

Are You Able to Auxiliary Pioneer?

¹ Jesus encouraged his followers to give of themselves freely in the ministry, and he assured them that following this course would bring them happiness and many spiritual blessings. (Matt. 10: 8b; Acts 20:35) Last April over 69,000 individuals experienced firsthand the joys of increased activity as auxiliary pioneers. Are you able to share in these blessings this year by enrolling as an auxiliary pioneer during either March or April or perhaps both months?—Ps. 34:8.

2 Examining Your Circumstances: As you consider the experiences cited below, ask yourself: 'Do I see myself in any of these examples? How could I make needed adjustments that would open the way for me to auxiliary pioneer?'

³ One sister was able to auxiliary pioneer even though she has five children and works secularly. How was she rewarded? Her husband and children gave her excellent support, and as a result of the sister's good example, the husband was moved to become an unbaptized publisher the following month.

⁴ In one congregation all the elders

and ministerial servants served as auxiliary pioneers during one month. Most of them had secular jobs, but they were intensely occupied with spiritual activities on weekends. The fine lead they provided in preaching and in organizing the field service benefited the entire congregation. Of the 77 publishers, 73 shared in some form of pioneer service during the month.

⁵ A 15-year-old schoolgirl used her two-week spring vacation to share in the auxiliary pioneer service and says: "I can really see the difference, especially an improvement in conversation. I was able to hold many more conversations with people at the door."

⁶ Those who have retired from secular employment often have excellent opportunities to pursue Kingdom interests. After the death of her husband, an 84-year-old sister wrote: "All my children had grown up and were married and had families. They did not neglect me, but their visits could not overcome the feelings of loss and loneliness. Then one of the elders in our congregation suggested that I try auxiliary pioneering. I hesitated but finally decided to try it. What a joy! I felt that Jehovah had

permitted me to live to this age so that I could experience auxiliary pioneering. I have continued as an auxiliary pioneer every month since."

⁷ A brother who sells real estate adjusted his schedule for showing homes so as to allow time for pioneer service. Others have similarly adjusted their employment to make room for such increased activity.

8 Make Your Plans Now: Why not make positive plans now to auxiliary pioneer in March and April? To be successful, careful planning is needed. This is evident from the experiences of those who were able to auxiliary pioneer even though they had family responsibilities, full-time secular jobs, and other Scriptural obligations. Talk with others who have successfully pioneered to get the benefit of their experience. Also, approach Jehovah in prayer, asking for his help.—Isa. 40:29-31; Jas. 1:5.

⁹ There is no question about it, many are the joys of those who arrange their affairs to serve as auxiliary pioneers. If you are not already in the full-time service, could you be enjoying this privilege? If you make the effort to expand your privilege of sharing the good news with others, Jehovah will certainly pour out upon you a rich blessing.—Mal. 3:10.

Be Sure to Call Back

¹ As ministers of the good news, we are commanded to make disciples. (Matt. 28:19, 20) Making return visits is a vital part of our disciple-making work. We appreciate that lives are involved, so we want to make every effort to cultivate the initial interest shown.

² We should consider each individual with whom we have placed literature as worthy of a return visit. Placing literature, though, should not be the sole basis for making a return visit. Many are willing to discuss the Bible's message but decline the literature. So if interest is detected, we should by all means call back and try to cultivate it.

3 Following Up Placements: Since literature placements far exceed the number of return visits, there is a great potential for improvement. A pioneer placed a book but noticed very little interest on the part of the householder. One afternoon after making all his other

calls, the brother decided to call on this person. A Bible study was started.

⁴ One brother placed two magazines with a man but forgot about him, thinking he was not really interested. A few days later, the man wrote a letter to the local congregation to request baptism. A missionary sister was asked what she felt was the most outstanding factor in her having been able to help 74 persons to become publishers. She said, "We did a lot of magazine work, and I kept making return visits on people who accepted the magazines until I was able to start Bible studies with them."

⁵ At times we may only be able to leave a tract with the householder on the initial visit. Often, tracts can be effectively used on return visits to demonstrate a Bible study. A circuit overseer, working with another publisher, left a tract with a woman. It was a very brief call, but he encouraged the sister to

return. The sister made a return visit and immediately started a Bible study.

6 When Interest Is Shown: When the householder does not take literature on the first call, this does not always mean that he is not interested. Making a return visit on a young couple, a publisher found that they already had some of our literature and had studied previously. They readily agreed to resume their study. A special pioneer sensed latent interest in a woman who always refused to accept the magazines. The pioneer put the magazines aside, and the woman was willing to discuss a few paragraphs in one of the booklets. After a few more calls, she was having a Bible study twice a week.

