

Henry Selay Nutwood, or the Minister for the time being (regularly appointed according to the rules and discipline which from time to time may be agreed upon and adopted by the Ministers and preachers of the Said Church at their General Conference in the United States of America) having the pastoral charge to be a body politic or Corporate by the Name Style and title of the "Trustees of the Friendship, Methodist Episcopal Church in the County of Howard State of Maryland." And by the Same Name to have perpetual Succession and be able and capable in law to Sue and be Sued, implead and be impleaded in any Court of Law or Equity in this State and elsewhere and to make and have a Common Seal and the Same to break, alter or renew at pleasure; and the Said members did then and there agree upon the plan of perpetuating the Succession of the Said Trustees, and of ascertaining the proper qualifications, and established the Articles or plan hereinafter mentioned to Wit:

I - That whenever a vacancy or vacancies shall happen by death, resignation removal or ceasing to be a member or members, according to the rules and discipline of Said Church, then and in such case, it shall be the duty of the Stationed Minister or preacher who shall have the pastoral charge as aforesaid to call a meeting of the remaining Trustees as soon as conveniently may be, and when so met, the Said Minister or preacher shall proceed to nominate one or more persons to fill the place or places of him or them, whose office or offices has or have been vacated as aforesaid and the Said Trustees so assembled shall proceed to elect by a majority of votes, appoint the person or persons so nominated to fill such vacancy or vacancies, in order to keep up the number of Eight Trustees for ever. And in case of an equal number of votes for and against the Said nomination, the Said Minister as President shall have the casting vote.

II That no person shall be eligible as Trustee except he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at least two years next preceeding the election and above the age of twenty three years.

III That all the lands and tenements with their appurtenances now vested in Trustees for the use of the Said Church and all other property of the Said Church shall be vested in the Said Corporate Body and their Successors for ever; And the Said Corporation with the Consent and approbation of two thirds of the Male Members above the age of twenty one years which shall attend a meeting after being duly notified the preceeding Sabbath in the Church for that purpose shall and they are hereby declared —