

WEDNESDAY 28 JUNE 2017

DAILY SUMMARY

29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY & CONVENTIONS



ISSUE NO. 08

HAPPENING TODAY

GA Plenaries

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

2 – 3:45 PM

7 – 9 PM

Regional Caucuses

4 – 5 PM

See your Event Directory for a full schedule and locations.



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CHILD OF A GLOBAL CHURCH: SUNBERG ELECTED GS



Carla Sunberg, president of Nazarene Theological Seminary, was elected the 43rd general superintendent of the Church of the Nazarene 27 June. She was elected on the 11th ballot at the 29th General Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA.

“Dear church family,” she began after a lengthy ovation. “I am completely overwhelmed today. Thank you so much for believing that God might be able to use me in this capacity. I am simply God’s child, and I am a child of this global church. You are the ones who raised me up, and I say thank you.”

Sunberg, who was born in Germany and raised on the mission field, thanked her German church family – in German – before switching to Russian to thank her Russian church family. Carla and her husband, Chuck, served as pioneer missionaries to the former Soviet Union, living in

Moscow for 13 years.

Carla served as director of compassionate ministries there and later as director of theological education on the Commonwealth of Independent States Field.

In 2005, the Sunbergs returned to the U.S. and pastored at Grace Point Church of the Nazarene in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where Carla served as pastor of evangelism and discipleship. In 2011, she and Chuck accepted a call to serve as co-district superintendents for East Ohio.

Carla is the second woman general superintendent in the denomination’s history, joining Nina G. Gunter, who gave Tuesday’s morning devotional to the assembly.

“As a little girl, my only desire was to follow and serve Jesus,” Carla said. “And I have to confess to you as I grew up in the church, I didn’t know if there would ever be a formal way for me to do so. A little

bit later in life, my dear, sweet husband said to me, ‘If only you were a boy, you would have been the preacher in the family.’ And that day, the voice of the Lord said, ‘And why aren’t you?’”

Sunberg, who was elected president of NTS in 2014, said she and Chuck had been praying in advance of General Assembly “should this day (the election) ever come.”

“Recently the Lord said to us, ‘You must be willing to be willing,’ and so, I stand before you today willing and committed to humbly serve my church.”

Carla has a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mid-America Nazarene University, a Master of Arts in Theological Studies from Nazarene Theological Seminary, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Historical Theology from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom. In May 2012, Carla was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from Olivet Nazarene University.

She is the daughter of former general superintendent Jerald D. Johnson (1980-1997). She is the first second-generation general superintendent.

Chuck and Carla have two adult daughters, Christa (Macon) and Cara (Shonamon). ■

LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS FOR 27 JUNE

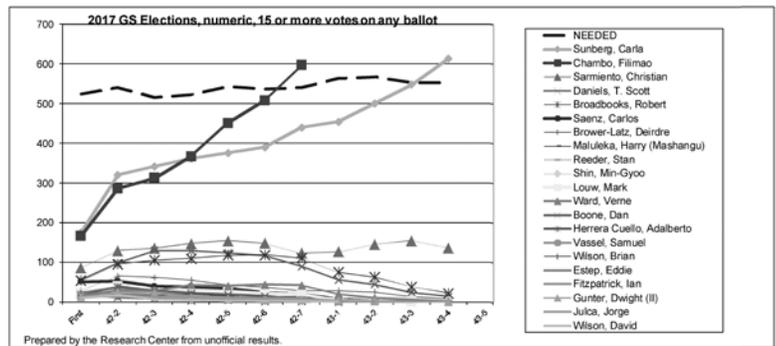
In actions taken on Tuesday, 27 June, the General Assembly: (Go to ga2017.com/resolutions to view documents.)

