

COPY OF THE CHARTER OF THE TREE OF LIFE CONGREGATION

(50¢ U. S. inter)

J. H. W.
sev. Mar. 11/ 65)

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To the Honorable the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Allegheny in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The undersigned persons citizens of the Commonwealth aforesaid are associated under the name and title of the "Congregation Ez Hayim" for a Religious purpose to wit, for the purpose of erecting a Synagogue or home of Worship dedicated to the worship of Almighty God and for the support and maintainance of the same and are desirous to acquire and enjoy the powers and Ammunities of a Corporation or body politic in law and therefore they have prepared this instrument in writing specifying the objects Articles conditions name and style under which they have associated, viz:

Paramble.

WHEREAS it has pleased Almighty God whose unity and omnipotence we have never ceased to acknowledge to gather together a part of his chosen peoples and the wise and republican laws of this County based upon universal toleration give to every citizen and sojerner the right to worship according to the dictates of his conscience. And whereas we are apart of the chosen people of Almighty God and are anxious to erect a place of worship dedicated to his Holy name and to instill in the minds of the rising generation the pure and Holy principals of our sacred religion therefore we the undersigned citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do hereby form of a Congregation and associate ourselves under the corporate name and title of the "Congregation Ez Hayim."

ARTICLE 1: The Officers of this Congregation shall consist of a President, Treasurer and three Trustees.

ARTICLE 2: The officers aforesaid shall be elected as follows, viz; The President, Treasurer and Trustees shall be elected by ballot at the first annual meeting of the Corporation. The President and Treasurer and one Trustee shall be elected annually thereafter; at the first election of officers as aforesaid one

trustee shall be elected to serve one year, one to serve two years and one to serve three years.

ARTICLE 3: The President, Treasurer and Trustees shall constitute a board of Managers for the control and management of the business and affairs of the Corporation. They shall meet quarterly or as occasion may require and shall keep regular and full minutes of their proceedings.

ARTICLE 4: Should any vacancy occur either by the resignation or decease of any officer aforesaid the President or Trustees shall within thirty days call a General meeting of the Corporators to fill the vacancy and the person or persons so elected shall serve for and during the unexpired term.

ARTICLE 5: No member under the age of twenty five years shall be eligible to the office of President or Treasurer nor shall Father and son or two brothers hold office at the same time, nor shall any member be eligible to any office before the expiration of one year's membership.

ARTICLE 6: Applications for admission to membership in the Congregation shall be presented in writing to the President who shall lay the same before the Trustees whose report thereon shall be made to a general meeting of the members of the Congregation determined by a majority of votes and the admission or rejection of the applicant shall be/a resident of the County of Allegheny or some neighboring County and provided he has complied with all the requirements of the By Laws of the Corporation.

ARTICLE 7: The corporation may purchase and hold lands tenement and hereditaments for the purpose and objects of this association agreeably to the laws of this Commonwealth.

ARTICLE 8: No person holding office in any other religious congregation or corporation shall be eligible to office in this Congregation.

ARTICLE 9: There shall be four general meetings of the members of the Congregation in each year in addition to the annual meeting for the purpose of electing officers, and the time and place of holding such meetings shall be fixed and determined by the By Laws of this Corporation.

ARTICLE 10: The corporators shall at their first General meeting make By Laws

Rules and Ordinances needful for the good government and support of the affairs of the Corporation.

ARTICLE 11: The form of Religious service and prayers shall conform to Minhag Polen (viz, according to the style of the Poland Jewish religious service) and should the Congregation at any time hereafter wish to alter or change any forms of worship or ceremonies it shall be done by a vote of two thirds of the members present at any meeting of the Congregation convened for such purpose and shall become part of the form of worship of the Congregation excepting that it shall and may be lawful that the Psalms and Hymns shall be sung and not read and provided that the prayers shall always be ascending to the orthodox style and shall not be altered therefrom except by the unanimous consent of every members of this congregation.

ARTICLE 12: Whenever ten members of this congregation shall desire the alteration or amendment of this constitution they shall address communications to the President, stating therein particularly the alteration or amendment proposed and thereupon it shall be the duty of the President forthwith to call a meeting of the Congregation giving at least fourteen days notice of the time and place of meeting and stating in such notice the purposed amendment and also to lay before said meeting the said proposed alteration or amendment for the consideration and examination of the meeting and the same shall be discussed and either adopted or rejected, Provided however that nothing shall be done contrary to provisions of,

Article 11th.

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| G. Grafner, | Hill Hensberg, | I. Susman, |
| A. Abrams, | T. Abraham, | L. W. Miller |
| L. Citron, | Saml. Gevin, | Joseph Pereles |
| M. Fink, | A. Levi, | Julius Van Reralt |
| M. Crene, | L. Aranson, | Lewis Wolters |
| M. Goldstein, | | Julius Baum. |

Pittsburgh, February 8th, 1865.

In the Court of Common Pleas of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania of March Term, 1865, No. 171.

And now to wit, February 11th, 1865 the foregoing instrument in writing specifying the objects Article conditions and style of the Association called the "Congregation Ez Hayim" (The Congregation of the Tree of Life) having been exhibited and presented to said Court the same being the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which said Corporation is intended to be situate and said Court having perused and examined said instrument and the objects articles and conditions appearing to be lawful and not injurious to the community therefore the Court direct said instrument of writing to be filed in the office of Prothonotary of said Court and also direct notice to be inserted in one newspaper printed in said County for three weeks setting forth that said application has been made to the Court to grant a Charter of incorporation and if no sufficient reason is shown to the contrary the said Charter will be granted at the next March term of the Court.

By the Court.

And now to wit: March 27th, 1865 the instrument in writing specifying the objects Articles conditions and style and title of the association called the "Congregation Ex Hayim" having been exhibited and presented to the said Court on Friday 11th 1865 and then filed in the office of the Prothonotary of said Court and notice thereof published in the daily and weekly Gazette newspaper according to law setting forth said application for a charter of Incorporation and no sufficient reason having been shown why said Charter should not be granted therefore the Court do order and decree and declare that the persons associated shall according to the said Articles and conditions set forth and contained become and be a corporation or body politic and direct that said Charter of incorporation shall be recorded in the office for the recording of Deeds in and for Allegheny County.

By the Court.

(SEAL OF THE COURT) In Testimony Whereof I have hereunto set my hand/^{and} affixed the seal of said Court this 27th day of March, A. D. 1865.

5¢ U. S. inter
J. H. W.
sev. express
Mar. 27/65

Jacob H. Walter
Prothonotary.

RECORDED MARCH 28th, 1865.