

Messenger

Inauguration of Dr. Gregory J. Miller **Oct. 14-15**

All members of the Malone University community are invited to participate in activities related to the Inauguration of **Dr. Gregory J. Miller** as Malone's 14th president scheduled for Oct. 14 & 15. Miller, was named president in February after a national search and is succeeding **Dr. David King**, who is retiring after 10 ½ years. Malone's new leader has served the university for 22 years in the roles of professor of history, department chair for History, Philosophy, and Social sciences, director of general education, associate provost, and provost.

While details are still being finalized as the Malone Messenger went to press, mark your calendars and plan to return to Malone to celebrate with Greg and Darla at the following events:

Thursday, Oct. 13

- A breakfast for pastors and their spouses at 9 a.m. in the Johnson Center Dining Room.

Friday, Oct. 14

- Installation ceremony at 2 p.m. in the Johnson Center Worship Center.
- Inaugural reception scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Johnson Center Lobby.
- Inaugural Gala at 8 p.m. at a site to be determined. More information to come.

Saturday, Oct. 15

- Athletic Hall of Fame breakfast at 9 a.m. in the Johnson Center. More information to come.
- Homecoming activities including food trucks, inflatables, affinity group gatherings starting at 11 a.m.
- Women's soccer vs. Trevecca Nazarene at 1 p.m. at the competition field of Pioneer Park.
- Men's soccer vs. Trevecca Nazarene at 3 p.m. at the competition field of Pioneer Park.
- Inaugural concert at 8 p.m. in the Johnson Center Worship Center.

Professor of History Jacci Stuckey and Trustee Deb Robinson are serving as co-chairs of the Inauguration planning committee which has been formed and begun its work.

"Greg and Darla very much want the presidential installation and related events to shine a light on all of that makes Malone special," said Rod Neuenschwander, chair of the Malone Board of Trustees."

*Dr. Gregory J. Miller,
Malone's 14th president*



Mark your calendars and plan to return to Malone to celebrate the Inauguration of **Dr. Gregory J. Miller as Malone's 14th president!**



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A MESSAGE FROM



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO THE MALONE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

T

his is a time of transition and opportunity here at Malone. With our May meeting of the Board of Trustees, I am ending my second and final year as chairman of the Board of Trustees. The experience has given me an even greater appreciation for my alma mater and the good work being done here. I am delighted to pass the gavel to Shari Hansen as the next leader of our board. Shari, a 1999 graduate of Malone and serves as the Information Technology Manager at Progressive Insurance. She has worked closely with me as vice chair for the past year and is ready to take on this leadership role. Her passion for Malone is obvious and she has already proven to be an extraordinary ambassador for the university.



Transition is also taking place at the presidential level as Dr. David King ends his 10 ½ year presidency with his retirement on June 30. Dr. Greg Miller, who currently serves as provost, was appointed Malone's 14th president in February and formally takes the reigns in July. This transition has gone very smoothly because of the partnership between David and Greg. A smooth transition was one of our goals as a board and the institution is the beneficiary when this type of transfer of power is achieved.

We are conducting our business of educating students in one of the most challenging times in the university's history. All sectors of higher education are feeling these pressures. In recent years we have made the decisions necessary to position Malone for long-term sustainability and success. David King enters the next phase of his life having made Malone a stronger institution. Greg Miller is hitting the ground running armed with 20 years of Malone experience and an unwavering belief in the value of the Malone student experience. We are in good hands with Greg's appointment.

Thank you for your interest in Malone. Stay tuned, our future is bright.

Warmly,

Rod Neuenschwander '99s,
Chair, Board of Trustees

New at Malone

As we recognize the ways the COVID-19 pandemic has changed how professionals desire to work and learn, Malone continues to respond by developing new programs which meet market demand in delivery formats that cater to the busy lifestyles of today's workforce.

ACCELERATED PROGRAM IN PSYCHOLOGY AND COUNSELING



Malone University undergraduates now have an opportunity to earn both a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling in an accelerated time frame, providing a pathway to obtain eligibility for licensure as a clinical mental health counselor or professional school counselor.

"Undergraduate work in psychology is excellent preparation for those wishing to pursue graduate work in counseling,"

said Kara Kaelber, chair of the Department of Psychology and Counseling and professor of counseling and human development. "This program establishes an accelerated pathway for graduates to meet the expanding workforce needs in counseling."

Students will earn 12 graduate credit hours while completing their bachelor's degree, and those credits will be counted towards the master's degree. The accelerated time frame will be possible through courses offered in hybrid and fully online delivery formats.

"This program aligns well with our mission and educational goals," said Kaelber. "We are preparing students to serve others in a manner which reflects our values as a Christian institution. Our graduates will be prepared for meaningful work in a growing, in-demand field."

