

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

June 6, 2008

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS IN THE VICINITY OF BETHEL

Re: Kingdom Hall maintenance and construction

Dear Brothers:

For a number of years, departments within Bethel have assisted nearby congregations with the maintenance and construction of their Kingdom Halls, and we know that all such assistance has been greatly appreciated. It has certainly been a privilege for Bethel volunteers to work along with the local congregations in caring for this necessary work, which brings honor and praise to Jehovah.—Neh. 10:39; Ps. 122:1.

However, in view of recent simplifications at Bethel, this assistance is being discontinued. We can appreciate that this may require some adjustments initially. In many cases, minor building maintenance can be cared for by those attending the congregations and should be coordinated by a local body of elders or the Kingdom Hall Operating Committee if there is more than one congregation occupying the Kingdom Hall. If a particular project appears to be outside the scope of what the local publishers can accomplish, the body of elders should feel free to contact the Regional Building Committee for assistance. In some cases, it may be necessary to enlist the services of a licensed contractor if skilled volunteers are not available through the regional committee to perform a certain task. If needed, this should always be done in consultation with the Regional Building Committee.

The branch office has been working closely with the Regional Building Committees in New York City, where this adjustment will likely have the greatest impact, to prepare them for assuming this additional workload. Furthermore, all the regional committees to which your congregations are assigned will be pleased to continue assisting you in addressing Kingdom Hall needs.—*km 8/03 p. 4 par. 8.*

This adjustment will take effect immediately. However, if an approved requisition for specific work has already been received, Bethel will complete the task, although no new requests will be approved.

We are confident that Jehovah will bless your efforts to support this arrangement, and we take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation for all you do in advancing Kingdom interests in these critical last days. Your “faithful work” in caring for the needs of our brothers and sisters in your congregations is highly valued by our God, Jehovah. (1 Thess. 1:3) We send you our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

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