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” is Colson’s 1st production with MCS. Colson has previously performed with his church’s Christmas productions.

Special Thanks: Thank you, Mrs. Kouba, for helping me with my singing part. Thank you to my parents for being my drivers!



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Angel Choir



Back Row:

Xander Brockman
Reed Million
Charlotte Collins
Beckham Moore
Blair Haught
Waylon Cox
Avery Harris
Remi Million

Front Row:

Rex Shelley
Hailee Brockman
Sadie Shelley
Emerson Gross
Josephine Clifford

Not Pictured: Hayden Fuller, Rebekah Park

Stage and Sound Crew



Kami McCabe

Sam Riegert

Becca Johnson

Grace Moran

Mallory Todd

Note from the Directors

Kelly Kouba

Amy Sowards

Thank you to everyone who attended the 2nd annual Talent Showcase earlier this year. Because of your support and participation, the drama department was able to upgrade some of our sound equipment.



We hope you enjoy this production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!" We can't wait to see what God has in store next for the MCS Drama Team.



A Very Special Thanks to

Greg Riley

Chris Chernesky

Melissa Reigert

Patty Fannin

Erin Collins

Marjorie Perkins

Jennifer Bogden

Zach Sowards

Taylor Ball

Andrew Mellish

Brian Williams

Kerry Collins

Sarah Shelley

Leasha Brown

Todd Hester

Terry Burggraf

Hannah Kaufman – for designing our stained-glass window!



CAST PHOTO FROM MOVIE VIEWING

**EZRA,
WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU! - LOVE, MOM & DAD**

**BREAK A LEG, ROBBY!
- LOVE, MOM, DAD, & CO.**

**EZ & NORA - IT'S THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
EVER! - LOVE NANA & PAPAW**

**NORA,
YOU'RE OUR FAVORITE IMOGENE! - LOVE, MOM & DAD**

**GRANDPA AND GRANDMA LOVE YOU, AUDREY,
AND ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!**



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Dear Camilla
We are so proud of you,
and we love you!
Love, Mom, Dad, Chloe, Crosby,
and Sprout





FINE ARTS UPCOMING FALL & WINTER EVENTS

Scan below and like our Facebook page containing our current concert and performance schedule, updates, and other important information.



Scan me

CONCERTS & PERFORMANCES



MCS ELC Christmas Concert

December 3, 2024

GBC Sanctuary @ 7:00pm

MCS Instrumental Christmas Concert

December 5, 2024

GBC Sanctuary @ 7:00pm

MCS Choir Christmas Concert

December 10, 2024

GBC Sanctuary @ 7:00pm

MCS Elementary Christmas Concert

December 13, 2024

GBC Sanctuary @ 7:00pm

If you would like updates sent to you regarding events and upcoming concerts, please join our digital mailing list by sending an email request to tball@mcseagles.net or putting your email on the sign-up sheet at one of our concerts.