- Voted to reconsider JUD-813, Article 10, “Christian Holiness and Entire Sanctification,” which failed to reach a two-thirds vote Monday. After further discussion, another vote was taken and JUD-813 was referred to the Board of General Superintendents for further study.
- Authorized a study group to study the *Manual’s* ritual on infant baptism. The resolution gives the BGS the flexibility to either raise a special committee or to assign it to the Theological Study Committee.
- Revised the ritual for the baptism of believers to include the statement that the sacrament signifies “participation by faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and incorporation into His Body, the Church. It is a means of grace proclaiming Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.” This harmonizes language in the ritual with changes ordered yesterday to the Article of Faith on baptism. (JUD-828)
- Deleted paragraph 800.4 from the *Manual*. The paragraph was a special ritual for the dedication of the infant of a single parent. It was believed that a separate ritual for this situation was not necessary.
- Approved changes to the ritual for receiving new members. (JUD-830)
- Revised the wording in the ritual for the Lord’s Supper to harmonize with changes made Monday to the corresponding article of faith. (JUD-831)
- Adopted changes to *Manual* paragraph 803, “Matrimony.” (JUD-832)
- Added three new paragraphs to the *Manual* pertaining to conflict resolution and reconciliation in the church. The paragraphs recognize that conflict is a part of life,

- including life in the church. It urges an informal process of resolving conflict before formal processes begin. (JUD-835)
- Adopted changes to *Manual* paragraph 305.2 that removes the language that allows the Assembly to elect as many general superintendents “as it deems necessary” to “six general superintendents.” (GA-317)
- Designated Sharpe Memorial Church of the Nazarene (“Old Stone Church”) in Manzini, Swaziland, as one the Church of the Nazarene’s historic landmarks. The church is named for Rev. George Sharpe, regional superintendent for Africa in the 1920s. (CP-101)
- Added a new paragraph to the *Manual* that is a mission statement for Nazarene Publishing House. The paragraph states that the church “entrusts Nazarene Publishing House” to “protect and manage the media assets utilized by the Church of the Nazarene and its affiliates.” (CP-102)
- Adopted a comprehensive statement on “Human Sexuality,” replacing a series of position statements with an extended and carefully crafted text grounded in theological ethics. The action taken also deleted *Manual* paragraphs 30-30.4. (CA-701)
- Provided for church board meetings, including votes, to be conducted using digital technology. (LA-405)
- Considered LA-411, which sought to permit all church meetings via telephone conference or other electronic media, so long as all have opportunity to communicate and participate, and referred it to the BGS for further study. (LA-411)
- Voted to retain *Manual* paragraph 903.2, “Discrimination.” The *Manual’s* statements on moral and social issues in the 903 section are automatically re-examined every 12 years.
- Referred MED-517 to the BGS for further consideration.

UNOFFICIAL GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT BALLOT RESULTS 2017

Name	First	42-2	42-3	42-4	42-5	42-6	42-7	43-1	43-2	43-3	43-4
NEEDED	526	542	616	524	543	637	541	564	568	554	554
Sunberg, Carla	176	321	343	362	377	391	441	455	502	549	614
Chambo, Filimao	167	287	313	368	452	509	597				
Sarmiento, Christian	87	130	136	148	155	149	124	127	146	155	137
Daniels, T. Scott	57	100	131	130	125	118	91	57	45	25	16
Broadbooks, Robert	54	96	106	110	118	119	111	75	63	39	23
Saenz, Carlos	52	54	41	40	35	24	22	9	3		
Brower-Latz, Deirdre	30	66	62	56	42	37	28	29	25	15	9
Maluleka, Harry (Mashangu)	29	21	14	12	19	15	15	3	2	3	
Reeder, Stan	24	27	24	22	20	12	10	2			
Shin, Min-Gyoo	24	37	29	30	31	25	16	10	12	12	6
Louw, Mark	23	40	24	21	27	23	21	6	4	2	
Ward, Verne	23	38	29	43	41	44	42	21	10		2
Boone, Dan	19	39	29	23	19	16	7	1			
Herrera Cuello, Adalberto	19	13	9	5	6	3	3				
Vassel, Samuel	18	22	17	10	8	7	7	2	2		
Wilson, Brian	18	19	18	22	16	9	6	6			
Estep, Eddie	16	30	26	16	12	11	10	1		2	2
Fitzpatrick, Ian	14	15	14	9	7	6	5	3	2		
Gunter, Dwight (II)	13	25	24	14	10	7	7	5	3		1
Julca, Jorge	11	17	14	14	12	9	9	3	2		
Wilson, David	11	18	7	6	4			2			



