

Dangerous Storms Rip Through HOLSTON

May 2011



Our hearts and prayers are with all the victims of the violent storms that have ripped apart so many of our Holston Conference communities and indeed across the southern states April 26 and 27, 2011. On behalf of the people of Holston Annual Conference, I share the sense of deep sorrow and sadness generated by this tragic storm.

Pastors and members of our congregations are providing support for the affected families and communities at this time. In addition, the Holston Conference Disaster Response Team is on standby to offer assistance as needed in cooperation with the local authorities. The Disaster Response Team can be contacted through the Office of Connectional Ministries toll-free at (866) 690-4080. Please join with me in prayer and ongoing encouragement and assistance for all the people in their loss and grief.

Bishop James E. Swanson, Sr.
Resident Bishop Holston Conference of the UMC

If you wish to contribute to Disaster Relief within Holston Conference, make your check payable to Holston Conference, and mark your donations for Advance #143. If you wish to contribute through UMCOR to disaster relief across the southeast, mark your donations for Advance #901670 or contribute online at

<http://new.gbgm-umc.org/umcor/>.

Holston will be seeking a grant from UMCOR.

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Pictures of some of the devastation around Holston.....



Camp Lookout
Holston Conference Camp
Rising Fawn, GA



Glade Spring, VA
Abingdon District



Washington Pike UMC
Knoxville, TN
Knoxville District



Mt. Tabor UMC
Greeneville, TN
Johnson City District

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We continue to assess damages throughout Holston. As we determine specific needs for various communities, we will make that information available so that our local churches can assist. Until that time, your prayers and your gifts of money are greatly appreciated.

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