

# Moving Day

This is a playlet in two mini acts done on the occasion of The Wilton Presbyterian Church move from the WEPCO Parish Hall to the new sanctuary 11.07.2004 written and directed by WPC Players member, Skip Ploss.

Cast:

Sarah (Mom): Jaye Jacobsen

Rob (Dad): Max Gabrielson

Ruth (Grandma): Claudia Halsey

James (Grandpa): Don Marquardt

Tom (Teenage Son): Evan Paul

Samantha (Pre-teen daughter): Sarah Ploss

Martha (Her Friend): Julie Gabrielson

Susan (Younger Daughter): Madeline Driver

## Act 1: Call To Worship

*The cast steps from the congregation and takes their places in the parish hall on the old choir risers. The kids and James don't seem to be to thrilled at the prospect of moving.*

**Sarah:** Ok Kids, Dad and I are going outside to load up the last few boxes from the front lawn.

**Rob:** Tom, help grandma with your sisters and Martha, ok?

**Tom:** Ok Dad.

**Ruth:** We'll be fine, Rob. You two go do what you need to do and we'll be along shortly. Right Grandpa?

**James:** *Hurt.* Oh yeah, we'll be ready, ready to leave our home, the things we've become used to, the memories. Oh we're ready all right.

**Rob:** *To James.* Dad, we've been over this a hundred times, it is time.

**Ruth:** *Stopping Rob.* It's ok Rob. We'll be fine in here. I can handle the kids including old grumpy there.

**Rob:** Ok mom. We'll load up and come back in when we're ready to go. *He and Sarah leave.*

**Ruth:** *To James trying to keep it from the kids who are all listening.* What is the matter with you James, you we're fine with this when we started talking about it five years ago.

**James:** Yeah, well, I didn't think it'd ever happen. It was easy to be for the move when it was still a pipe dream, now it's actually going to happen.

**Tom:** *Steps forward.* Grandpa, do you remember when you and Grandma moved here in the first place?

**James:** Yes, it's been thirty years. We were renting a small apartment over a store in New York...heh heh...not sure it even qualified as an apartment. More like a storeroom with a bathroom and a kitchenette stuck in it...

**Tom:** You once told me that you realized pretty quickly that the apartment was not only not a really an apartment, but it certainly wasn't the permanent home that you wanted to build for the family but...

**Ruth:** *Seeing that her grandson is handling Grandpa just fine but wants to help, it's a grandma thing.* But then your uncle Ed came along and your dad and aunt Molly and so we had to put the plans on hold for a couple years until we had the resources to do it.

**Tom:** So then you moved Uncle Ed, Dad and Aunt Molly and raised them here.

**James:** Then, 10 years ago, when your grandma was sick your dad, mom and you moved in with us to help. Eventually your sisters were born in this place. It was great to have kids running around again.

**Susan:** *She runs to grandma and grabs her arm.* But I don't want to leave this house! It's nice and I will miss it.

**Samantha:** *Realizes that Susie is gone and goes over to get her.* We're just moving across town, you're going to see it every time you go to school. Besides, the new house is bigger and really, really nice inside. There is room for everyone. We're not going far, we'll still go to the same school. I'll still hang out with Martha and my friends and you'll hang out with your friends too.

**Martha:** Now you can have more than one friend over at a time.

**James:** We may just be moving across town but it's different. It's not going to be the same.

**Tom:** That's true Grandpa but what will be the same is that we will all still be together. Ten years ago, I didn't want to move here. It was different and I was going to miss our old house, our neighborhood and my friends. Do you remember what you told me back then? It really helped.

**James:** I think so. I think I said that change is sometimes not such a bad thing and as long as you keep moving forward in life at a comfortable pace and keep around you those in whom you find comfort, you'll be fine. I guess that applies to my current mood as well, huh?

**Tom:** I think so Grandpa.

**Ruth:** So are you and Susan willing to give this a try?

**James:** Well Susan, are we willing to give it a try?

**Susan:** I guess so.

**Rob:** *Entering from the rear.* Is everybody ready?

**All:** *Except Rob.* Yes.

**Sarah:** *Entering* Honey the builders just called, they're not quite done with the last minute cleanup and asked if we could give them an hour or so.

**Rob:** That's ok, we can have a moving day breakfast first, everybody grab your last box and lets go... We should be gone... *Looks at David...* for about an hour? *He leaves with Sarah followed by Tom and Ruth.*

**James:** *As he walks out.* I am still going to miss this place.

**Susan:** I am going to miss this place too.

**Samantha:** I know, but we'll have so much fun and have so many new memories in the new place that you won't miss it for very long. *She begins to lead Susan out. Susan goes to the nearest blue chair and tries to take it with them.* Um no, we are leaving those here. *They leave.*

**Leader:** And so it begins. It is in the spirit of new beginnings that I call this congregation to worship. Praise the Lord.

## Act 2: end of service

*As Hymn #40 ends the family, with Martha, come down the aisle. There are exclamations of how nice the place is from the doubters and optimists alike. As they reach the front The Building Committee comes forward to meet them with David Graybill.*

**Chip Mason:** *Welcome to your new home! There are hugs and handshakes all around. The cast melts into the congregation.*

**David:** *Does the charge to the congregation and we and the blessing and we are done.*