



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, April 2, 2018

The Holston Conference Strategy Team ('HCST') met for its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 to continue its work to evaluate the health of Holston Conference and to implement the components of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy Plan designed to strengthen our connection for relevant and innovative ministry and shared mission.

This was the eighth full meeting of the HCST since the adoption of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy Plan at Holston Annual Conference in June 2017. The HCST is also scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 5, 2018 to continue its work and prepare for the 2018 Annual Conference.

The HCST received positive feedback on the transition among districts to the new Conference Structure. The initial plan to have everyone gather in their new districts to share and celebrate on April 22nd was modified to allow more flexibility to plan their celebration days at a time that is most convenient; the purpose is not only to learn more about our new relationships and district communities – but to share each new district identity with the rest of the Conference. This is one way to strengthen our 'connection'.

HCST also took time to recognize the crucial role that District Administrative Assistants are playing to make the new district transitions successful. The process is largely progressing smoothly, and even better than expected – due to the hard work and commitment of the District personnel, clergy and laity leadership and Conference staff.

Finally, each HCST subcommittee shared reports of progress in implanting each of the 7 elements of the Comprehensive Conference Strategy. The Team was particularly pleased with progress for each of the elements and the continued expansion of participation by groups, constituencies and individuals throughout the Conference in its implementation.

Please continue to maintain the Holston Conference Strategy Team in your prayers as it seeks guidance to fulfill God's vision for the future of Holston Conference.

About the Holston Conference Strategy Team –

The Holston Conference Strategy Team initially convened in September of 2015 to evaluate the life of Holston Conference and to find more effective ways to share a contemporary and relevant vision for bringing people into a transformative relationship with Jesus Christ. The Team is comprised of up to 15 members and includes laypersons, local church pastors, district superintendents, members of the Conference executive team and the Bishop. The Strategic Plan proposed by the HCST was formally adopted by the Annual Conference in June 2017.

For more information about the HCST and its members, please visit www.holston.org, or contact us at holstonstrategyteam@gmail.com