

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

November 27, 2009

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Re: Discontinuing production of *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* on compact disc in MP3 format

Dear Brothers:

The *Watchtower* and *Awake!* magazines in both MP3 and AAC audio formats are available for download in 20 languages from the jw.org Web site. This provision allows publishers to obtain the very latest copies of the magazines in audio format as soon as they are released to the public. Now that many are taking advantage of this provision by downloading the magazines in audio format, it has been decided that distribution of the English and Spanish *Watchtower* and *Awake!* on compact disc in MP3 format will be discontinued. The last English and Spanish compact discs in MP3 format that will be produced and sent to the congregations will be the issues of March 2010. They should arrive in the congregations sometime in the month of January 2010.

While *The Watchtower* and *Awake!* in regular compact-disc format will still be available, the cost to produce these is significantly higher than the cost for providing a downloadable file in MP3 or AAC format on the jw.org Web site. Therefore, we encourage all to make full use of the site for downloading the English and Spanish *Watchtower* and *Awake!* in audio formats, since this conserves dedicated funds.

We are notifying congregations of this adjustment in advance so that publishers can begin making alternative arrangements to obtain the magazines in MP3 format. Publishers can personally download the magazines in MP3 or AAC format from the jw.org Web site, or perhaps the congregation could make arrangements to have these audio files downloaded, transferred to physical medium, and then distributed for personal use to those without Internet access. This would be particularly important and helpful for older ones in the congregation who rely on these audio publications in electronic format.

Please be assured of our warm Christian love and greetings.

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

PS to coordinator of the body of elders:

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.