

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

February 9, 2007

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Re: Adjusted format of *The Watchtower*

Dear Brothers:

The year 2006 saw a major change in publishing the *Awake!* magazine. In January of that year the magazine became monthly instead of semimonthly and the contents were given a more Scriptural slant than previously. In the months since then, Jehovah's blessing has been seen on the arrangement and the circulation of *Awake!* continues to increase.

Now, we are pleased to announce that the Governing Body has approved changes to the format of *The Watchtower*. *The Watchtower* will continue to be published semimonthly, but it will have two different editions. In the issue that is dated the 1st of each month, all the material will be directed to the public. It will have no study articles. That issue will be known as the public edition. *The Watchtower* that is dated the 15th of each month will be solely for the Christian brotherhood. It will not be offered to the public. It will contain all the study articles for one month and secondary articles that are appropriate for dedicated servants of Jehovah. That edition will be known as the study edition.

The advantages of this change will be quickly evident. At the moment, each issue of *The Watchtower* contains material both for the public and the brotherhood. So, even in the study articles, we have to explain terms like "pioneer" in ways that the public can understand. After this new arrangement goes into effect, everything in the study edition will be expressly for dedicated individuals and Bible students who are making spiritual progress. Hence, information can be more pointed and more beneficial. Material in the public edition will be designed to educate the public. That does not mean that we as dedicated Christians will not enjoy reading the information. But the information published will be of such a nature that a non-Witness will be able to read the magazine from cover to cover without encountering material that has been especially prepared for Jehovah's Witnesses.

An additional advantage of this new arrangement is that each month we will offer in the field service just one *Watchtower* with one *Awake!* Thus, we will not have to adjust our presentation halfway through the month in order to accommodate the latest issue of *The Watchtower*.

This new arrangement for publishing *The Watchtower* will take effect in January 2008. Hence, the January 1, 2008, *Watchtower* will be a public edition and the January 15, 2008, *Watchtower* will be a study edition.

We pray that Jehovah's rich blessing will be on this new arrangement with *The Watchtower* just as it has been on *Awake!*

Your brothers,
*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

PS to presiding overseer:

Please arrange for this letter to be read to the congregation at the first Service Meeting after its receipt. Thereafter, it should be posted on the information board.