⁷ Each one who dedicates himself to Jehovah should feel a responsibility to share in the disciple-making work. As we regularly call back on all who show interest, we will reap fruitage that will bring rich blessings both to ourselves 'and to those who listen to us.'—1 Tim. 4:16.

SERVICE MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY

Week Starting February 3

Song 63

10 min: Local announcements and selected Announcements from *Our Kingdom Ministry*. Feature magazine presentations based on current issues.

20 min: "Prepare Your Presentation for February." (10 min.) Questions and answers. (8 min.) Well-prepared demonstrations of two or three of the suggested presentations that are most appropriate for local territory. (2 min.) Encourage all to learn and use one or more of the suggested presentations.

15 min: "Adam and Eve," *Reasoning* book, pages 27-9. (5 min.) Introductory talk based on material under subheading "Were Adam and Eve merely allegorical (fictional) persons?" (6 min.) Demonstration of a return visit being made on a person with whom publisher left question "Was Adam's sin God's will, God's plan?" (4 min.) Encourage use of "If Someone Says—" section of *Reasoning* book articles for topics to discuss on return visits.

Song 30 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting February 10

Song 215

10 min: Local announcements, including service arrangements for the week and for special activity on February 17 where this is a holiday. Encourage extra effort to make return visits this month. This Service Meeting will explain and demonstrate four practical presentations for use in calling back on interested people. Select one or more to use this week.

20 min: "Starting the Conversation When You Return." (3 min.) Introductory talk covering points in paragraphs 1 and 2. (15 min.) Well-prepared demonstrations of each of the three

presentations in paragraphs 3-5. As time allows, after each demonstration, comments can be made on practicality of presentations. (2 min.) Drawing on thoughts in paragraph 6, give encouragement for all to prepare and use at least one of the suggested presentations for starting conversations with those who showed interest.

15 min: "Are You Able to Auxiliary Pioneer?" Discussion by elder and several publishers who have auxiliary pioneered in past and who plan to enroll again in March and April. In covering points in article, publishers explain why they want to auxiliary pioneer. They relate blessings experienced and explain adjustments they had to make to reach hour requirement. Discussion emphasizes joys of auxiliary pioneering and encourages all to consider this service privilege if their personal circumstances permit.

Song 114 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting February 17

Song 211

10 min: Local announcements, accounts report, and Society donation acknowledgments. Commend brothers for their financial support of Kingdom interests. Encourage publishers to share in field service this weekend.

20 min: "Be Sure to Call Back." Questions and answers and demonstrations. After considering paragraph 5, demonstrate return visit on person with whom tract was left. Discussion

THEOCRATIC NEWS

Ethiopia: The Ethiopian government has given official recognition to Jehovah's Witnesses as a registered organization. The brothers rejoice to have the legal recognition and move forward with the Kingdom work. Literature is being received, and assemblies are being held.

Ghana: The freeze on our work in this land has now been lifted. This has brought great joy to the brothers, as their Kingdom Halls are open again and permission to apply for registration under the existing law has been granted.

Liberia: After many months of being closed because of the civil war, the branch in Liberia has been reopened. Four missionaries have now returned to serve at the branch, and the brothers are happy to be associating together freely.

leads into Bible study in *Live Forever* book. After considering paragraph 6, demonstrate return visit on person who refused literature previously. Following demonstration, ask publisher why he decided to call back on this person.

15 min: "Joyfully Meeting the Needs of the Harvest." Question-and-answer coverage of paragraphs 1-16. Emphasize advantages of contacting Regional Building Committee before beginning a Kingdom Hall construction project. Help all to see the need to use dedicated resources wisely by means of careful purchasing, simple design, and detailed accounting procedures. Song 133 and concluding prayer.

Week Starting February 24

Song 115

10 min: Local announcements, including field service arrangements for week. Highlight Theocratic News items.

15 min: "Showing Support for the Pioneers." Questions and answers and interview. Emphasize blessings realized by whole congregation when pioneers are given needed support. Interview pioneers, highlighting how they have been helped in their pioneer ministry by elders and others.

20 min: "Joyfully Meeting the Needs of the Harvest." Discussion of paragraphs 17-37 of insert by two brothers who have participated in the Kingdom Hall construction work in local region if such are present. The need for more volunteers should be highlighted along with an explanation of the procedure to be followed in completing a Kingdom Hall Construction Worker Questionnaire. Outline who qualify to submit these forms. Include positive experiences that may have been enjoyed on local projects. Song 43 and concluding prayer.

