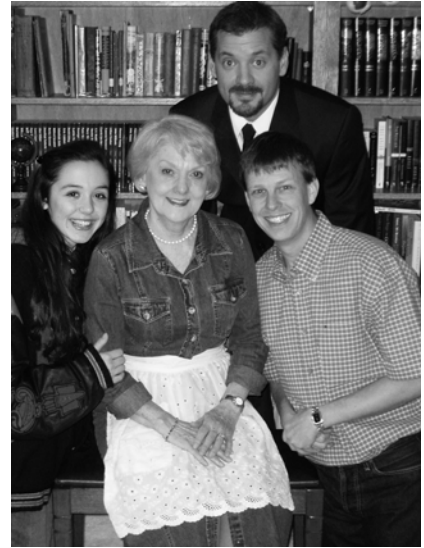


# Leave it to Believer

## Episode One: Family Gathering

Written by Mark Opseth



### Cast:

June Cleaver

Ward Cleaver

Wally or Molly Cleaver

Theodore "Believer" Cleaver

Set: the sanctuary stage is set up as a home, featuring: kitchen, Christmas tree, nativity, fireplace, recliner and/or couch.

June Cleaver enters with a feather duster in her hand [applause cue card], singing, "*It's Beginning to Look a lot like Christmas.*" She cleans as she sings or hums Christmas carols.

[Molly enters. Applause cue card]

June: Oh, Molly, I'm glad you're home. The entire Cleaver clan will be here any minute and I could really use your help.

Molly: Ah, come on, Mom. You know I'm a big star at Mayfield High; what if my buddies caught me doing housework?

June: Of course, you're right Molly. How silly of me to ask. Besides I've got my housecleaning dress, apron and pearls on.

[Ward enters]

Ward: Honey, I'm home! [applause cue card]

June: Ward, where have you been? Don't you remember our family is coming for our Cleaver Christmas?

Ward: Of course I remember. [sits down in the recliner]. Now, where are my slippers and newspaper.

June: Oh Ward! [hands him the newspaper]

[June continues to clean while humming. Believer sneaks in from the back of the sanctuary. His shirt is ruffled up and he has dirt smudges on his face]

June: Believer! [applause cue card] What on earth happened to you?  
[licks her thumb and cleans his cheek off]

Believer: Oh, hi Mom. I was just at the park with Whitey and we got to 'scussing Christmas. I was telling 'em about Jesus being God's Son; you know, Manuel. All he wanted to talk about was Santa, so I tackled him and pinned him to the ground so I could tell him about the Prince of Peace.

June: Oh Believer! I am disappointed in you. Haven't you learned anything from your father or me? Christmas is about sharing presents, not Jesus. Isn't that right Ward?

Ward: [still reading paper] Huh? Uh, whatever you say, Dear.

June: [to Believer] Now, we've got family coming so you get yourself cleaned up.

[Doorbell rings]

Believer: I'll get it! I'll get it! [worship team enters; hugs and get in position for worship]

[After the worship team gets hugs, the doorbell rings again]

June: Oh, that must be the rest of the family. [opens an imaginary door] Welcome everyone to our Family Gathering. We're so glad you could make it! [characters walk through the congregation welcoming people; the worship team begins to play].

[As they get near the back of the sanctuary, worship begins]