

# Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses



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

November 18, 2015

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Simplified Applications for Expanded Service

Dear Brothers:

A self-sacrificing spirit of willing service has always been evident among Jehovah's loyal servants. For example, Abraham accepted the assignment to leave his home in the city of Ur and go to the land of Canaan. (Acts 7:2, 3) When given the opportunity to serve as God's message bearer, the prophet Isaiah promptly responded: "Here I am! Send me!" (Isa. 6:8) Similarly, when Jesus extended the invitation: 'Come, be my follower,' God-fearing Jews responded without hesitation. (Matt. 4:18-22; Luke 5:27, 28) Although not knowing all the details as to what might be expected of them upon accepting their invitations, such willing supporters of true worship readily made themselves available to be used by Jehovah in an increased capacity.

In harmony with the willing spirit demonstrated by Jehovah's faithful servants, past and present, and to give better support to the various needs of Jehovah's organization, we are pleased to inform you that two new applications are now available for those who are desirous of making themselves available to be used more fully by Jehovah.

These two new applications will replace the numerous applications that were previously used by those interested in Bethel or construction service. As a result, individuals will no longer apply for a specific avenue of service, such as Bethel or construction, but *the branch office* will determine which invitation to extend to an individual, based primarily on the organization's present needs, as well as on the applicant's spiritual qualifications and work skills. Most who are invited to serve either at a Bethel facility or on a theocratic construction project will serve within their own branch territory. In time, changing organizational needs may require that the individual be invited to accept a change of theocratic assignment. Please note the following additional details regarding these two new applications:

- The ***Application for Volunteer Program (A-19)*** is for Christians between the ages of 19 and 55 who have been baptized for at least one year and who desire to offer their services temporarily for a period of from one week up to three months, either at a Bethel facility or on a theocratic construction project. This application may also be completed by those who desire to commute from their private residence to a Bethel facility or a construction project one or more days each week. However, please note that this application does not replace the *Local Design/Construction Volunteer Application* (DC-50), which will continue to be used by those desiring to make themselves available for periodic support of local construction or maintenance projects, such as Kingdom Halls or Assembly Halls.
- The ***Application to Become a Member of the Worldwide Order of Special Full-Time Servants of Jehovah's Witnesses (A-8)*** is for those who have been baptized for at least one year and who are interested in serving full-time at Bethel or on theocratic

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construction projects. Those who live relatively close to a Bethel facility or a construction project may be invited to serve full-time as a commuter. The age requirement for those invited to serve at Bethel is between 19 and 35 years of age. The age requirement for those invited to serve on theocratic construction projects is between 19 and 55 years of age.

Please note that the aforementioned applications do not replace the *Application to Attend the School for Kingdom Evangelizers* (G-8). Information regarding attending this school may be obtained from the elders.

Those who are older than the age requirements outlined above but who have previously obtained specialized skills and training in such fields as audio or video technology, computer or electronic information technology, the legal or medical profession, professional design or illustration, plumbing, carpentry, the electrical trade, and so forth, are invited to apply. Further details regarding the requirements for those desirous of completing one or both of the new applications may be obtained from the elders.

It is our desire that these two new applications will prove to be valuable tools in identifying those who can be used by Jehovah in whatever capacities may be needed in the furtherance of the Kingdom good news. (Matt. 24:14) Be assured of our interest in you and our prayer that Jehovah will bless you richly as you continue to offer yourselves willingly to serve him and his people in a fine way.—Ps. 110:3.

Your brothers,

*Christian Congregation  
of Jehovah's Witnesses*

c: Circuit overseers

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PS to bodies 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.

Please note the following additional requirements for those making themselves available to serve in these capacities. Above all, the applicant should be a spiritual person with a deep love for Jehovah and His organization. He should be baptized for at least one year and should be in good spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical health. If the individual meets these requirements and is willing to make himself available to be used by Jehovah in an increased capacity, then we encourage him to obtain one or both applications from the elders.

If an individual has applied for Bethel service **within the past year**, it will not be necessary for him to submit the new *Application to Become a Member of the Worldwide Order of Special Full-Time Servants of Jehovah's Witnesses* (A-8). If he has applied to serve as a temporary volunteer **within the last three years**, it will not be necessary for him to submit the new *Application for Volunteer Program* (A-19). However, after the aforementioned time periods have elapsed, the applicant should resubmit one or both of these applications if he stills desire to be used in a greater capacity.