Learn more at www.malone.edu/psychologytocounseling

ONLINE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING (MSN) DEGREE



Building on the strengths of Malone's respected MSN degree, the new fully online offering is shaped to meet the needs of practicing registered nurses.

"It is increasingly difficult for students in our MSN program to balance the demands of their nursing careers, life at home, and the challenges presented by the pandemic," said Debra Lee, chair of the Malone nursing department and the Institution's chief nursing administrator. "The online modality

will provide a broader degree of flexibility and accessibility for students who want to grow and advance in their career by earning the MSN."

While completing the degree online, students will still have an opportunity for hands-on learning experiences with Malone faculty through three intensive, advanced skills lab sessions.

"There is no change in curriculum," said Sheri Hartman, director of the MSN program. "Only the mode of delivery is changing. The same high standards that our current program is known for will remain and our students will still have the opportunity to utilize Malone library resources, campus facilities, and meet with faculty and peers in person if they desire."

www.malone.edu/onlinemsn



GRADUATE CERTIFICATES IN TRAUMA COUNSELING AND ADDICTIONS COUNSELING

Malone's new graduate counseling certificate programs are designed to equip those who desire to serve clients with trauma and addictions with increased competency and proficiency. The Graduate Certificate in Trauma Counseling and Graduate Certificate in Addictions Counseling are both offered fully online and can be completed with two semesters (Trauma Counseling) or one calendar year (Addictions Counseling) of study.

The certificates were created to address a critical need for counseling practitioners in Stark County, and Ohio, as substance use, behavioral disorders, and trauma are projected to continue outpacing the current counseling workforce.

"In Stark County alone, we have seen a 75% increase in overdose deaths since 2018, and we continue to see the effects of childhood trauma rendering in adults through chronic health issues, mental health conditions, and substance use disorders," said Kara Kaelber, chair of the Department of Psychology and Counseling and professor of counseling and human development. "Our programs will provide foundational and advanced education and training in trauma-informed counseling through our distinctively Christian curriculum."

Students who complete the Addictions Counseling Certificate will be eligible for certification and licensure under the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board, which also helps to address a local need for counseling providers who can address the rising rates of clients with addiction.

Learn more at www.malone.edu/counselingcertificates



Q & A

with

Greg and Darla Miller

MU: How did you meet and how did your marriage come to be?

GM: I grew up on a farm ranch in western South Dakota, felt an early call to ministry, and went to Bible college in Missouri. Early in my second year, I saw this exotic girl who had just come back from studying abroad in Italy. She wore Italian perfume, dressed in Italian clothes, and I was smitten with her. I knew that she would be great because I wanted to be with a woman of deep faith who was well-balanced. And if I recall correctly, the first time I saw her was in the college arcade room and I thought to myself "she can have fun, too, and take her faith seriously."

DM: He was cute, and he was smart, and those were things that were important to me. My mother always told me to pay attention to how a guy treats older people, children, and animals, and how they talk about their mother and sisters. Greg passed that test! I knew I could trust him.

GM: We were very young when we got married; we met, fell in love, and were married within twelve months. We wouldn't recommend that for most people, but it has worked out great for us. We'll celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary this August. In fact, I brought Darla home to meet my family that very first Christmas and when I asked my mom years later, "Why did you let us get married so young?" she replied, "because we knew it was right from the very first time we met Darla."

MU: What brought you to Ohio?

GM: Our path to Ohio was like divine foreshadowing. We drove through Ohio for years and thought, "How great would it be to live here?" The very first person I met from Malone was Jack Hazen; I was coaching cross country while working on my Ph.D. and we intersected at the Christian Nationals Cross Country meet in Springfield, Ohio. The Malone team drove up in the Pioneer Trails mega buses and the girls wore embroidered Malone University gloves and I thought, "Wow, what a place that must be." So I was already familiar with Malone when I received a phone call in 2000 asking if I would want to come and serve as a professor of history.

MU: What are some of your interests as a couple?

DM: We've traveled a lot apart, but we always prefer it if we're together. We both like good food and enjoy cooking together when we have time. I like decorating, making our surroundings beautiful, so I enjoy HGTV. And since the pandemic has kept us from traveling, watching "House Hunters International" has been the best of both worlds. We also enjoy playing games together and we're both just a little competitive. We also enjoy a quiet evening together at home with books and the fireplace.

MU: Dr. Miller, you are an accomplished runner. You won a state championship in the 1600 meter. Later, you began to compete in ultra-marathons. How did that begin?

DM: Greg has been a runner since he was a kid, and at the end of his time at Valley Forge he decided he would try to run a marathon. His longest training to that point was 16 miles; he decided that he'd like to try the Philadelphia Marathon and see if he could qualify for Boston. And if you know Greg – of course he did. Through these races he learned that he was pretty good with longer distances, so he pursued more serious training and even attempted to make the Olympic trials (he missed that by a few minutes). The last time he ran Boston, he placed 119th out of 14,000-some runners, but hurt himself soon after and couldn't do the fast runs anymore. Instead, he began exploring ultra-marathons. There was a 50 mile run in Mohican that he wanted to try and it ended up being a good fit for his age, endurance, and speed. He started training and competing regularly, not only 100-mile races, but he was also National Champion in his age group as recently as seven years ago. I'm so proud of him!

