

## Watchtower Theocratic Organization Notes

Approx. 20 **Congregations** (Kingdom Halls) = **Circuit** (w/Circuit Overseer)

Approx 10 Circuits = **District** (w/District Overseer)

Several Districts = under a **Branch Office**

Several Branches = a **Zone**(w/Zone Overseer)

all of which are under the **Governing Body**

**Publishers** - Rank and file Witnesses who put in at least one hour of service each month

- Non-baptized Publisher - has not yet received baptism but participates in field ministry
- Auxiliary Pioneer - Commit to 50 hours of field service per month
- Regular Pioneer - Commits to 70 hours per month / 840 hours per year + receive recommendation from elders
- Special Pioneer – Appointed by branch for special work, such as service in a remote or new area w/ generally a 130 hour per month commitment
- Missionaries – Sent to foreign countries w/ 130 hour per month commitment.

**Elders** – Appointed male publishers who make decisions about the congregation's well-fare and fill positions of leadership. The body of elders makes recommendations regarding new elders who are confirmed by the branch office. Elders lead the various meetings, conduct pastoral calls and run judicial committees.

Positions include:

- Presiding Overseer
- Secretary Service Overseer
- Watchtower Study Conductor
- Theocratic Ministry School Overseer
- Congregation Book Study Overseers
- Kingdom Hall Operating Committee Member
- Public Talk Coordinator

**Ministerial Servants** – Assist the elders in routine tasks such as running the literature booth and checking the sound system.

A Witness in good standing is expected to attend five meetings per week:

- **Public Talk** – usually on Sunday on a public friendly theme
- **Watchtower Study** – Usually on Sunday. Studies a selected Watchtower article. Geared toward members.
- **Theocratic Ministry School** – trains the publishers in the art of speaking and presenting
- **Service Meeting** – demonstrations and advice on how to handle situations in the field / apologetics
- **Congregation Book Study** – Done in a smaller book study group at a member's home. A Watchtower publication (for example: Revelation: the Grand Climax is at Hand!) is gone over chapter by chapter.

Also, a small portion of the JW's are “Anointed”, or members of the 144,000 with a Heavenly hope who rule over those with an Earthly hope as the Faithful and Discreet Slave class. The Governing Body is the representative of the Faithful and Discreet Slave class here on Earth. Only anointed JW's partake of the “emblems” (bread and wine) at the yearly Memorial.