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December 4, 2003

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Dear Brothers:

We are pleased to announce the release of a DVD entitled *Transfusion-Alternatives—Documentary Series*. This DVD contains the three previously released video programs that were reported on in the *2002 Yearbook of Jehovah's Witnesses*. In all three videos, well-known surgeons contrast the effectiveness of transfusion-alternative strategies with procedures that use blood. As a result, these programs have done much to convince others of the reasonableness and effectiveness of bloodless medicine and surgery.

The first video in the series is entitled *Transfusion-Alternative Strategies* — *Simple, Safe, Effective*. This program was designed for doctors and medical students. For this reason, the medical scenes are more numerous than those in the other two programs. Until now, this program was available only to Hospital Liaison Committee members. It is unavailable to publishers as a videocassette. The second video is entitled *Transfusion-Alternative Health Care* — *Meeting Patient Needs and Rights*. It was designed especially for medical journalists, health officials, social workers, and the judiciary. As the title suggests, this program considers how to care for patients' medical needs while also recognizing their legal rights. Additionally, bloodless surgical techniques are shown to be cost-effective. Finally, the third video in the series entitled *No Blood* — *Medicine Meets the Challenge* was designed primarily for the general public.

Additional features on the DVD include menu pages as well as three short preview clips of each program. The English-language DVD also contains the sound tracks that are presently available in French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese (Brazilian), Spanish, and Russian.

While the primary distribution of these programs remains with brothers who serve on Hospital Liaison Committees, please feel free to share this program with Bible students, unbelieving mates or relatives, teachers, workmates, and schoolmates. Of course, individual Christians must bear the responsibility of making decisions regarding the use of blood fractions or of one's own blood during medical procedures such as cell salvage or hemodilution.— See *The Watchtower*, issues of June 15, 2000, pages 29-31, and October 15, 2000, pages 30-31.

Congregations may submit their DVD requests at the time of their next literature request. Other language groupings on subsequent DVD releases will be announced as they become available.

Your brothers,

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

PS to presiding overseer:

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