Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses

The Ridgeway, London, NW7 1RN   Telephone: 020 8906 2211

April 8, 2014

TO ALL BODIES OF ELDERS

Re: Internet connections at Kingdom Halls

Dear Brothers:

This is to provide new direction regarding the use of wireless (Wi-Fi) Internet connections at our Kingdom Halls. This information replaces the March 25, 2010, letter to all bodies of elders, which should now be removed from the congregation permanent file of policy letters and destroyed.

Where local circumstances permit it, having an Internet connection available at the Kingdom Hall would allow access to jw.org for congregation publishers unable to access the site at home. This would also provide an opportunity for some to be assisted with their use of jw.org.

Therefore, if the body(ies) of elders using a Kingdom Hall determine(s) that the congregation(s) can afford Internet service, and such is approved by means of a resolution, the provision may be made available for use by congregation publishers. However, please note the following direction in this regard:

- Access to the Internet should be password-protected.

- Only publishers in good standing will be permitted access.

- The password would not be announced publicly. Instead, it would be given to the approved publishers individually.

- The primary use of the Internet at the Kingdom Hall would be for theocratic purposes. Hence, if a publisher were to use the Kingdom Hall connection to access inappropriate Web sites, his connectivity privilege would be revoked.

- If it is determined that a publisher should no longer have access to the Internet at the Kingdom Hall, the elders should change the password. The publisher should not be allowed access until the elders are convinced that the individual has rectified his conduct.

- It would be wise to change the password periodically and redistribute it individually to congregation publishers approved to have it.

- If the Kingdom Hall is equipped with a computer that is connected to the Internet, appropriate Internet security practices should be implemented, such as those listed on page 28 of the August 2009 *Awake!* Additionally, Internet browsers provide various built-in security features, such as automatic pop-up blocking, privacy settings, flexibility in specifying Web sites that should be blocked, Web site certificate validation, and so forth. Also, most Internet service providers offer some advanced protection that may, for example, block fraudulent Web sites, prevent phishing attacks, put in place parental controls for blocking inappropriate (pornographic, violent) Web sites, and so forth. Although there is usually an additional monthly charge for these advanced security features, their benefits generally outweigh such costs.

4/8/14-E

Please be assured of our warm Christian love and best wishes.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

cc: Traveling overseers

PS to secretary:

This letter should be retained in the congregation permanent file of policy letters. You may wish to update the congregation copy of *Index to Letters for Bodies of Elders* (S-22) at this time as well.