CONGREGATION BOOK STUDY

Schedule for congregation studies in the book *Revelation—Its Grand Climax At Hand!*

	From:	To:
February 3:	p. 175, ¶ 12	p. 178, ¶ 6
February 10:	p. 178, ¶ 7	p. 182, ¶ 20
February 17:	p. 183, ¶ 21	p. 186, ¶ 30
February 24:	p. 186, ¶ 1	p. 189, ¶ 12

NOVEMBER SERVICE REPORT

Number of:		Av. Hrs.	Av. Mags.	Av. R.V.	Av. B.I.St.
Sp'l Pios.	217	124.6	71.5	52.2	5.8
Pios.	67,406	78.5	30.7	24.7	2.6
Aux. Pios.	27,512	57.5	23.4	15.5	1.4
Pubs.	759,838	9.9	5.8	3.7	0.5
TOTAL	854,973			Baptized: 2,968	

Joyfully Meeting the Needs of the Harvest

¹ Yes, this is harvesttime. We are now in the conclusion of the system of things, and as Jesus said in one of his parables, "The harvest is a conclusion of a system of things." (Matt. 13:39) At John 5:17, Jesus said: "My Father has kept working until now, and I keep working." In this harvesttime activity, Jehovah's people are busy not only in preaching the good news of the Kingdom but also in providing places of worship. Now more than ever, Kingdom Halls are needed. Thankfully, Jehovah has moved his loyal servants to volunteer their skills in the construction of Kingdom Halls. Not only are they working hard but they also are radiating a spirit of joy.

² It is now as it was in the days of Nehemiah when the Israelites were busy building Jerusalem's wall. Nehemiah 4:6 says that "the people continued to have a heart for working." What was the secret of that fine heart condition? It is mentioned later at Nehemiah 8:10: "For the joy of Jehovah is your stronghold." We certainly have every reason to be joyful workers. We have Jehovah's blessing. We have Jehovah's spirit, and joy is part of the fruitage of that spirit.—Gal. 5:22.

³ **Regional Building Committees:** Reports from the worldwide field indicate that 'the fields are ripe for harvesting.' (John 4:35) With this need in mind, in 1987 the Society began appointing Regional Building Committees to assist congregations with Kingdom Hall construction projects, whether new buildings or renovations. The elders appointed to serve on these committees are spiritual men who usually have considerable experience in the construction and business fields. Their advice has proved beneficial, especially when there is a spirit of cooperation between them and the brothers serving on the local building committee.

⁴ Three congregations that received assistance from volunteers working with a Regional Building Committee in California later wrote to the committee to express appreciation. They commented discerningly: "Would you please extend our love and thanks to your wives, your children, and your congregations. We appreciate so much the sacrifices they make in sharing you with so many of Jehovah's people."

⁵ One regional committee reported: "We received fine cooperation from the local building committee. We continue to feel . . . this is one of the most rewarding aspects of the role that we have, the relationship that develops with the local building committee." The local building committee representing two congregations in a western

state wrote recently: "This arrangement brings wonderful blessings to a congregation. Let us name some of them: providing skilled project direction through the building committee, arranging for hundreds of competent and spiritual brothers to help, making it possible for a quick project that does not spiritually weaken the congregation but strengthens the brothers' love for one another, giving a fine witness to the community, and best of all, producing a beautiful place in which to praise Jehovah."

⁶ **Contact Regional Building Committee Early:** When congregations are contemplating undertaking either a renovation or a new construction project, the local elders should contact the chairman of the regional committee at the inception of the project. The Regional Building Committees have been provided with guidelines by the Society, and these brothers have much experience that will assist in avoiding pitfalls when purchasing property and planning a building project. If they are kept fully informed of all projects in the area assigned to them, the regional committee can schedule volunteers so that all the projects are completed without overworking the skilled workers. Each Regional Building Committee maintains personnel lists and schedules the volunteers within its assigned region of operation.

⁷ The guidelines provided for the regional committees include factors to be weighed carefully before purchasing property, such as federal, state, and city laws that govern a variety of situations affecting a Kingdom Hall project. Congregations can wisely benefit from the observations of the elders appointed to serve on the Regional Building Committee by contacting them at the outset, well before any property is purchased.—Prov. 15:22.

⁸ Elders may contact the Regional Building Committee through the circuit overseer. He has the name, address, and telephone number of the chairman of the committee assigned to assist with Kingdom Hall construction in the area of the congregation.

⁹ **Purchasing Wisely:** For the most part, congregations have bought building materials wisely. The Society does not have a national buying program for purchasing building materials. However, from time to time, some manufacturers make special pricing available direct to the congregations. When this happens, the Society will send notice of these suppliers to the Regional Building Committees. In this case neither the Society nor the regional committee is recommending or approving the supplier. This is simply a matter of passing information along to the local congregations so that the materials and prices offered might be known and comparisons made.

