

Don Currence nominee for SBC registration secretary

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NASHVILLE (BP)—Don Currence, administrative pastor at First Baptist Church in Ozark, Mo., will be nominated for a one-year term as Southern Baptist Convention registration secretary.

Amy Whitfield, executive director of communications at The Summit Church in Durham, N.C., announced she will nominate Currence during the SBC's June 14-15 annual meeting in Anaheim, Calif.

"I have watched him fulfill this role over the last several years and have tremendous respect for his humility and tireless work ethic," Whitfield said.

"Don's intense preparation and commitment to integrity ensures a smooth process that Southern Baptists can trust. He always puts the messengers first and leads his team of volunteers to do the same. He serves cheerfully and makes everyone he encounters feel at ease."

Currence served as registration secretary in 2018 and 2019 and will serve again in Anaheim. He was acting registration secretary in 2021, after Kathy Litton, who had been elected to the position at the 2019 meeting, stepped down when it was announced that her husband Ed would be nominated for SBC president.

Before he took on the role himself, Currence assisted longtime registration secretary Jim Wells for 12 years. He has served at First Baptist Church in Ozark 29 years.

In 2021, First Baptist Church in Ozark gave 7 percent of its undesignated receipts through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists' unified

program of funding ministries.

First Baptist in Ozark recorded eight baptisms last year, with an average worship attendance of 511.

“Don is one of the most selfless people I have ever met,” Whitfield said. “He does his work with joy and is an example to all who participate in the annual meeting.”

Currence has served as a trustee for New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, as well as in numerous state and local Baptist association leadership roles in both Missouri and Louisiana.

He received a bachelor’s degree from Southwest Baptist University in Bolivar, Mo., and a master’s from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1981.

He and his wife Cheta have two daughters, Hannah and Leah.