

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

December 9, 2009

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

Re: 2009 service year report

Dear Brothers:

How encouraged we were when the 2009 service year report for the United States branch territory was tabulated! Indeed, we continue to witness the speeding up of the ingathering work as foretold at Isaiah 60:22. Notice the following highlights from the report, which includes the work in Bermuda and the Turks and Caicos islands.

In the United States, an average of 1,096,502 publishers shared in the ministry each month, a 4 percent increase over 2008. This is the largest annual increase since the 1992 service year! An all-time peak in publishers was reached in August, with 1,154,275 reporting. A total of 230,075,885 hours were spent in the ministry, which is over 12 million more hours than 2008. Most encouraging was the fact that Bible studies increased 9 percent over the previous year, with an average of 657,544 being conducted. A new peak of regular pioneers was reached in December, with 119,108 reporting—almost 8,000 more than the previous peak. An average of almost 3 persons per congregation were baptized, or 34,739. And there is much potential for growth as over 50,000 more people attended the Memorial in 2009 than 2008—a total of 2,469,036. Bermuda, where the ratio of publishers to population is 1 to 138, enjoyed a new peak of 491 publishers, 5.1 percent more than their previous peak. The Turks and Caicos islands, where the ratio is 1 to 93, had a 19 percent increase in publishers, a 21 percent increase in hours, and a 20 percent increase in Bible studies. All are to be commended for their share in this fine report!

The passage of the past year has brought us one year closer to Armageddon, and there is much work to do before Jehovah brings an end to this wicked system of things. Since “the time left is reduced,” we must continue preaching with urgency. (1 Cor. 7:29) We encourage you to maintain your focus on starting and conducting Bible studies. No doubt, the arrangement for congregations to designate one weekend day per month to focus on offering Bible studies is having a good effect. (*km* 12/08 p. 1) We are confident that Jehovah will continue to bless your efforts to “always offer to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of lips which make public declaration to his name.” (Heb. 13:15) Please accept a warm expression of our Christian love and best wishes.

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

cc: Traveling overseers

PS to coordinator of the body of elders:

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