¹⁰ Local elders should see that materials are obtained through careful comparison shopping. The regional committee can help in developing a list of items to be purchased, including interior-decorating items. Likely each committee knows of volunteers experienced in these areas who would gladly make their services available to assist congregations in developing the list of materials to be purchased. Other brothers knowledgeable in business matters may be used to obtain competitive pricing for the materials. Contact should be made with several suppliers to determine the best price while looking for adequate quality. While offers are sometimes made to provide materials or services "at cost," the elders must check the details carefully, since sometimes hidden costs are included. Since dedicated resources are being used, local cooperation with the Regional Building Committee will help ensure that these resources are spent wisely.

¹¹ **Keep Kingdom Hall Design Simple:** Even though a congregation may have accumulated funds sufficient to include extra features without seeking a loan, consideration should be given to using conventional designs and to building modestly. This makes any additional funds available for use in other theocratic endeavors. (om p. 61; 2 Cor. 8:14) Since many volunteer their labor on Kingdom Hall projects, workers may feel imposed upon if asked to build or to install labor-intensive embellishments. Although good sound is a necessity, elaborate systems with added features are not usually cost-effective or necessary. Careful consideration should be given to such matters before they are included in the project. The Regional Building Committee can provide valuable input in helping to make balanced decisions regarding design.

¹² Many congregations have built new Kingdom Halls by using funds lent locally by those associated with the congregation. At times a Kingdom Hall has been sold, and the receipts from the sale were sufficient to care for construction costs of a new, larger facility. However, some congregations must obtain additional financial assistance. They may contact the Society to find out whether a loan can be obtained, following the direction provided for the elders in a letter dated July 18, 1990. Before requesting a loan from the Society, the elders should take a survey locally to determine (1) how much will be contributed at the outset to assist with property purchase and construction costs, (2) how much can be lent locally by those associated with the involved congregation(s), and (3) how much will be contributed monthly to cover congregation operating expenses and to repay any loan that is obtained from the Society. No names should be shown on the slips that are turned in when this survey is taken. It is important that all pro-

vide accurate figures, taking a realistic look at their own contribution and loan prospects, as the elders will use these figures in making weighty decisions on behalf of the congregation.

¹³ When a Kingdom Hall construction project is completed, sometimes there are funds remaining. If the loan was obtained through the Society, any surplus should be returned to the Society immediately. The Society can then share the funds with others having a need. The extra funds should not be kept on hand locally nor should they be lent by the involved congregation(s) to other congregations.

¹⁴ **Cost Estimation and Accounting Procedures:** Before a Kingdom Hall construction project is undertaken, construction expenses should be estimated carefully before a final loan request is submitted. This prevents burdening the publishers with a heavier than necessary repayment schedule. Also, it leaves moneys in the Society Kingdom Hall Fund available for other congregations that have a pressing need for an improved Kingdom Hall. (Phil. 4:5) Since those serving with the regional committee have much experience in this regard, such estimates should be fairly accurate. While unforeseen expenses can cause cost overruns, reasonably accurate estimates can be projected with good planning and analysis of the major cost factors, thus eliminating the need for a large buffer to be included in cost projections.

¹⁵ A Kingdom Hall construction project involves the expenditure of great sums of money by the congregation. The elders must see that the funds are handled in a responsible manner. Accurate accounts records need to be maintained, and clear reports should be given to the involved congregation(s) monthly. The presiding overseer should see that the building fund and all associated accounts are audited quarterly on the same months that the regular congregation accounts are audited. The congregation must give overall approval of the project after being advised fully of the details and estimated costs. (km 6/84 p. 3) Thereafter, approval of all payments should be given in the proper manner before any funds are disbursed. At the conclusion of the project, there should be a clear accounting of all funds spent. Sharing a copy of this summary with the Regional Building Committee will help these brothers maintain accuracy in their estimates as they assist other congregations contemplating a construction project.

¹⁶ **What Has Been Accomplished:** There are now over 70 Regional Building Committees in the United States. They report that each year about 200 new Kingdom Halls are built and another 200 renovation projects are completed in the 48 contiguous states. That is an evidence of the unity and willing spirit manifested by

those loving Jehovah and their brothers.—John 13: 34, 35.

¹⁷ **Observed by Others:** The apostle Paul said: “We have become a theatrical spectacle to the world, and to angels, and to men.” (1 Cor. 4:9) Christians today are on display, and this is especially true during the time of Kingdom Hall construction. The work being done and the joyful spirit of the workers do not go unnoticed. As a result, newspapers print such bold headlines as “Jehovah’s Witnesses: Their Work Was Cut Out,” “In the True Spirit of Helping,” and “On the Third Day, They Rested.”

¹⁸ The unity of the volunteer workers has always amazed onlookers. In Massachusetts a news account referred to the project as having “the sound of an old family reunion,” since the noise of the work was punctuated by “shouts of joyous greetings.”

