The program of the CME Retirement Plan and Trust offers “Emergency Travel Assistance Services.” What is it?

Three years ago, a OneBeacon brochure and its wallet-size companion card offering “Emergency Travel Assistance Services” were included with the annual report sent to the participants of the CME Retirement Plan and Trust. Although referenced in my Board’s report to and presented at the General Connectional Board of 2008, few remember receiving the card or reading the brochure. This could prove to be an expensive oversight!

Specifically this benefit was described as follows in the 2008 report of our Administrator, “Sun Life Financial is now offering ‘Emergency Travel Assistance Services.’ This unique emergency medical and personal assistance program protects you 24 hours a day, 365 days a year whenever you travel more than 100 miles from home. This program connects you to doctors, hospitals, pharmacies and other vital services if you are faced with a medical-related emergency while traveling anywhere in the world. All services must be provided and arranged through this program. No claims for reimbursement will be accepted …”

This program offers many different services in categories such as Medical Evacuation and Repatriation, Medical Assistance Services, Personal Assistance Services, Information Assistance Services, and Access to Personal Security Services. Examples of how this program may be helpful to participants and their families in the future saving them thousands of dollars would be circumstances such as (when more than 100 miles from home) if because of an injury, illness or death, you need Emergency Medical Evacuation, Assisted Repatriation, Post-Recovery, Return of Mortal Remains, or return of Dependent Children or travel companion. The program also assists in arranging Emergency Travel reservations, assistance in replacing Lost or Stolen Travel Documents, securing Legal Referral, obtaining emergency Transfer of Funds and many other benefits.

To fully appreciate the many benefits of this program and to be properly prepared to utilize its offering, participants should additionally be aware that:
1) This program is not an insurance policy and therefore no benefits will be provided without prior approval.

2) Presently this plan is provided as a no-cost benefit to participants in our Retirement Plan.

3) Certain aggregate limits may apply to some circumstances.

4) In situations involving participants, family members need to understand this plan.

An additional copy of the original brochure may be obtained from the General Board of Personnel Services web-page of the CME Church’s web-site (www.c-m-e.org). More information or other concerns may be addressed to Plan Administration Management (901) 345-9730 or the General Board of Personnel Services (901) 345-4100.

This is an extremely important benefit and is one of the reasons why our leaders work so hard to make the plans and programs of the CME Church the best than can be found anywhere.

At least that is the way it looks to me … “From Where I Sit”

Next month’s article – CME Church’s 403(b) Plan