Despite all that is occurring in our world today, this is still the best time to secure more life insurance for those selected persons who are eligible to obtain it. Yes, we have life insurance associated with our CME Retirement Plan, but its total is limited to the amount of our salaries and then only if the full amount of our 12% is contributed. And yes, we may have retiree insurance (sponsored and funded by the General Board of Personnel Services) if we retired after age 72 but its maximum is limited to $10,000 on the life of the participant. But what if we want more life insurance? Do we have any options?

Yes, there is one option that is available for pastors, presiding elders, and other employees of the CME Church (clergy or lay) who meet just a few requirements. That option is the CME Key Person Life Insurance Plan underwritten by Unum! And that option is available to any employee of the CME Church (connectional or local) who works approximately 20 hours per week and receives a salary (not an honorarium) and who is 70 or younger at the time of enrollment. These eligible employees may enroll for either $50,000 or $100,000 of benefits that will be payable to their designated beneficiaries. And because this is an existing group Plan, a key feature of it is that there are NO medical questions. It offers GUARANTEED ACCEPTANCE of enrollees who work for the church and are 70 or younger at the time of enrollment. There is also NO WAITING PERIOD. Enrollees are covered immediately upon receipt of their completed enrollment form and payment.

The annual cost is $990 for $100,000 ($515 semiannually) and $590 for $50,000 ($315 semiannually). These costs can be self-paid by the enrollee or fully paid by the church with 50% of the benefit allocated to the church. The Plan also includes 1) double indemnity, 2) accidental death, 3) dismemberment and 4) limited educational benefits (for dependent children).

Of course, if you have questions, we encourage you to contact us at (901) 345-4100 and (during this Pandemic period) leave a message. Calls are generally returned the same day. Same day enrollment can also be accomplished by emailing a completed form and submitting an online payment. It’s just that simple.

Although, normal enrollment periods are January and July for annual and semiannual payments, we urge you to inquire about the reduced rates that are available for this Fall season that can make your initial enrollment far more financially attractive.

So, whether you are young and are beginning your career of service in the CME Church, or mid-age with growing family needs, or even more seasoned in life and looking to ensure that your loved ones are unburdened with end-of-life medical or other obligations, there is always a need for more life insurance especially when it is well-priced. This is a golden opportunity for CME employees, both clergy and laity, to better protect their families and loved ones against the unexpected. Or at least that’s the way it looks to me …

Tyrone T. Davis, D.Min, is the General Secretary of the Board of Personnel Services (Copies of earlier articles may be found on the Personnel Services Webpage of the CME Website at www.thecmechurch.org)