¹⁹ The mayor of a town in Minnesota visited the construction site when a Kingdom Hall was built locally. Thereafter, the local paper reported that the mayor “commented on the organization and professionalism of the volunteers.” A town zoning administrator in New York State was quoted in the newspaper as saying, “This job may have been quick, but it was quality.” In North Carolina a building inspector said, “This is one of the things building inspectors talk about when they get together, a weekend construction.”

²⁰ A congregation in Texas expressed appreciation for the Regional Building Committee arrangement and stated that the building project brought much praise and honor to Jehovah’s name. They reported that one clergyman observed the building project in disbelief and later taught his weekly night class that “this was a true evidence of the spirit of Christianity.”

²¹ A news staff writer commented: “Rome wasn’t built in a day, as the old saying goes, but the local congregation of Jehovah’s Witnesses has just about put that theory to rest with the erection of their new Kingdom Hall.” In Alabama a writer covered the local Kingdom Hall building project and stated: “This may seem like something you only hear about, but it happened right here. . . . What many view as pretty miraculous, the Jehovah’s Witnesses see as routine. . . . While they may not like to boast about their success, their spirit and cooperation set examples for many to follow.”

²² In Texas a non-Witness wrote the newspaper after watching one of the quickly built projects: “I just watched in amazement as this building grew before my eyes. People were all over it, inside and out. . . . There was no shouting, cussing, or apparent ordering. From a distance it seemed as if an unseen hand was directing everyone. Perhaps so. I’m still amazed at the reality of it.” He concluded his letter by saying: “When they come to your home, they don’t mean to bother you. They just

want to share their love and joy with everyone. Maybe we ought at least to listen to them. I know I will. Because what I saw last weekend was like a shining light in a darkening world, and today, folks, we need some of that light and love.”

²³ **Loving Volunteer Assistance:** The thousands of volunteers, including skilled workers who assist with Kingdom Hall construction, are certainly to be commended. Their doing this without receiving reimbursement for their effort is an evidence of Jehovah’s spirit operating through them. (Acts 20:35; 1 John 4:12, 13, 21) So much is accomplished by these joyful workers on the construction site.

²⁴ Many qualified workers contribute their time and skills to assist with property purchase, building design, construction and engineering, decorating, landscaping, site development, purchasing, food service, traffic, safety, and so forth. Brothers contribute the use of their own equipment on these projects. How happy this must make our Father, Jehovah, when he sees them using their possessions and abilities in such a loving way! —Compare 1 Thessalonians 2:6-9 and 2 Thessalonians 3:8b.

²⁵ **More Volunteers Needed:** Regional Building Committees report that many more volunteers are needed. This is a necessary service in support of Kingdom interests. (1 Cor. 15:58) Skilled workers are needed, as are other mature brothers with spiritual qualifications although not skilled in building trades. If you so qualify, could you make some adjustments so that you would be in a position to volunteer? (Isa. 6:8) For example, some elders or ministerial servants may be able to help with Kingdom Hall construction for one weekend each month or two. They might receive training in order to assume additional responsibilities, often in nonconstruction departments. This would provide assistance to the hardworking brothers overseeing these projects.

²⁶ Regional Building Committees and local building committees schedule the volunteers so that they are at the building site when their help is needed. These volunteers return to their home congregations and families as quickly as possible and do not unnecessarily miss sharing in the meetings and field service activity. Those at the Kingdom Hall construction site would be those who are (1) the approved volunteers specifically assigned by the department heads to be present and (2) those who come from the congregations in the area where the Kingdom Hall is being built to make up the general unskilled work force. Others are encouraged to support the field service activity and meetings in their own congregations.

²⁷ **Volunteer Procedure:** How does one volunteer? In August 1990 each body of elders was sent a supply of Kingdom Hall Construction Worker Questionnaire

forms. These are available for qualified workers upon request. As more forms are needed, the elders obtain them from the circuit overseer. The elders have detailed instructions regarding the volunteers needed and the qualifications that must be met.

²⁸ If you wish to volunteer to assist with Kingdom Hall construction in your area and you are a ministerial servant or an elder or you are an exemplary Christian who is a skilled worker, you may request one of the forms from the elders in your congregation. Return the completed form to the elders. They will add their comments and forward it to the circuit overseer, who, in turn, will complete the form and send it to the Regional Building Committee. If your personal circumstances allow and you qualify to volunteer, great blessings will be yours as you see the joy of your brothers and sisters upon completion of their Kingdom Hall construction project, to Jehovah's praise.

²⁹ **All Can Help:** Those who are not in a position to volunteer perform a valuable service also. They assist in caring for congregation needs while others are serving at a Kingdom Hall construction project. Of necessity some volunteers must occasionally be away from the meetings in their home congregation as they lovingly assist other congregations with Kingdom Hall construction.

