March 13, 2020

TO ALL CONGREGATIONS

Re: Coronavirus Outbreak—Further Direction

Dear Brothers:

The situation with Coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing day by day. Further to the letter we sent yesterday, we are providing supplementary direction.

Field ministry: All house-to-house and public witnessing activity should be suspended until further notice. Publishers may be able to take advantage of other methods of preaching such as witnessing to people they know by telephone, text message, email, or letter. All should use good judgment and exercise caution. Pioneers should not feel any obligation to meet hour goals.

Meetings: These should be arranged in smaller groups in private homes. The body of elders will provide information as to the local arrangements.

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

Your brothers.

Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses

C: Circuit overseers

PS to bodies of elders:

Please communicate this to publishers in your congregation immediately. (Congregations in Ireland have already had some direction concerning meetings.) Additionally, elders should not visit publishers in person since this could inadvertently spread a virus. Decide locally how to present meetings. For example, meeting participants only could go to the Kingdom Hall or other location and transmit the meeting to groups. Group overseers could conduct the Congregation Bible Study and Watchtower Study with their groups. Groups could meet to view JW Stream. Some may tie-in to meetings or view JW Stream individually or as families. As stated before, maintain a record of meeting attendances. Whatever is arranged, give older and vulnerable ones special consideration.