

# Local youth turns cover girl of new book series

► *In a series about faith and growing up, author Nancy Rue models heroine Sophie LaCroix after 10-year-old Marcy Lampe.*

**By Ann Byle**  
The Grand Rapids Press

Marcy Lampe is friends with her favorite author. Marcy and Nancy Rue laugh together, talk about growing up, and sign autographs together. That's because Lampe is the cover model for Rue's new series of books for 'tween girls: Faithgirlz! published by Zonderkidz.

"Sophie's World" and "Sophie's Secret," the first two books in the



in at a new school and with God.

"Sophie has a journey ahead of her, and she faces some struggles. She loses her God center and has to get back to that," says Rue, Sophie's creator. Rue is also author of the Lily series, published by Zonderkidz, the Raise the Flag series with WaterBrook, and the Christian Heritage Series published by Focus on the Family. All told, she has had nearly 80 books in print.

Her heart, however, is with 'tweens — girls 8 to 12-years-old. "It's an incredibly important time because they are still little girls in many ways, but right on the edge of having more responsibility and just beginning to grasp abstract concepts," said Rue, who lives in Lebanon, Tenn. "They can really begin to understand having and not having God in their lives. They are very involved with friends but still very attached to their families."

Rue was a high school teacher for 16