Wood Lake has been telling stories for 40 years.

During that time, it has given form and substance to the words, songs, pictures and ideas of hundreds of storytellers.

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Wood Lake uses the ancient and enduring art form of storytelling to connect, educate, and inspire readers of every age and culture.
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*A Practical Guide*

*Jed Griswold*

A resource for pastors, religious educators, teachers, and parents.

Think about how Jesus taught. And rabbis. How have Buddhist monks taught children and adults for centuries? How have Hindu swamis taught? And Islamic leaders? And Indigenous elders in lands around the globe?

It is difficult to overstate the importance of storytelling when it comes to our desire to pass along our values, our spirituality, our faith to the next generation. Or to teach and inspire our own generation.

In this small book you will find perhaps the most concise and well-articulated guide to storytelling anywhere. Jed Griswold’s 12 tips for storytelling and his 20 original stories are more than enough to clarify and inspire readers to engage in the art of storytelling. It also includes a sample lesson plan, which is available as a free download.

ISBN 978-1-77343-519-0 | 112 pages | 4.75” x 7” | $14.95

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**Saving the Future**

*Lessons in Resistance from Child Activists*

*Donna Sinclair*

This book contains ideas and tools children can use as they work to save what they care about most, and lots of expert tips and advice from other children who are showing the way.

Saving the Future contains ten lessons on how to save the future – get as much political power as you can, defend your rights, choose solidarity, defend the sacred, care for the vulnerable, speak only truthful words, equip yourself to lead, and more – as told by children and youth who are busy trying to do that. It tells the stories of these young activists without attempting to place the weight of saving the world on the shoulders of children. For example, Nahira Gersten-Sim is working to help make it so that 16-year-olds will be able to vote. Hannah Bywater is fighting for vulnerable animals. Autumn Pelletier is defending the right of her people and of all people to clean water.

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These guides are perfect for individual and group use. Take time by yourself or join with others in a formal or informal study and you will find yourself immersed in wondrous story, freed from any sense that “this is what you must believe” and able to form or develop your own interpretation of texts that are still relevant and vital for today’s living.

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26 Words about Faith, Ethics, and Spirituality
Sara Jewell
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It is unwaveringly contemporary, progressive, and thought-provoking. The pieces are written for those who say they are spiritual but not religious, for people who are or may be familiar with church but perhaps don’t attend anymore, for those who know Jesus and his teachings and are familiar with the Bible, even if they haven’t opened it in awhile.
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My Year of Buying Nothing
Lee Simpson
Lee Simpson may seem like an unlikely candidate to don the mantle of anti-consumerist prophet. She is, after all, the former publisher of Canada’s most successful women’s lifestyles magazine, Chatelaine. But that is just the first of many surprising things about her new book My Year of Buying Nothing.

Simpson invites readers into her world to witness first hand the struggles she faced, the decisions and compromises she had to make, and the epiphanies and wisdom she won during her year-long attempt to shed her “consumer” skin and live a more sustainable, more authentic, more earth-friendly life.
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Language of the Heart
Rituals, Stories and Information About Death
Carolyn Pogue
Funeral or memorial ceremonies are important in meeting the social and emotional needs of survivors. They can be important rituals to help us acknowledge a death and can often help people express pain.

In Language of the Heart, author Carolyn Pogue offers stories and resources for creating meaningful and healing ceremonies. The book answers the questions many of us have about financial and legal matters, living wills and ethical wills, organ donation, and what to expect at a funeral home.
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Seven Weeks of Daily Practices
Terry Chapman
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**Time**

*From Famine to Feast*

Donna Schaper

Donna Schaper offers encouragement and advice on how to leave the land of famine and find a seat at the feast. Discussing and then moving beyond the systemic sources of the time famine, Schaper’s ultimate goal is to explore “the inner way, the way we have internalized the commandments of multiple systems and feel bad or wrong or in violation or out of compliance if we don’t obey our orders to be busy, active, connected, overworked, and time famished.” Schaper provides a spiritual practice for each week of the year, designed to bring us to our place of feast.

