

SUBJECT: Leadership Organization

BY: East Michigan Conference / Charles Toy

RELATED TO: Par. A/532

Rating:

ASSIGNED:

ACTION: Resolutions Comm:
Ministry Committee:
General Conference:

1 WHEREAS, the Free Methodist Church of North America (FMCNA) has leadership
2 issues at various levels, people with people, Churches with Pastors, Pastors with
3 Superintendents, and Superintendents with Bishops, and

4 WHEREAS, there is a loss of connectedness from the Church member or attendee
5 level to the Bishop level, and

6 WHEREAS, church membership levels have remained basically static around the
7 71,000 level for two decades during times of numerous leadership changes,
8 ideological changes and vision changes, with no apparent change in growth, and

9 WHEREAS, the total number of Free Methodist Churches in North America has
10 decreased in the last two decades, and

11 WHEREAS, the Board of Bishops has approved a Resolution acknowledging that
12 North America is a "mission field," and

13 WHEREAS, the FMCNA is looking at changes in the requirements of full
14 membership as set out in Paragraph A/151, which incorporates the Articles of
15 Religion, the Covenant, the goals for Christian conduct and matters of church
16 government as written in the *Book of Discipline*, to include "thou shalt not" to
17 various lifestyles, acts and conduct, and

18 WHEREAS, the FMCNA, its leadership, ministers, and churches and their members,
19 have wounds that remain unhealed and, resultantly, people who are hurting and
20 need spiritual guidance and encouragement, and

21 WHEREAS, the FMCNA, its leaders, churches and their members are a people
22 desperate for the presence of God, and

23 WHEREAS, the FMCNA, its leaders, churches and their members are a people
24 desperate for the Free Methodist Church to be a great and blessed movement of
25 God, and

26 WHEREAS, church leadership nurturing and development are not methodical or
27 consistent, and

28 WHEREAS, church attendees are not hearing the blessing of holiness preached
29 from the pulpit on a regular basis, and

30 WHEREAS, church attendees neither hear nor clearly understand the vision and
31 mission of the FMCNA, nor are systematically encouraged to implement the vision
32 and mission of the FMCNA,

33 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

34 1. Without violating the duties of a Bishop as set out in the *Book of Discipline*,
35 the Board of Bishops shall focus all strategic planning on spiritual/discipleship
36 issues that will have as its goal making the Free Methodist Church of North
37 America (FMCNA) a great and blessed movement of God.

38 2. Bishops shall plan and be a presenter at quarterly conferences held at
39 strategic locations in each regional area to train members of the church in
40 areas that will develop Christ-like maturity and equip them for ministry to
41 fulfill the vision that every Free Methodist Church be a healthy, Biblical
42 community of holy people, multiplying disciples, leaders, groups and
43 churches.

44 3. Bishops shall plan and be a presenter at quarterly conferences held at
45 strategic locations in each regional area to train ordained ministry and local
46 ministerial candidates of the church in personal and professional
47 development to fulfill the vision that every Free Methodist Church be a

48 healthy, Biblical community of holy people, multiplying disciples, leaders,
49 groups and churches.

50 4. The Board of Bishops place the teaching of heart purity and perfection in
51 priority position in teaching, training, and holding leadership accountable;
52 proclaiming, molding, and releasing the local church to pursue the heart
53 issues as primary. The church be called to a three-year period of focus on
54 understanding, teaching and living the simple doctrines of our heritage
55 through equipping by the Bishops, study, prayer and fasting.

56 5. The Board of Bishops, through task forces, study commissions or other
57 means, shall develop a systematic and consistent means to nurture and
58 develop church leadership.

59 6. The Board of Bishops, through task forces, study commissions or other
60 means, shall develop and use printed, imaged, or electronic means to
61 regularly communicate Spirit-filled leadership with the goal of multiplying
62 godly, competent leaders, and fulfill the mission that every Free Methodist
63 Church be a healthy, Biblical community of holy people, multiplying disciples,
64 leaders, groups and churches.

65 7. The Board of Bishops, through task forces, study commissions or other
66 means, shall align the structures and organization of FMCNA to accomplish
67 the above six clauses.