

Free Methodist Church USA 39th General Conference RESOLUTION

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INTRODUCED BY: GC23 Genesis Delegation	General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE ONLY	
ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: Genesis	Resolution No. 805	
WRITTEN BY: Joe Wickman, Dodi McEntyre, Joel Shue, Cathy Albrecht, Marissa Mattox Heffernan, Chelsea Leahy	Received Date: 1/2/2023	
	Resolution Committee Grade:A	
	BOA Consideration:	
	GC Consideration:	
RELATED TO PARAGRAPH	Referred to Ministry Team Number:	

SUBJECT OR TITLE: Publications Shift	Final Vote:	Yes	No

WHEREAS:

Free Methodist authors produce resources that should be easily and readily available to all Free Methodist communications (internal and public facing) should be keeping up with the times

Our Free Methodist communications and resources could benefit from increased discoverability, accessibility and exposure to the masses due to the fact that modes by which consumers gain access to content has shifted

- Communication in our culture has shifted heavily toward digital distribution
- Major distributors have direct access to virtually the entire population of the world

Printed resources produced by Free Methodist authors do not benefit from the marketing and distribution power of companies such as Amazon

Free Methodist authors, when distributing solely through Light & Life, limit their audiences and the distribution of their work to the wider church and secular worlds

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED:

To rethink our communication and technology strategy, including the makeup and necessity of Light & Life Publishing.

- To evaluate the effectiveness of Light & Life versus other communications and publishing strategies.
- To evaluate diversifying or outsourcing publishing, making Light & Life Publishing leaner or eliminating it.

To make the resources Free Methodist authors produce more accessible to the masses.

To radically rethink our publishing, catching up to current trends including:

- *all communication available digitally (including on major websites, such as Amazon)
- *all physical books be print-on-demand
- *availability of current FM elders to link their books to an FM hub
- *"yearbooks" being shifted to an online database, available immediately (as soon as statistics are added)

