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Thomas Jefferson Kerr, IV - Eighteenth President

Otterbein University

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THOMAS J. KERR, IV

THOMAS JEFFERSON KERR, IV

After reviewing the credentials of more than one hundred applicants, the Board of Trustees selected Dr. Thomas Jefferson Kerr, IV as the eighteenth president of Otterbein College. He assumed office on July 1, 1971.

Although he is young in years, Doctor Kerr has a wide range of experience as a scholar, teacher and college administrator. Having received a B.S. degree from Cornell University in 1956 and an M.A. from the University of Buffalo in 1959, he joined the department of history and government at Otterbein College in 1963. Syracuse University awarded him the Ph.D. degree in social studies in 1965.

At Otterbein College his classroom standards, teaching ability, stimulation of intellectual curiosity and judgment won him high respect. In addition to serving on the Personnel Committee and Administrative Council, he was an effective member of committees developing the 3/3 plan and changes in the governance structure. Doctor Kerr has written book reviews for scholarly journals and has published articles in *Mid-America*, *The Social Studies*, *Labor History* and *Education Digest*.

His characteristics of leadership are known and appreciated by many people. When Dean James V. Miller was asked to devote his time to a long-range plan for the college, Doctor Kerr served with distinction for seven months as academic dean.

A genial personality, sense of humor and conviviality have contributed to his popularity. Interested in the total life of the college community he has enjoyed a variety of social and cocurricular activities, including sponsorship of Phi Eta Sigma, freshman honorary. He and his wife were co-chairman of the Campus Club for one year and frequently entertained student and faculty groups.

Doctor Kerr has participated in several local political campaigns and served on the Franklin County Selective Service Board. He and his family are active members of the Church of the Messiah, United Methodist.

He, his wife, Donna, an elementary teacher active in civic groups, and their three children (Tommy, 10; Cheryl, 9; Kathleen, 5), reside at Clements House, 111 North West Street.

The qualities of leadership that Doctor Kerr has demonstrated cause us to look forward to confidence to progress during his administration as president of Otterbein College.

Installation of Thomas J. Kerr, IV
as Eighteenth President of the College
3:30 P.M., Thursday, October 28, 1971

Harold L. Boda, M.A., D.Ed., Chairman of the Board of Trustees
Presiding

PRELUDE

Sonata No. 6

Andante

Toccata

Felix Mendelssohn

Richard Purvis

Deborah A. Balyeat, Class of 1972, Organist

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

Marche Pontificale

Fernand de la Tombelle

INVOCATION

James P. Fogg, Class of 1972, President, Campus Christian Association

MUSIC

The Last Words of David

Randall Thompson

Otterbein College Concert Choir

William A. Wyman, D.M.A., Assistant Professor of Music, Director

ADDRESS

We Pledge Anew

Emerson Shuck, Ph.D., Litt.D., President

Eastern Washington State College, Cheney, Washington

PRESIDENTIAL HERITAGE

Chairman Boda

MUSIC

Psalm 150

Jan Bender

Otterbein College Concert Choir and Brass Quintet

INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT KERR

Chairman Boda

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Venture Into Opportunity

Thomas J. Kerr, IV, Ph.D., President of the College

BENEDICTION

Robert G. Clarke, B.D., Director of Religious Activities

POSTLUDE

Concerto No. 1

Presto

J. S. Bach

Miss Balyeat

A TRIBUTE TO LIVING FORMER PRESIDENTS

PRESIDENT J. RUSKIN HOWE, 1939-45, formulated bold plans for the improvement of the college, but of necessity postponed them because of World War II. During his administration the curriculum was reorganized along divisional lines, elementary education added, the college approved for membership in the National Association of Schools of Music, and plans laid for the Centennial Campaign.

PRESIDENT J. GORDON HOWARD, 1945-57, faced difficult problems of adjusting the curriculum, faculty and physical plant to changing numbers in the student body. Endowment and the value of the physical plant more than doubled. Academically, the college revised the curriculum, participated in the North Central Association Workshops, established cooperative programs with other institutions, and initiated its first interdisciplinary course.

PRESIDENT FLOYD J. VANCE, 1957-58, had served Otterbein College in a variety of capacities before being named acting chief executive. With anticipated efficiency and skill, he guided the affairs of the college well for ten months. The trustees later recognized his contribution by designating him the sixteenth president.

Under the guidance of PRESIDENT LYNN W. TURNER, 1958-71, the college budget was increased from less than \$1,000,000 to more than \$5,000,000, the largest building program in Otterbein's history was completed, and the size of the student body was increased to 1400. He encouraged the establishment of off-campus programs and the improvement of cultural events on the campus. Significant innovation were curriculum rearrangement under the 3/3 plan and participation of administrators, alumni, faculty, students and trustees in a unified governance plan.