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*A Spiritual Odyssey through 40 Days and 40 Nights of Mountain Solitude*

Paul Hawker

Finding himself at midlife, feeling hollow and like a fraud, Paul Hawker embarks on a journey into the wilderness. In the tradition of the vision quest, like a hero in a mythic tale, he leaves his family and community to spend 40 days and 40 nights on a New Zealand mountaintop knowing full well the solitude, deprivation, and dangers he will face from exposure to the elements. But like many mystics and sages before him, he chooses a path of physical and spiritual testing as a way to break through the veneer of his life.

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*An Elderwoman’s Book of Wisdom*

Donna Sinclair

*The Long View* is all about finding and offering hope. It’s about claiming the full meaning of eldership and knowing that elderwomen have much to offer. This collection of 365 daily reflections offers elderwomen (and younger women who wish to listen in) an opportunity to nourish the wisdom and deep knowing that comes from life experience. It also holds out the potential for growth, the opportunity to awaken to different perspectives that can lead to rich possibilities and courageous actions.


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*Rediscovering God in Common Things*

James Taylor

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Laura Alary
Illustrated by Ariane Elsammak

What Jesse wants most is a guitar. But it seems beyond his reach. His mom can’t afford to buy him one, but she gives him an ocarina instead. Jesse is grateful and disappointed at the same time, so he goes out for a walk. Along the way he meets others who need his help. He gives what he can and learns that we can’t always predict the results of our actions.

Author Laura Alary’s charming story is full of unexpected twists and is based on a well-loved tale from India about giving (and receiving). Ariane Elsammak’s whimsical illustrations draw us into the story, as we journey with Jesse and find ourselves surprised at how open-hearted giving is a gift in itself.

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Laura Alary
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Victor loves his pink (accident-in-the-washing-machine) pyjamas. But not everyone does. His father and sister think pink is just for girls. But Victor knows that lots of wonderful things are pink – like strawberry ice cream, bubble gum, and walruses basking in the sun – and they’re not just for girls. What will happen when Victor outgrows his pink pyjamas and needs a new pair? This engaging and humorous book explores what it is like to make choices that are different from the cultural norm.

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David Giuliano
Illustrated by Meghan Irvine

When Jeremiah starts kindergarten, he is good at learning lots of things. But no matter how hard he tries, he can’t seem to make the letter “e.” And his name has two “e’s” in it! Author David Giuliano and illustrator Meghan Irvine team up to create an engaging and humorous look at facing the ongoing challenges of life. There is always something new to learn, including how to listen to the small voice inside that encourages us to keep trying – with surprising results.

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Laura Alary
Illustrated by Margaret Kyle

In words and images sure to delight children and adults alike, Is That Story True? explores the kinds of “truth” that live within the stories we tell. As Maggie listens to a story about a little girl who grew up on the prairies, about a ruler who cut a knot in two, about a shepherd who went looking for a lost sheep, about a king who made a foolish wish, and finally, about a giant who lived in a beautiful garden, she discovers that some stories are true because they actually happened.

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Donna Sinclair
Illustrated by William Kimber
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Illustrated by Marlene McBrien
There’s an alligator in her pillow and she needs mom and dad to make it go away. Over a few nights, Naomi’s parents groggily try different approaches to rid Naomi’s pillow of the alligator, but in the end it is Naomi who comes up with a way to face her scary nocturnal visitor. Naomi’s parents gently and sleepily allow her to explore her fear of the alligator in a supportive way. What can be seen as a troubling and upsetting event (for both parents and child) is sensitively and realistically dealt with by a deft and light hand.
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Laura Alary
Illustrated by William Kimber
Miriam’s Grandpa gets ill one day and everyone in the family is worried. Miriam asks God to make Grandpa better, but he stays sick. During this time, Miriam finds that there are many ways to see and speak to God, and that prayer may not be answered in the way we would like it. She learns that prayer can be like many things — bubbles in the wind, or water being soaked up by plant roots, and that prayer can always comfort, whether we are aware of it or not. This book is a gentle exploration of how children might pray, and how adults can help them understand some of the mystery of prayer.
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Nancy C. Reeves & Linnea Good
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<th>25-49</th>
<th>50-99</th>
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