



**Free Methodist Church USA  
39th General Conference  
RESOLUTION**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Complete requested information, adding additional pages as necessary. Save and e-mail completed form to your Annual Conference office.

INTRODUCED BY: Jeffery D. Harrold

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: Southern Michigan

WRITTEN BY: Jeffery D. Harrold

General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY

Resolution No. 701

Received Date: 12/19/2022

Resolution Committee Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

BOA Consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

GC Consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATED TO PARAGRAPH 7110-7150

Referred to Ministry Team Number:

SUBJECT OR TITLE: Restoration Through a Restorative Practice Model

Final Vote: Yes No

**WHEREAS:** ¶7110.I states, “When a person is caught in sin, it is our responsibility to restore them gently and with all humility” and,

Whereas: ¶7120 states, “If an accusation is shown to be true, all action by the church is designed to lead to repentance, forgiveness and return to fellowship with God and the church and,

Whereas: ¶7130.B states, “When there is a breach of order, the response, of the church shall be directed toward both the offender and those harmed” and,

Whereas: The process of restoration in too many Annual Conferences has in the past lead to a “one and done” mentality that saw the minster/Elder removed but not restored and,

Whereas: The process of restoration, in practice, varies from Conference to Conference

**Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED:**

That each Annual Conference MEG Board and Denominational Regional Review Board shall use a restorative practice model of restoration([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restorative\\_practices#Restorative\\_conferences](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Restorative_practices#Restorative_conferences)) , which works to build healthy communities, repair harm and restore relationships.

And be it further resolved that all members of the Annual Conference MEG Boards and Regional Review Boards shall be required to receive training in conducting restorative practice within the Conference year that coincides with the close of the 2023 General Conference.

Reference: <https://www.iirp.edu/restorative-practices/what-is-restorative-practices>

## **Annual Conference Resolutions Committee Worksheet:**

**Mission:** To love God, love people and make disciples.

**Vision:** To bring wholeness to the world through healthy biblical communities of holy people multiplying disciples, leaders, groups and churches.

1. Does the resolution have a direct relationship to the vision and mission of the Free Methodist Church?

**Yes**

2. How will the proposed change help us accomplish our vision and mission

*In our current climate, ongoing division is expected to continue within the bonds of our fellowship as Free Methodists. Identifying a conflict resolution process/model to help the church navigate current and on-going conflict is critical to keep us focused on our mission. However, we rate this resolution as a B recommending it as worthy of review only because it lacks specificity regarding a particular model.*

3. The Resolutions Committee rates this resolution as:

**(A) Recommended - worthy of review**

Other Comments: