



# Special Event!



## ***Shame the Devil!***

### ***An Audience with Fanny Kemble***

By Anne Ludlum

- ❖ This play is a one-woman tour de force about nineteenth-century British actress, author, abolitionist, wife and mother.
- ❖ The production is a collaboration by the faculty in the School of Theatre at Illinois State University.
- ❖ The performance is scheduled for **October 9, at 7 pm** at Menno Haven Camp and Retreat Center.
- ❖ The play is open to people not attending Fellowship 55.
- ❖ Tickets will be **\$8 for Adults and \$5 for Students**. For tickets please send back this flyer or contact Jennifer (information on back)
- ❖ Groups of 10 or more (Reservations must be made by September 25, 2007) can receive \$1 off per person.
- ❖ Dinner Theatre tickets are available for \$16 which includes a Supper buffet and reserved tickets.

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like...

\_\_\_\_\_ Adults x \$8 = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Students x \$5 = \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Please see the back for a synopsis of the play

## **Shame the Devil! An Audience with Fanny Kemble**

### **SYNOPSIS:**

Late on an October evening in 1850, Fanny Kemble bursts into her Manhattan parlor—terrified and angry. Her former husband has published a scurrilous attack on her character and she fears this will not only damage her personal reputation, but ruin her chances for a new career—she just that night debuted as a solo reader of plays. To defend herself, Fanny proceeds to tell her story, utilizing material from her intellectual companion, William Shakespeare. She takes us through her courtship and marriage to Pierce Butler, the birth of her children, and the discovery that her husband is a slave owner.

Fanny recreates for us her life on her husband's Sea Island plantation. She visits the rice fields, calls at slave cabins, inspects the infirmary—and she is galvanized into action. She agitated for fair work rules, distributes forbidden goods, nurses the sick and injured. She even teaches a slave to read—a serious crime. In a climactic revelation, she realizes that "the misery of the slave has a counterpart the moral wretchedness of the master." Then she faces the consequences of making public her confirmed opposition to slavery: divorce, the loss of her children, and the need to make her own living as a middle-aged, single woman.

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