

FAITH & FAMILY

Doing away with worry



BY PASTOR BRUCE MCCARTY, SENIOR PASTOR
Owasso First Assembly of God

Pastor's Corner

This week is the beginning of a new school year. Every student begins with a clean slate – and so it is with all of us in life. We can't change the past, but we can determine to have a fresh beginning. God has designed each day to be the opportunity for a fresh start.

We all have options regarding how we will respond to life's op-

portunities and challenges. There are productive and destructive choices. Worry is one of the frequent destructive responses to the future. I wish that life was so simple that merely choosing the right attitude or saying the magical phrase would solve all of life's dilemmas. You cannot wish your problems away, but the right outlook can set you on the path to a bet-

ter outcome, and often a worrisome approach will drain you of energy and joy.

Leo Buscaglia states, "Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy." The Bible gives a clear word of direction from the Apostle Paul when he tells the people in the city of Phillipi: *"6 Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. 7 Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus. 8 And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."* -Philippians 4:6-8

The way to overcome worry is by replacing it with faith and gratitude. As far back as I can remember, there have always been voices proclaiming the end is near, both on a personal and global level. I am not suggesting that ignoring problems will make them go away, but neither will worry. The best thing to do is develop a plan for improvement.

Here's a good thought about worry: "If you ask what is the single most important key to longevity, I would have to say it is avoiding worry, stress and tension. And if you didn't ask me, I'd still have to say it." -George F. Burns

Upcoming Tulsa City-County Library events

BY JENNIFER MCQUADE
Owasso Library Manager

Chapters: A casual evening of books, bards and bites

This Annual Chapters event benefits the Tulsa City-County Library's Ruth G. Hardman Adult Literacy Service. This year, the featured authors are Roseanne Bittner, Alton Carter and Alison Gaylin. Enjoy delectable appetizers from some of your favorite Tulsa restaurants too.

Thursday, Sept. 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hardesty Regional Library

Call 918-549-7494 to purchase tickets. Tickets are \$50 per person.

One Book, One Tulsa 2016: Read the book, meet the author and see the movie

The Soloist by Steve Lopez

One Book, One Tulsa is a community-wide reading initiative for adults that encourages everyone to read a selected book and provides programs that give them an opportunity to reflect more deeply about that book and to discuss it with others. This fall, the library partners with Mental Health Association Oklahoma and the 2016 National Zarrow Mental Health Symposium to encourage discussion of the book *The Soloist* by Steve Lopez.

The *Soloist* is a novel with themes of mental illness and homelessness. Our goal is to illuminate these important issues, to educate people about problems and possible solutions, and to generate discussion, create empathy, and motivate change.

One Book, One Tulsa 2016 special events (you can visit the new Central Library before the grand opening):

Author Presentation with Steve Lopez

The presentation will be followed by a Q&A session and a book signing, with books available for purchase.

Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 7-8.30 p.m.



OWASSO LIBRARY CORNER

Central Library, 1st floor, 5th Street and Denver Ave.

Outdoor Film Showing of *The Soloist*

Thursday, Sept. 29 at 7-9 p.m.
Central Library, Tandy Garden, 5th Street and Denver Ave.

Spectacular Central Library grand opening

We are beyond excited to tell you about the grand opening of our newly remodeled Central Library. The renewed Central Library is a 21st-century library where children discover the world, people access technology of all kinds, and find resources for work and education.

The grand opening will be held on Saturday, Oct. 1st at 10 a.m. and will feature children's activities and an interactive learning and activity center, maker space demonstrations, musical performances, food trucks, digital literacy lab demonstrations, a brand new collection of books and materials, and much more.