JESUS IS LORD

General Superintendent David A. Basic delivered the Board of General Superintendents' Quadrennial Address 26 June at the Church of the Nazarene's 29th General Assembly.

Titled "Jesus is Lord," the report revealed statistical summaries for the general church and its six world regions. Basic celebrated the church's growth in membership, churches, and diversity in the last four years.

Looking ahead to the next quadrennium, Basic asked "Can we become a movement again?"

He continued:

We are living in unprecedented times. There are seismic cultural shifts affecting every continent on earth. In just two decades, we have seen the shift from industrial to information – from Gutenberg to Google; from rural to urban; from modern thinking to post-modern thinking. It is a hinge of history that our grandparents and those

before them could never have imagined. We will not return to what once was.

Whether we are comfortable with it or not, we find ourselves in a pivotal time for Christianity. We are in mostly uncharted waters. We appreciate the legacy of John Wesley, but Wesley alone will not do. We are grateful for the vision of Phineas Bresee, but Bresee alone will not do. We have to go back to the first Nazarene. We have to go back to Jesus. He is our calibration point. We correspond to Him. We realign to Him. We must re-Jesus the church. Too much is at stake for anything less.

The seed of the future is in the womb of the present (Alan Hirsch). Not every seed will become a forest, but it can be. Not every spark will become a forest fire, but it can be. The potential is in the seed and the spark. And so it is for the Church of the Nazarene. The seeds of our future are in the womb of the present. The spark of a



raging fire is in the soul of the church.

The year was 1944. World War II was raging. In one of the most precarious and uncertain times of the twentieth century, General Superintendent J. B. Chapman spoke these words to the General Assembly: "As a people, we love fire and cannot be content with smoke ... Our church is a mechanism that can stand only while it moves forward. To stop is to fall... More self-preservation will mean stagnation for us. Our hope is in aggression. Our church is a force for which the whole world is a field."

This kind of movement thinking will require a radical discipleship at every level of the church. It will require us to make mission our organizing principle. It will require us to change whatever keeps us from being fully surrendered to the will and purposes of God. It will require us to believe that Jesus really is Lord and to have the strength and courage to act on it.

Nazarene Essentials are helpful, but not enough. Thankfully we have THE Nazarene essential – Jesus is Lord! And we are not afraid. We are radical optimists of the grace of God and "prisoners of hope" (Zechariah 9:12 NIV).

"To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!" (Revelation 5:13, NIV).

For the full Quadrennial Address text, go to nazarene.org/ga and click on Resources. To watch, go to youtube.com/nazareneofficial. ■

ASSEMBLY DONATES MORE THAN \$100,000 FOR REFUGEE SUPPORT

As a result of global Nazarenes' generosity at the 2017 General Assembly, more than US\$100,000 will be donated to Nazarene Compassionate Ministries for refugee support.

Offerings were received during each of the event's

five worship services both online at nazarene.org/give-ga and in person. Donations and pledges were also accepted during the plenary sessions. The goal for General Assembly was to receive at least \$250,000.

The Board of General Superintendents stated anything over that goal would be given to NCM.

The total amount raised as of Tuesday evening was \$365,172, helped in part by donors who agreed to match \$50,000 if the

assembly could top the event goal by \$50,000. The BGS was elated to announce more than \$100,000 would be given to refugee support through NCM. ■

