

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Board of General Superintendents

Eugénio R. Duarte • David W. Graves • David A. Busic • Gustavo A. Crocker • Filimão M. Chambo • Carla D. Sunberg

01 May 2020

Dear Pastors and Leaders,

The season of Easter reminds us that the power of Jesus' resurrection creates the momentum that moves us toward Pentecost. How timely that we are facing the challenges of this day with the hope of the empty tomb and the promise of the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit.

We give thanks to God that you continue to minister so well. Holy creativity has defined your work as you continue to share the gospel and disciple those within your sphere of influence. As we send this letter, we join with the apostle Paul in praying for you. "We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light" (Colossians 1:9-12).

We recognize that some are already thinking ahead and planning for the day when you will be able to gather again as the people of God. We urge caution and diligence when it comes to decision-making regarding re-opening our facilities for public gatherings. Please work with your local and government authorities, as well as your district leadership, to ensure that the proper practices necessary for the safety and protection of the most vulnerable are in place before meeting together.

Sadly, we continue to receive news of those who have become ill with COVID-19 and are suffering. A number of our churches and districts in Brazil have lost members and pastors in the past week, and have many who remain ill. Several districts in the United States have also sent word of pastors and members who have fallen ill or passed away. We grieve with these local church communities and join them in prayer.

We also have churches in various parts of the world that are experiencing financial stress because of abrupt economic changes. Please join us in lifting our sisters and brothers in prayer who have found their daily food supply interrupted

GLOBAL MINISTRY CENTER

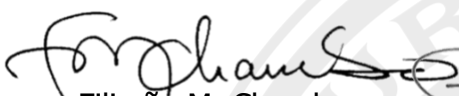
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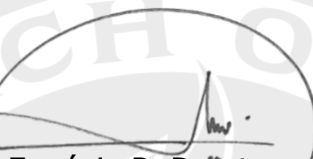
and their economic future on shaky ground. We are a global church community, interconnected and interdependent, and therefore we help one another through this season.


Thank you for your valuable partnership in this ministry.


Grace and peace to you all,

Board of General Superintendents

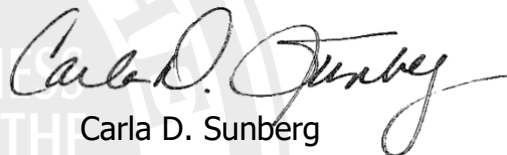

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