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SOME HELPFUL NOTES FROM YOUR REGION STAFF

The Affordable Care Act and Churches

Some key elements of the Affordable Care Act went into effect October 1. Here are two things you should know.

First, the act could provide opportunities for lower cost coverage for small employers and their employees, such as churches. Here is a link to an article that talks about this:

<http://www.abpnews.com/ministry/congregations/item/8883-churches-may-payless-under-obamacare>

If want to know more about enrolling church employees in a healthcare plan or purchasing an individual plan, you can go to: <https://www.healthcare.gov/what-is-the-shop-marketplace/>.

Second, many employers are sending out notices to their employees concerning the new provisions coming into effect under the Affordable Care Act. Will an employer be fined or punished if they do not send out these notices? **NO!** Is it helpful to send out the notices? Each employer must decide. At the following link you can learn more about the sending of these notices and links to copies of the notices that can be sent, both for employers that provide health insurance and for employers that do not provide insurance. <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/faqs/faq-noticeofcoverageoptions.html>

We **recommend** that you consider sending this notice to your employees to make them aware of the opportunities afforded them under this new law. Will you be fined or punished if you do not? **NO!** Could your employees benefit? **YES!**

I hope this is helpful to you. If you discover some good resources that help to clarify this new insurance situation, please share them with me so that I might in turn share them with the rest of our ABCCR family.

This ministry is made possible by your gifts to the Region.

Growing Healthy Churches to Fulfill Christ's Mission

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