

of the said congregation from among their number, (said annual election and appointment to be made on the Sunday next succeeding the first day of January in each and every year, and the incumbents to hold office until their respective successors shall be so as aforesaid elected or appointed, as the case may be,) shall be constituted a body politic and corporate, under such title as may be assumed by the said corporation, and recorded in a certificate under the hands and seals of the corporators first chosen or otherwise entitled to office under the terms of this act, the said certificate to be acknowledged before a justice of the peace of the county or city of Baltimore, as the case may be, where the said congregation shall have or possess a place of worship, and recorded among the corporation records of the said county or city.

1892, ch. 614.

217 B. Every such corporation shall have, in addition to the powers conferred by sections 50 to 55 of this article, inclusive, in so far as the said powers may be consistent with its general character, the further power to appoint the hour and place of the meetings at which the two of its members so as aforesaid to be be annually elected shall be chosen, and the manner in which such election shall be held, and shall provide a good and sufficient record book, wherein shall be registered from time to time all of its proceedings, and which shall at all times be open to inspection by any member of the said congregation, or any ecclesiastical officer of the said denomination of Christians, having, according to the discipline and practice thereof, authority over the said congregation, or the right to be informed concerning its management and interests of the said corporation, the pastor of the congregation for the time being, (if any there be,) shall always be president; it shall have power to frame such rules and ordinances for the orderly conduct of divine worship and the advancement of the interests of the congregation, as a majority of the corporation may from time to time deem necessary; provided that the same shall not conflict with the constitution or laws of the United States or of this State, or with the discipline and practice of the denomination aforesaid.