³⁰ Also, when a Kingdom Hall is being built nearby, publishers in your congregation who do not have construction skills may have the opportunity to assist as part of the general labor force. These workers do not fill out the volunteer questionnaires. The need is made known, and the arrangements are made through the elders in the congregation(s) involved in the construction project and the elders in the neighboring congregations on a one-time basis.

³¹ All of us have the opportunity to contribute financially toward the Society Kingdom Hall Fund as our circumstances allow. Since the Society Kingdom Hall Fund was established in September 1983, funds have been made available to assist with the construction of 1,000 new Kingdom Halls in the United States branch territory. These accommodate 1,488 congregations. Many congregations could not have obtained such fine meeting places were it not for the love of the brotherhood that has been manifest in your generous support of the Society Kingdom Hall Fund.

³² The Society Kingdom Hall Fund makes loans to assist with constructing new Kingdom Halls. As monies are repaid along with interest, these funds are lent to other congregations having a need. There are advantages in contacting the Society with a loan request before seeking funding from a commercial firm.

³³ **Expressions of Appreciation:** When their new Kingdom Hall was completed, a congregation in Penn-

sylvania said this in a letter to the Society: "We are writing you to thank you for your loving assistance in the building of our new Kingdom Hall. Our building is now completely finished and dedicated to Jehovah, and the congregation is extremely grateful to have such a beautiful building for Jehovah's worship. Our congregation has always gladly supported the Society Kingdom Hall Fund and local building projects and will continue to do so, realizing the great need for yet other congregations to benefit from this generous and important provision."

³⁴ A congregation in California expressed appreciation for the loving assistance that had been made available in their behalf, saying: "We wish to express to you our deepest thanks for the assistance of the Society Kingdom Hall Fund. Without it the construction of [our] hall would have been much more difficult and delayed for some time. Jehovah's wisdom is certainly evident in this arrangement."

³⁵ A Wisconsin congregation wrote: "It has been a little over a year since we dedicated our Kingdom Hall to Jehovah, and we want to express our appreciation for being a recipient of the [Society] Kingdom Hall Fund. What seemed an impossibility two years ago has now become a reality—all because of the loving generosity of our brothers and sisters."

³⁶ From Oregon appreciation was expressed for the fund in these words: "How good it has been to have experienced Jehovah's hand at work in our case. We have seen the love and unity of brothers working together to bring a great witness to Jehovah's name in our community. Thank you so much for encouraging all of us to share our valuable things toward such a noble cause as the Society Kingdom Hall Fund."

³⁷ **The Work Ahead:** Yes, all of us have reason to be joyful as we meet the needs of the harvest. We should have a spirit of cooperation—working together and fully supporting this necessary activity. (Ps. 133:1) How happy we are to have men appointed by Jehovah's organization to take the lead both in spiritual matters and in the construction of needed facilities! Paul appealed to the Philippians, saying: "Make my joy full in that you are of the same mind and have the same love." (Phil. 2:2) Surely, we have every reason to rejoice, as we are entrusted with the good news of the established Kingdom to "be preached in all the inhabited earth for a witness to all the nations" before the end comes. (Matt. 24:14) Our taking a firm stand on the side of that Kingdom and loyally working for its interests makes Jehovah's heart rejoice. "Be wise, my son, and make my heart rejoice, that I may make a reply to him that is taunting me." (Prov. 27:11) What a remarkable privilege is ours to be working along and sharing joyfully with Jesus Christ in Jehovah's work!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ Literature offer for **February**: Any 192-page book published in 1983 or earlier. If the congregation has no stock of these books, the book *Worldwide Security Under the "Prince of Peace"* should be offered and can be requested from Brooklyn. **March**: *Revelation—Its Grand Climax At Hand!* **April and May**: Watchtower subscription.

■ The secretary and the service overseer should review the activity of all regular pioneers. If any are having difficulty meeting the requirement of hours, elders should arrange for assistance to be given. For suggestions, review Society's letters (S-201) of October 1, 1991, and October 1, 1990. Also, see paragraphs 12-20 of the August 1986 *Our Kingdom Ministry* insert.

■ On Saturday, April 25, 1992, the Brooklyn Bethel Home and factory as well as Watchtower Farms buildings will be closed for spring cleaning, so there will be no arrangements for tours or for congregations to pick up literature on that day.

■ The Memorial celebration will be held Friday, April 17, 1992. Although the talk may start earlier, please remember that the passing of the Memo-

rial bread and wine should not begin until after sundown. Check with local sources to determine when sundown occurs in your area. No meetings other than for field service are to be conducted on that date.

■ The special public talk in 1992 will precede the Memorial and be held on Sunday, April 5, 1992. The title will be "Religion's Role in World Affairs." Congregations being visited by the circuit overseer, having a special assembly day, or having a circuit assembly will schedule the special public talk on the following Sunday, April 12, 1992. Those congregations having Public Meetings on days other than Sunday may schedule the special public talk during the period of April 6-11.

