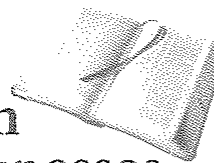


Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



2821 Route 22, Patterson, NY 12563-2237 Phone: (845) 306-1100

February 8, 2002

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Dear Brothers:

Each year, pressures on health-care systems mount. The growing number of patients, particularly the elderly, challenges health-care providers' ability to meet patient needs with available resources. At the same time, legal and ethical voices increasingly advocate that patients be permitted a greater role in choosing their treatment. These developments especially affect one major sector of health care—the use of blood. With this in mind, we are pleased to announce a new video entitled *Transfusion-Alternative Health Care—Meeting Patient Needs and Rights*. Efforts have been made to keep the medical scenes as brief as possible, although some parents may want to use discretion in viewing the program with small children present.

How can we make best use of this video? It will appeal to a broad group of individuals, such as medical and legal professionals and public officials, as well as to the media and the general public. This new *Patient Needs and Rights* video can be viewed with Bible students, unbelieving mates or relatives, teachers, workmates, and schoolmates. Although it is not intended that the congregation engage in a general public distribution, you may feel free to share this program with those you know who are interested in seeing or having a copy. Instructions are being provided to the Hospital Liaison Committee members who are assigned to distribute this video to the specialized groups mentioned above. Of course, individual Christians must bear the responsibility of making decisions regarding procedures related to the use of one's own blood, which are mentioned in the video. (Note *The Watchtower* of October 15, 2000, pp. 30-31.)

Congregations may submit their requests for the English edition at the time of their next literature request. Other language editions will be announced as they become available.

This new video should prove to be beneficial to all who view it. We very much appreciate the help and assistance of all the brothers in promoting Kingdom interests worldwide.

Your brothers and fellow servants,

*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

Attachment

PS: Please have this letter read to the congregation at the first Service Meeting after its receipt. Then post it and the printed sample on the information board.