

Greear to be nominated for SBC president

March 2, 2016

ST. LOUIS (BP)—North Carolina pastor J.D. Greear will be nominated for president of the Southern Baptist Convention during the SBC annual meeting June 14-15 in St. Louis, Florida pastor Jimmy Scroggins announced March 2.

J.D. Greear Greear, 42, “is leading his generation to live out a passion for the SBC, missions and the local church,” said Scroggins, pastor of Family Church in West Palm Beach, Fla.

During the 14 years Greear has led The Summit Church in Raleigh-Durham, N.C., worship attendance has grown from 350 to just under 10,000, Scroggins said. Total baptisms increased from 19 in 2002 to 928 in 2014, the last year for which statistics are available through the SBC’s Annual Church Profile.

The 149 International Mission Board missionaries currently on the field from The Summit mark the largest total from any church in the convention, Scroggins said. Greear served two years with the IMB among a Muslim unreached people group before being called to The Summit.

The Summit has planted 26 churches in North America during the past five years in conjunction with the North American Mission Board.

Nearly 20 percent of worshippers in English services at The Summit are from non-Anglo ethnic groups, Scroggins said, and nearly half of the church’s campus pastors and worship leaders are non-Anglo. One of the congregation’s nine campuses is Spanish-speaking, and one is located in a prison.

“Believing J.D. Greear is God’s man for the hour who models in his church the best of what a Southern Baptist pastor is all about, I eagerly look forward to placing his name in nomination,” Scroggins said.

Greear holds master of divinity and doctor of philosophy degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Veronica, have four children.