

003-1988  
Richard K. Taylor  
Jan. 13, 1988

Updated rock-musical Godspell  
set for WLU stage Jan. 28, 29, 30

A new, updated version of the popular rock-musical Godspell will be presented at Wilfrid Laurier University, Jan. 28, 29, and 30, directed by Dr. Leslie O'Dell, theatre professional at the university.

The musical, based on the gospel according to St. Matthew, was first presented on Broadway in the early 1970s, and was a smash hit.

The original cast created a spirit and energy that made the production special-- and the cast of Musical Theatre Laurier are following in their footsteps.

"The improvisation by the Laurier players means that at every rehearsal, something amazing-- something new and totally different-- happens," said O'Dell.

The 20 actors, dancers and singers are using the original script only as a basis for mounting their new production.

While the music, to be performed by the Laurier Idiots Avant group, will be the same as in the original show, the production is ultimately a reflection of how these individuals feel about events in the '80s, O'Dell said.

She is being assisted by a group of theatre professionals, including Terry Hynes as lighting director, and Bob Luffman as lighting designer, both of Kitchener's Centre in the Square professional staff. Laurier music student Andrew Tibbetts is musical director, and Michael Rouse, Laurier grad and theatre staff member, is assistant producer.

Performances begin at 8 p.m. each night in the WLU Theatre Auditorium, located to the rear of the John Aird Centre, now under construction.

Tickets are \$6 (\$4 for students and seniors) and will be available at the door. They may be bought in advance at the student information booth in the Student Union Building.