■ Those publishers who wish to auxiliary pioneer in March and April should make their plans now and turn in their application early. This will help the elders to make necessary field service arrangements and have sufficient literature on hand.

■ Recently, there has been an increase in mailing costs for audiocassette subscriptions, both for surface mail and for airmail, which affects the Society's costs for supplying these.

■ The Society has produced a new tract in English and in Spanish for use among the Jewish population. The title

is *A Peaceful New World—Will It Come?* (Tract No. 17). Congregations that have a Jewish population in their territory may wish to request a supply of this tract. As it becomes available in other languages, announcement will be made.

■ New Publications Available:

Albanian: "Look! I Am Making All Things New" (Brochure). **Cebuano**: *Spirits of the Dead—Can They Help You or Harm You? Do They Really Exist?* **Finnish**: "All Scripture Is Inspired of God and Beneficial" (Revised); *Spirits of the Dead—Can They Help You or Harm You? Do They Really Exist?* **Greek**: *How to Find the Road to Paradise* (for Muslims). **Hungarian**: *Man's Search for God. Iloko*: *Spirits of the Dead—Can They Help You or Harm You? Do They Really Exist?* **Japanese**: *Spirits of the Dead—Can They Help You or Harm You? Do They Really Exist?* **Latvian**: Tract No. 13; Tract No. 14; Tract No. 16. **Romanian**: *Life—How Did It Get Here? By Evolution or by Creation?* (Large size). **Sinhalese**: *My Book of Bible Stories*. **Tagalog**: *Spirits of the Dead—Can They Help You or Harm You? Do They Really Exist?*

■ New Videocassettes Available:

American Sign Language (ASL): *Jehovah's Witnesses—The Organization Behind the Name*.

Showing Support for the Pioneers

Elders, MS, Pub.
1 God's people are known for their zealous share in the ministry. Though not all have circumstances that allow them to pioneer, we should strive to develop the pioneer spirit—being whole-souled in what we do. We rejoice with and encourage the many who are able to enter the pioneer service.

2 Becoming and remaining a pioneer is a big undertaking. Pioneers shoulder a large portion of the preaching and teaching work. This is not accomplished without much effort and sacrifice. How can others support and encourage these zealous full-time servants?

3 What Can Be Done: Pioneers need the support of the elders. Much encouragement is provided when elders work with the pioneers. Many elders try to work with each pioneer in the congregation at least once a year. In this way the elders are able to give commendation for what the pioneers are doing and help them make further progress. Pioneers may need to readjust their schedule to be in service at

a time when the elders are available.

Also, elders will want to make sure that sufficient territory is available for the groups. Additional meetings for field service could be scheduled in the afternoons or evenings to accommodate the schedules of the pioneers. This would be especially true during those months when there are a number of auxiliary pioneers.—Isa. 40:11.

4 Ministerial servants are in a fine position to assist pioneers by supporting them in the ministry and by diligently caring for congregation arrangements. Pioneer sisters appreciate having brothers take the lead in organizing the field service groups. Those handling the literature and magazines can make sure that there are sufficient supplies available. Taking care of such matters enables the pioneers to focus on their ministry.

5 Everyone Can Help: Publishers can help by making themselves available more often to work with the pioneers. Pioneers enjoy the company and support of the other publishers.

Perhaps you can arrange to work with the pioneers once a week or twice a month. Material things can be shared with the pioneers, and this generosity is much appreciated by the pioneers.—Phil. 4:14-19.

6 Families can do much to assist their members who are pioneering. Often, household chores can be rearranged to permit one or more family members to pioneer. One sister with three children works two days a week. Her sons help out by caring for the shopping and doing work around the home. The daughter helps with the cleaning and cooking. Since her graduation, she too has begun pioneering, alternating workdays with her mother. Such cooperation within the family enables more to pioneer and brings blessings to the family.

7 Diligent pioneers prove themselves to be a blessing to the congregation in many ways. Their zeal and example encourage many to do more in the service. Certainly, we should want to do what we can to support them. Such united efforts bring joy to all and result in praise to Jehovah.

Prepare Your Presentation for February

¹ During February, we are featuring any 192-page book published in 1983 or earlier or the *Worldwide Security* book. Any of these fine publications can be used to present the good news in a variety of ways. No doubt you will find it practical to learn and use one or all of the following suggested presentations.

² **The Earth—Man's Lasting Home:** If you want to start conversations with people who are concerned about the earth and its environment, try the theme "The Earth to Last Forever as Mankind's Home." This topic is flexible enough to capture the attention of family-oriented people, nature lovers, and environmentalists. The scripture to use is Ecclesiastes 1:4. The theme and scripture are explained in the *Worldwide Security* book, pages 98-9, paragraphs 2 and 3.