GM: Over the course of a 100-mile race, every five miles or so there are pit stops for refreshment, like NASCAR. And you need people around you to encourage you to keep going because there are times when you feel like you can't go any further. These people patch you up and send you on your way; Darla is my Crew Chief at those pit stops.

DM: One of the true signs of my love for him is changing his socks and shoes during those races.

MU: Darla, you've had a distinguished career as an educator. What has motivated you to serve as a classroom teacher?

DM: I love my students. I love watching them figure things out and grow, and because I teach two languages, it's a really meaningful thing for me to teach a student to develop a skill that connects them with other people. It's great to see them making connections across the world or doing things they didn't think they could do.

MU: You are retiring this summer to devote your attention to serving Malone in this new role. How do you view your role?

DM: First and foremost, my role is to support Greg so that he has the freedom to do what needs to do in his role. If he's called to do that job, then I'm called to do this one. I want to be a role model and I think that young women need to be able to see how to be a partner in a relationship and balance "wife" with their other roles – and how to pick the right guy to help them be who they're called to be, too.

MU: Why is it hard to make the decision to retire at this time?

DM: I am working in a job that, if I had created a dream job for myself, I would have created. I'll miss my school and wonderful colleagues, but at the same time, I'm excited about our future at Malone. I feel really honored and grateful to participate in this work with Greg. Every place that Greg has gone for his job, I have gone too, and God always provides meaningful tasks for me to do that I never would have dreamed of. I don't expect this to be any different, so I'm open and excited for whatever God has for me in this new season for us.

MU: Dr. Miller, what role will Darla play in your presidency?

GM: The Office of the President is a challenging one, and I would not have even considered taking on this responsibility without the undying support and encouragement of my wife. She's charming, she's interesting, she's funny; as we meet with people in the community, there will be individuals who will connect with her even more than they connect with me and it will amplify our ability as a presidential couple to represent the University. Not only that, but she's a seasoned educator and her language skills, especially Spanish, fit very well with our strategic plans to reach out to the Latino community here in Northeastern Ohio.

MU: You will soon be welcoming people into your home as the leaders of Malone. What would you like people to know about those opportunities to spend time with you?

GM: Hospitality is a Christian virtue. It's important to both of us and it's central to who we are at Malone. When people come into our home, or anytime that we're greeting them, we want them to be at ease because they'll be accepted, welcomed, heard, and appreciated for who they are.

DM: I want people to come into our home and feel joy and peace, and if they come into the house with burdens that make joy or peace difficult in the moment, we want them to know that their tears are welcome, too. The sign of a friend is one who sticks by you when life is good or hard. I want someone to walk in and feel God's peace in our home.

MU: Being named Malone's 14th president is one of a string of great accomplishments in your lifetime. What are your reflections on these honors?

GM: These accomplishments are due to the work of the Holy Spirit in my life. The single most important thing to me is to be a faithful Christ-follower. Every day I pray that what I do and say would be glorifying to the Lord. We were with some young couples playing a parlor game some years ago, and this was the game: if you have six words to put on your tombstone as an epitaph, what do you hope they would be? Others needed a moment to think, but I knew mine immediately: "Well done, good and faithful servant." More than anything else, I'm willing to do whatever it takes to hear those words from my Heavenly Father.

Homecoming & Family Weekend



October 14-15, 2022

Homecoming at Malone brings our community, especially alumni, into fellowship together with activities that include our annual Alumni Awards banquet, Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony, affinity group reunions, class reunions, and much more. This year, we'll celebrate class years ending in 2 and 7. If you would like to help by reaching out to your classmates, contact Megan at mmauck@malone.edu.

Events to look forward to include:

- Alumni Awards
- Golden Pioneers Luncheon, welcoming the Class of 1972. All Golden Pioneers are invited.
- Athletic Hall of Fame induction ceremony
- Women's and Men's soccer games at Pioneer Park
- Ball for alumni, current students, and employees
- Concert in the JC Worship Center
- Fun themed dinner
- Create your own tie-dyed Malone shirt





More details to come:
www.malone.edu/homecoming

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FOUR WAYS TO *help* Dr. Greg Miller, Malone's 14th president



INVITE DR. MILLER TO YOUR CHURCH

Work with the leadership of your church to invite Dr. Miller to speak to your congregation of your youth group.

malone.edu/gregmiller



PARTICIPATE IN INAUGURAL FESTIVITIES OCT. 14-15

Share in the excitement as Dr. Greg Miller is installed as Malone's 14th president.

malone.edu/inauguration



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