

Announcement

January 1, 2022

FOR CONGREGATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES BRANCH TERRITORY

1. **COVID-19 Omicron Variant:** We warmly commend you for your sincere efforts to apply the principles provided by the organization during this global pandemic. At this time, the highly contagious COVID-19 Omicron variant is rapidly spreading throughout the branch territory. Therefore, all are encouraged to take appropriate precautions, including consideration of the latest guidance from public health officials on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters, the use of quality masks that will provide the highest level of protection, maintaining physical distancing when in public, cleaning hands frequently, and isolating when displaying symptoms. In this regard, please carefully review the guidelines contained in the *COVID-19 Helpful Reminders* document. Please let your field service group overseer or one of the elders know if you do not have this document. They will be pleased to provide you with a copy. Regarding this latest surge in the pandemic, we feel as did the apostle Paul, who stated at Philippians 3:1, “It is not troublesome for me to write the same things to you ... it is for your safety.”

Announcement

June 4, 2021

FOR CONGREGATIONS

1. **COVID-19 Restrictions:** Many governmental public health authorities have stated that fully vaccinated people may have greater flexibility in their activities. These activities might include association with others, travel, and assembling for events. It is wise to keep updated on the local governmental requirements and to respect them.

2. As mentioned in the video *2021 Governing Body Update #4*, Jehovah's Witnesses are not against vaccination. We view it as a personal decision for each Christian to make. In cooperation with recommendations from public health officials, many in our Bethel families have already chosen to be vaccinated. Medical studies have shown that those who are fully vaccinated have added protection against the virus. A person becomes "fully vaccinated" two weeks after receiving all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccine. Medical studies have also shown that those who choose not to be vaccinated should remain more cautious, since they are far more susceptible to the virus. All of you are to be warmly commended as you continue to show good judgment and act in a way that demonstrates your respect for life.

COVID-19 Vaccine Announcement

February 25, 2021

FOR COORDINATORS OF THE BODIES OF ELDERS

1. **Announcement for Congregations:** Please ensure that the announcement regarding COVID-19 vaccine information is read to the congregation at the conclusion of the next two congregation meetings. The list below has been updated.

Vaccine Manufacturer and Product	Contains Blood Fractions
AstraZeneca (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]; also known as Oxford-Astra-Zeneca COVID-19 Vaccine, Covishield, or AZD1222)	No
Janssen Vaccines & Prevention/Janssen Pharmaceuticals/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COVS.2.S; also known as JNJ-78436735 or VAC31518)	No
Moderna (mRNA-1273)	No
Pfizer-BioNTech (BNT162b2; also known as Comirnaty, COVID-19 mRNA vaccine [nucleoside modified], or tozinameran)	No

COVID-19 Vaccine Announcement

February 25, 2021

FOR CONGREGATIONS

1. We have confirmed that the COVID-19 vaccine manufactured by Janssen Vaccines & Prevention/Janssen Pharmaceuticals/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S; also known as JNJ-78436735 or VAC31518) does not contain blood or blood fractions. Medical care is a matter for personal decision. We do not attempt to make choices for others.