



**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: GC23 Genesis Delegation Team

ANNUAL CONFERENCE NAME: Genesis

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General Conference Secretary - OFFICE USE
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Resolution No. 807

Received Date: 1/2/2023

Resolution Committee Grade: B

BOA Consideration: _____

GC Consideration: _____

RELATED TO PARAGRAPH	Referred to Ministry Team Number:
SUBJECT OR TITLE: Next Gen Leadership	Final Vote: Yes No

WHEREAS:

It is crucial, for the sustainability of the Free Methodist Church and the Free Methodist Way to future generations, that we begin to bridge the ever growing gap between our highest level of leadership and the next generation of leaders...

Whereas, all three Bishops within the current board of bishops will reach the age of retirement during another term of leadership...

Whereas, we have identified a need to explore new and creative ways in which to keep pace with rapidly shifting culture and the need to engage young people in new and different ways within our local church environments...

Whereas, it has become more important than ever to engage these younger generations at all levels of leadership including, and most especially, our highest levels of leadership...

Whereas, advances in technology and a new age of engagement by younger generations is rapidly changing, the ability to stay on top of these ever shifting mediums has become difficult to manage in a world where ministry is already difficult...

Whereas, the needs of those younger generations growing up and living within these ever changing times shift as quickly as the technology they have become so dependent upon...

Whereas, the needs of the younger generations within the United States are dynamic and unique in nature...

Whereas, you should not legislate the outcome of a democratic process...

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED:

That we recommend a special election of an added Bishop to the current Board of Bishops. This Bishop's unique role shall have responsibility for engaging, equipping and leading the next generation of leaders. This Bishop would be expected to have all of the characteristics and fruitfulness of a Bishop in the FMC as well as specific criteria that addresses the needs to be engaging a younger demographic of current and future leaders, such as:

- is already comfortable in the use and exploration of new and diverse communication mediums
- this Bishop already be utilizing multiple social media and communication platforms that are in use by the next generation

We further resolve, that this Bishop would have responsibility to ensure that the younger generation of leaders within the US has a voice in every level of leadership and is bridging the growing generational gap, so as to properly equip and empower the next generation of leaders and Bishops to ensure the perpetuation of the Free Methodist Way to the future world.

In the absence of a special election to address this critical need, we alternately propose that each election have at least two (2) candidates nominated that meet the unique criteria addressed above.

