

## Children's Books for Telling in Church #7

### **God Believes in You.**

Bea, Holly. Starseed Press, 2004. E Bea

When Holly's dog Buddy is afraid, embarrassed or worried, he feels better when he remembers God is watching over him. Themes: God's presence in times of worry, fear, self-doubt.

### **The Curious Garden.**

Brown, Peter. Hachette, 2009. E Bro

A curious boy transforms his drab, gray city into a little garden, which eventually grows and transforms the neighborhood. Themes: gardening, sharing, caring for creation, transformation, imagination.

### **Glory.** J 811.54 Car

Carlstrom, Nancy White. Eerdmans, 2001.

A poem which calls upon all creatures to give glory and praise to the Creator. Pictures of a young girl offering praise are accompanied by lots of colorful artistic renderings of insects and animals. Themes: environment, creation, praise.

### **What Does the Sky Say? J 242.62 Car**

Carlstrom, Nancy White. Eerdmans, 2001.

A child watches the sky in changing seasons, in all kinds of weather and learns to listen to it's voice, which encourages her to enjoy and learn every day about nature & God the creator. Themes: Psalm 19, creation and nature, faith.

### **Route this list to:**

\_\_\_ Worship Planners \_\_\_ Story Tellers  
\_\_\_ Church Librarians \_\_\_ Parents  
\_\_\_ Teachers

See previous lists at  
[www.mennowdc.org/ArchiveLibrary.html](http://www.mennowdc.org/ArchiveLibrary.html)

### **Kindness is Cooler, Mrs. Ruler.**

Cuyler, Margery. Simon & Schuster, 2007. E Cuy

Mrs. Ruler guides her students in discovering ways of being kind to their family members, their community, and each other. Can all their good deeds really add up to 100 acts of kindness?

### **Ain't Nobody a Stranger to Me.**

Gifalconi, Ann. Jump at the Sun, 2007. E Gri

A grandfather passes on lessons of love and friendship to his granddaughter. Based on the life of a former slave, who really did utter the words, "Ain't nobody a stranger to me!" this is a remarkable account of one family's experience on the Underground Railroad. Themes: Family history, friendship, trust, freedom.

### **Walk in Peace.**

Hess, Ingrid. Herald Press, 2009. J 242.62 Hes Walk

Each day, children around the world leave home for school, play, the market and go visiting. Offers a comforting approach to being in the world, as moms and dads send their little ones out with a prayer for God's protection and a loving reminder to *Walk in Peace*.

### **Conference Resource Library**

2517 North Main Street North Newton, Kansas 67117

Marlene Bogard, Director Pat Schmidt, Assistant

[crlib@mennowdc.org](mailto:crlib@mennowdc.org) 316-283-6300 [www.mennowdc.org](http://www.mennowdc.org) on-line catalog

**Help! A Story of Friendship.**

Keller, Holly. Greenwillow, 2007. E Kel

Mouse hears a rumor that snakes do not like mice and while trying to avoid his former friend, Snake, he falls into a hole and none of his other friends can help him out. Maybe Snake can! Themes: friendship, changing expectation, overcoming fear, gossip and rumors.

**Do Unto Otters: a book about Manners. (and based upon the Golden Rule!).**

Keller, Laurie. Henry Holt, 2007. E Kel

Mr. Rabbit wonders if he will be able to get along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the golden rule. Very funny/punny. Themes: making friends, neighborliness.

**Sometimes Smart is Good / A Veces Es Bueno Ser Listo.**

Luchsinger, Dena Fox. Eerdmans, 2007. E Luc

While being smart and strong are useful traits, loving other people just because God made them is always good. Underscores the value of love, patience, kindness, teaching young readers that all people, regardless of their abilities are valuable as children of God. A Bilingual English /Espanol book.

**Velma Gratch & the Way Cool Butterfly.**

Madison, Alan and Kevin Hawkes. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2006. E Mad

Velma starts first grade in the shadow of her memorable sisters, and while her newfound interest in butterflies helps her to stand out, it also leads to an interesting complication. Themes: individuality, learning, reading, growing up, caring for creation.

**Talk and Work It Out.** J 158.2 Mei

**Join in and Play.** J 790 Mei

**Share and Take Turns.** J 177.7 Mei

**When I Feel Afraid.** J. 158.46

**Reach Out and Give.** J 179.9

Meiners, Cheri. Free Spirit Publishing.

These books are part of the "Learning to Get Along" series that approach values-education in a gentle and effective way. Themes: conflict resolution, generosity, social skills, communication.

**Have You Filled a Bucket Today?: a guide to daily happiness for kids.**

McCloud, Carol. Ferne Press, 2008. J 170 McC

Helps kids understand the positive and effective metaphor of bucket-filling: encouraging kind and consider-

ate behavior. Themes: kindness, happiness, fruits of the Spirit.

**One Smile.**

McKinlsy, Cindy. Illumination Arts, 2002. E McK

When a child smiles at a stranger, she sets off a chain of kindness that eventually comes full circle.

**Listen to the Wind.**

Mortenson, Greg. Dial, 2009. J 371.009 Mor

The true story of Mortenson returning an act of kindness to a Pakistan village by building a school for children. Themes: generosity, kindness, listening.

**Ordinary Mary's Extraordinary Deed.**

Pearson, Emily. Gibbs Smith, 2002. E Pea

A young girl's good deed is multiplied as it is passed on by those who have been touched by the kindness of others. Themes: kindness, pay it forward.

**Julia's Words.**

Rothshank, Brooke. Herald Press, 2008. E Rot

At summer camp, a girl learns to experience the world more fully through all of her senses as her deaf bunk-mate, Julia, teaches her to communicate through sign language. Themes: friendship, communication, beyond barriers.

**Rabbit's Gift.**

Shannon, George. Harcourt, 2007. J 398.2 Sha

Woodland animals, each thinking of his neighbor, share a turnip left on their doorstep. Themes: sharing, friendship, generosity, self-less-ness.

**The Kindness Quilt.** E. Wal.

Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth. Marshall Cavendish, 2006.

Minna does a lot of thinking about her project to do something kind, make a picture about what she did, and share it with her classmates, but finally comes up with an idea that spreads to the whole school. Themes: kindness, sharing.

**The Story Blanket.** E Wol

Wolff, Ferida, Harriet May Savitz. Peachtree, 2008

With no wool to be found in the village, Babba Zarrah, the storyteller starts unraveling her story blanket bit by bit, to secretly supply the needs of the community and when they realize the blanket is shrinking, they return the favor. Themes: generosity, faith in action, living in community.