

Board of General Superintendents

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

08 May 2020

Dear Pastors and Leaders,

What a privilege it is to serve alongside all of you during this season. We thank God for each of you and the ways you are faithfully fulfilling the mission in the face of many difficulties. The stories of your sacrificial ministry in this crisis are reflective of the love of Jesus Christ. Together with the Apostle Paul, we thank "God every time [we] remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of [our] prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now" (Phil. 1:3-5). Your partnership in sharing the good news and ministering to the needy brings glory to God.

We have witnessed the spirit of solidarity among Nazarenes as you have responded with a heart of compassion to the needs around the world. Local churches have partnered together with Nazarene Compassionate Ministries (NCM), under the leadership of Dr. Nell Becker Sweeden, to mobilize the resources of the church so that we can minister to those who are in greatest need. We celebrate the pastors at the local church level who are using all available resources to make a difference.

Over the past weeks, you have touched the world through your participation in Child Sponsorship. We are grateful for those sponsors who have adapted to a fully online format to continue serving the needs of our children. We are feeding and supplying the needs of these children who are finding themselves vulnerable during this season of COVID-19.

Because of your generosity, NCM has been able to initiate 101 new COVID-19 related projects across all six regions of the Church of the Nazarene. These are being completed in partnership with local churches and congregations. In one area of South America, the church has become the primary source of food for the community, forced into quarantine. Thank you for participating in this partnership! Additional information and resources for NCM can be found here.

Because we are all living in different phases of this crisis, we remain committed to the long haul in supporting one another. Over the next few weeks, employees will slowly begin to return to the Global Ministry Center (GMC). In the meantime, the entire GMC team is working to carry on the ministry of the church, while

BGS Letter to Pastors and Leaders Page 2 08 May 2020

working from their homes. We are grateful for the sacrifices being made so that we can be faithful to minister in Jesus' name.

Grace and peace,

Filimão M. Chambo

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HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD