



## **DRS. PAUL AND REBEKAH KIM HONORED FOR SERVICE AT PHIL WALDREP MINISTRIES NEW ENGLAND PASTOR'S ENCOURAGEMENT RETREAT**

Drs. Paul and Rebekah Kim of Cambridge, Massachusetts received the Aubrey and Peggy Jones Award at the 2019 Phil Waldrep Ministries Pastor's Encouragement Retreat in Groton, Connecticut. Dr. Paul Kim is the Southern Baptist Convention's Asian American Relations Consultant for Convention Advancement. His wife, Dr. Rebekah Kim, is the Southern Baptist chaplain at Harvard University.

"This is the greatest of honors," said Paul Kim. "It is totally unexpected."

Together, the Kims have planted 40 churches worldwide and have worked in campus ministry to develop church leaders. They were nominated by peers to receive the award given annually at the retreats to one couple whose work in New England is respected and seen as an example to follow.

"The Kims have lived out the meaning of the words mentoring, discipling and investing. They have devoted their lives to college students, leading churches and missions. They are very deserving of this award," said Phil Waldrep, author, speaker and CEO of Phil Waldrep Ministries.

The Aubrey and Peggy Jones Award was created by Phil Waldrep Ministries in 2008 to recognize couples who have committed their lives to sharing the Gospel and making a difference in New England.

More than thirty years ago, Waldrep traveled to North Springfield, Vermont to preach at Precision Valley Baptist Church. This was his first time in New England, but he quickly fell in love with the region and its people.

Waldrep was inspired by the church's pastor, Aubrey Jones and his wife, Peggy, to start a retreat for ministry leaders in New England that would allow them a time to rest, connect with one another, and be refueled for their ministries. A few years later, the dream in Jones' heart became a reality when the first Pastor's Encouragement Retreat began in Vermont.

"Even though he was never able to attend the retreat, the award honors Aubrey and Peggy and their great example of sacrificial service," said Waldrep. "In this award and in the retreat itself, Aubreys's legacy lives on."

Since it began in 1988, the event has expanded to two locations. This year, almost 400 New England ministry leaders attended retreats in Groton, Connecticut and Manchester, Vermont. The three day retreats included sessions with Jordan Easley, pastor of First Baptist Church in Cleveland, Tennessee, Mike Whitson, pastor of First Baptist Church in Indian Trail, North Carolina and Teman Knight, pastor of Heritage Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama. Author and speaker Sheila Walsh and worship leader Charles Billingsley also participated in the retreats.

Phil Waldrep Ministries, based in Decatur, Alabama, seeks to make a difference in the lives of people. This is accomplished through conferences such as Women of Joy, Gridiron and Celebrators as well as speaking engagements, online devotionals, and Pastor's Encouragement Retreats.

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