



**Holston Conference Ministry with Children in Poverty**



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*Gifts that last a lifetime*



Santa is having a deep discussion with this little girl.

Christmas is a season of generosity in our Holston congregations. In that spirit, many of our churches are finding ways to address the needs of children in poverty during the holidays.

At Vermont UMC in Kingsport, Tennessee, the children’s Christmas program includes many of the neighborhood children. A Sensitive Santa event provides activities and an opportunity to visit with Santa in a relaxed environment which is more comfortable for special-needs children and their families. In addition, the congregation is busily preparing their Christmas Missions Family Project for 12 families who have been adopted through the neighborhood school. Cleaning supplies, food, and presents will be shared with each family. Throughout the year, the congregation works with the school nurse to provide health kits of shampoos, soaps, body washes, feminine products, and socks.

Christmas is a wonderful time to make special gifts to many of our ministries across the conference that work with children all throughout the year. Holston Home for Children, Wesley House Community Center in Knoxville, the Bethlehem Community Center in Chattanooga, and Holston Conference Camp and Retreat Ministry name just a few of the ongoing ministries that our congregations support. If you are looking for alternative Christmas gifts, places to give in honor or memory of another, or ways to

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help your church reach their goals of \$10 and 10 hours per average worship attendance, there are many conference-supported ministries that would benefit from your generosity. You can give to the ongoing children in poverty mission offering at <http://waytogiveholston.org> or see the full listing of this year's second-mile giving opportunities at <http://TheAdvance.Holston.org>.

As you consider the gifts you will share this Christmas, why not choose gifts that last a lifetime? Strengthen your connections to the children in your neighborhood or offer your support to the ministries in the conference that work with children each and every day. Let your gifts help others experience the good news of Emmanuel, God with us.



Santa gets a huge bear hug.

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Santa's Elves love hugs the best.

*Thank you, Holston.*

*You'll never know  
how many lives  
you've changed.*

*Way to Go!  
Way to Give!*



*WaytoGiveHolston.org*



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**Holston Conference of The United Methodist Church**  
P. O. Box 850 • Alcoa, TN 37701-0850 • 865/690-4080  
*WaytoGiveHolston.org*



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