³ **After introducing yourself, you could say:**

■ "I am calling briefly to discuss a matter of deep concern to many of us. The earth is our home, and no doubt you too are concerned about the way it is being ruined. Scientists and environmentalists keep warning that if the pollution continues, the earth could become uninhabitable. Do you see any solution to

the problem? [Pause for householder to comment if he desires.] Briefly, I would like to show you what the Bible says about the future of the earth at Ecclesiastes 1:4." Read the text, and show comments in paragraphs 2 and 3 on pages 98-9 of the *Worldwide Security* book.

⁴ **Wickedness to Be Removed:** To appeal to people who are concerned about crime, violence, and war, you may want to converse with them on the theme "Wickedness to Be Removed So That Those Who Love God Can Enjoy Life and Peace." Psalm 37:9-11 makes this point, and it is explained in the *Worldwide Security* book, pages 118-20, paragraphs 13-15.

⁵ **Following a customary introduction, you could say:**

■ "Do you think a time will ever come when we will not have to contend with crime and violence? [Allow for householder's response.] The Bible points to the lasting solution here at Psalm 37:9-11." Read the text and turn to pages 118-20 in the *Worldwide Security* book to read selected portions of paragraphs 13-15.

⁶ **The Resurrection Hope:** Since at some time everyone has lost a loved one

in death, it could be comforting to initiate conversations on the topic "Kingdom Rule to Restore Life to Dead Loved Ones Under Paradise Conditions." You could use either John 5:28, 29 or Luke 23:43 and show the comments on the topic and scripture that are found in the *Worldwide Security* book, pages 166-7, paragraphs 12 and 13.

⁷ **You could begin your conversation with the third introduction on page 14 of the "Reasoning" book and then say:**

■ "From time to time most of us think about loved ones we have lost in death. But do you feel that we might see them again? [Give householder opportunity to express himself.] Many people we talk to are surprised to learn what God's Word has promised and that this prospect will be realized right here on earth. Note the Bible's promise at . . ." Use either John 5:28, 29 or Luke 23:43, and tie in the comments in paragraphs 12 and 13 on pages 166-7 of the *Worldwide Security* book or the illustrations on pages 164-5.

⁸ Prepare and use one or all of these presentations this month. It should not be difficult to locate appropriate quotations and illustrations in any of the publications you use. If little interest is shown, offer a tract that deals with a related subject.

Starting the Conversation When You Return

¹ To be effective in starting a conversation with someone who has shown interest on the initial call, try to build on what was established on that earlier occasion. The objective is to help the person appreciate the value of the thoughts and literature left with him previously.

² Take time to prepare for making the return visit. Select interest-arousing comments that are in the publication you are featuring. Exercise discernment in determining how much material to cover and how long to stay. In most cases a brief discussion of one or two points is best unless unusual interest is manifested. Consider the following themes:

³ **What future conditions can we expect to be brought about on earth if it is to be man's lasting home?** This discussion is based on Isaiah 11:6-9 and 65:25, as explained and illustrated in the *Worldwide Security* book on pages 172-5.

The conversation can be introduced by saying:

■ "When I last visited, we discussed how God has purposed that the earth last forever. But I left a question for you to think about: What conditions must then prevail? I am happy to return and briefly share the Bible's answer with you."

⁴ **What we must do to enjoy life under God's Kingdom.** This theme can be developed by using John 17:3 and Jeremiah 31:34, as explained in the *Worldwide Security* book on pages 119-20.

To begin, you could say:

■ "I enjoyed my conversation with you on God's promise to end wickedness. [Ask person to get his *Worldwide Security* book.] A question that should concern each of us is, What can we do to be on hand to benefit from this change? Note what Jesus said at John 17:3, as quoted in your book on page 120."

⁵ **What needs will be satisfied in the Paradise earth?** You can use either Psalm 65:9-13 and 72:16 or Isaiah 11:6-9 and 65:25. Appropriate comments are made in the *Worldwide Security* book on pages 174-5.

Your opening words might be:

■ "When I was here last [give day], we took note of God's promise through his Son to resurrect dead loved ones into a Paradise earth. What are some of the blessings to be enjoyed then? Your book Scripturally points out what some of these will be." Based on the references above, read one or two cited texts from the Bible and comments from the book, perhaps paragraphs 7-10.

⁶ Many people have shown interest in the Kingdom message we preach. In many cases, we discerned enough interest on their part to leave our literature. In other cases, we noted appreciation for our initial Scriptural conversation. Therefore, make return visits on all who have shown interest, and try to teach them the truth.—Matt. 10:11; 28:19, 20; John 21:17; Rev. 22:17.