

Gregg Chenoweth Begins Work as President of Olivet Nazarene University

New president succeeds John C. Bowling, who served 30 years as ONU president

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President Gregg Chenoweth

Dr. Gregg Chenoweth began his new role as the 13th president of [Olivet Nazarene University](#) June 1. Chenoweth, who most recently was president of Bethel University, Mishawaka, Indiana, was elected by the Olivet Nazarene University Board of Trustees earlier this year. He succeeded Dr. John C. Bowling, who served 30 years as Olivet Nazarene president. He announced in August 2019 his plans to retire.

Chenoweth graduated from Olivet in 1990 with a bachelor's degree in communication. He earned a master's degree in organizational communication from Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, in 1992, and a doctorate in organizational communication from Wayne State University, Detroit, in 2003.

Chenoweth was president of Bethel University since 2013. He previously served as the vice president for academic affairs at Olivet. During his tenure as Bethel's president, he dramatically improved the university's financial landscape by increasing net assets by 30 percent and reducing long-term debt by 40 percent. Chenoweth also dramatically improved institutional culture, implemented successful debt-free programs for students and completed an extensive strategic planning process.

"I am honored by the confidence of the board," Chenoweth said after the election, "and eager to add my ambitions to a faculty and staff already doing something special. If I could help reproduce for students even a fraction of what Olivet did for me, there will be a lot to celebrate."

[Read more about Dr. Chenoweth and his new role at Olivet Nazarene University.](#)