

inside: lunch at lambuth

sudan summit

ministerial appointments



The Rev. Brian Burch dines at Lambuth Inn for an "At Lunch" column from Annual Conference.

Page 3

Five annual conferences are represented at a Holston-hosted summit to help the suffering people of Sudan.

Page 12

Fixed by Bishop James Swanson on June 11 at Annual Conference, here are the 2008-'09 Ministerial Appointments.

Pages 8-10

The Call



July 2008

HOLSTON CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

www.holston.org

ANNUAL CONFERENCE '08:

Were you there?

"It is only when you commit yourself to staying in love with God, that God gives you the power to do no harm and to do good."

Those were the Wesleyan-based words of Bishop James Swanson in a sweltering Stuart Auditorium on the last day of the Holston Annual Conference. Held June 8-11 in Lake Junaluska, N.C., the 2008 session was marked with record-breaking offerings, dynamic preachers and speakers, an inspiring "Offer Them Christ" theme, and alarmingly high temperatures.

The Sending Forth Service included Swanson's message as well as the Hope for Africa Children's Choir and Bishop Daniel Wandabula of the East Africa Conference.

■ Report and photos on pages 6-7



Photo by Annette Spence, The Call

The Hope for Africa Children's Choir wows the Holston Annual Conference with music and dance at the Sending Forth Service.

Hiwassee loses accreditation, continues to fight

By Annette Spence

Hiwassee College leaders say they will not close the school's doors, but will work to regain accreditation after losing a long legal battle with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

The college's board of trustees voted unanimously to "move forward" after learning of a court decision that allowed SACS to terminate the United Methodist-related school's accreditation.

Now, as faculty members greet students and parents during routine orientation meetings, they are assuring them that Hiwassee still has a strong academic program and is building its financial standing as the college reapplies for accreditation.

"We're not talking about litigation now," Hiwas-



Photo by Annette Spence, The Call

Hiwassee College President James Noseworthy speaks to the Holston Annual Conference on June 11.

see President James Noseworthy said June 27 from his office in Madisonville, Tenn. "We're talking about being faithful to our mission."

On April 14, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit lifted a temporary restraining order on SACS that had kept it from terminating Hiwassee's accreditation since March 2005. Hiwassee was immediately removed as an accredited institution with SACS' Commission on Colleges.

Hiwassee subsequently requested a rehearing from the same three-judge panel, which denied the request on May 6.

Founded in 1849, Hiwassee College is a two-year rural United Methodist college, affiliated with the Holston Annual Conference. Noseworthy, who has served as Hiwassee president since 2003, said the

See **Hiwassee loses**, page 4