THE PRESIDENTS OF OTTERBEIN COLLEGE

William R. Griffith, B.A. (Principal)	1847 - 1849
The Reverend William Davis	1849 - 1850
The Reverend Lewis Davis, D.D.	1850 - 1857 1860 - 1871
The Reverend Alexander Owen	1858 - 1860
The Reverend Daniel Eberly, M.A.	1871 - 1872
The Reverend Henry Adams Thompson, M.A.	1872 - 1886
The Reverend Henry Garst, D.D.	1886 - 1889
C. A. Bowersox, M.A , Ph.D.	1889 - 1891
The Reverend Thomas J. Sanders, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.	1891 - 1901
George Scott, Litt.D., Ph.D.	1901 - 1904
The Reverend Lewis Bookwalter, M.A.	1904 - 1909
The Reverend Walter Gillan Clippinger, B.A., B.D., LL.D.	1909 - 1939
The Reverend J. Ruskin Howe, B.A., B.D., Ph.D., D.D.	1939 - 1945
Royal F. Martin, B.P.E., B.A., M.Ed., LL.D.	1945
The Reverend John Gordon Howard, B.A., B.D., M.A., D.D.	1945 - 1957
Floyd Johnson Vance, B.A., M.A., LL.D.	1957 - 1958
Lynn W. Turner, B.A., M.A., Ph.D., LL.D., Litt.D.	1958 - 1971
Thomas J. Kerr, IV, B.S., M.A., Ph.D.	1971 -

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE YEARS

The installation of Dr. Thomas Jefferson Kerr, IV marks the opening of celebration of Otterbein College's One Hundred Twenty-Fifth year. In keeping with the wishes of Dr. Kerr and in the spirit of the austerity necessitated by today's economy this event, and others during the year, will be celebrated with a modicum of expense.

As we honor a new president, we also recognize the outstanding guidance of our past presidents. These men are in great part responsible for Otterbein's present position of prominence among American educational institutions.

As the eighteenth president of Otterbein is officially installed the presidential role of guidance, understanding, and interpretation continues to be vital to the development of the college. Since Thomas J. Kerr, IV took office on July 1, his capacity for leadership in preparing the college for the competitive and intensive challenges of the seventies has already been recognized. With keen awareness of the educational needs of students and the problems of society he is taking a new look at the responsibilities of the college, and developing flexible and responsive programs. He also faces boldly and constructively the necessity of finding new means of financial support.

To meet needs, a major anniversary campaign is being planned for 1972. A survey held during the past summer indicated solid approval of an anniversary development program and faith in the leadership of the college for the future. As in the past, Otterbein College looks forward with confidence for support from its constituencies, to continue to be of service for another century and a quarter.



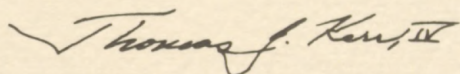
TODAY'S CHALLENGE — OTTERBEIN'S OPPORTUNITY

I welcome this opportunity to share with you my pride in the Otterbein heritage, my conception of current challenges and my hopes for our future. Historically Otterbein has fulfilled her mission with distinction. She has provided a quality liberal education within a Christian context while pioneering in the recognition of individual worth and ability regardless of sex, race, or age. Her history is replete with examples of professional achievement, acts of Christian witness, pervasive sense of community, and innovation. I honor those past presidents and their colleagues who have contributed so much and those graduates who have built so well on what they received. I am humbled by the magnitude of their achievement.

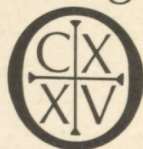
The time has passed for equating indiscriminate quantitative increment with progress. Our challenge is the attainment of a more productive life with limited resources. We must accomplish this in a society where change—sometimes rampant—has inadvertently corrupted our noblest intentions and confused our priorities. Fragmentation and the destruction of individual and collective discipline have isolated us from our values, each other and our institutions. If we are to restore our effectiveness we must find new ways of applying our untapped human resources. We must abandon unproductive patterns while refocusing on the essence of our tradition. Today's crisis is our opportunity.

If we are to achieve cherished goals in every area—academic, cocurricular and administrative—we must continue to innovate. We can anticipate academic and spiritual growth only in an atmosphere where the essentials of flexibility and freedom are accompanied by responsibility and discipline. The patterns we construct must reflect the value base of choices, the interdisciplinary nature of problems, the interaction of people and the holism of life.

I am privileged to lead Otterbein in this time of opportunity. We have an able and dedicated faculty and administrative team. We have a multitude of alumni, students and friends deeply committed to the spirit of our heritage and as deeply involved in applying that spirit to the present. My personal challenge is to direct this creative human capacity. As we venture into opportunity, the charting of our course is difficult. I pray for God's guidance. I offer my perception and commitment and ask for yours.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Thomas J. Kemp, IV". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a stylized "K".

Otterbein
College



125 Years
1847-1972