

Debresina Mariyam Eritrean Orthodox Christian Community Church

Annual Report and Accounts

For the Year Ended 30 September 2023

Charity registration number: 1200432
29/07/2024

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Contents

Trustees’ Annual Report 3

Name, Objectives and Activities..... 3

Achievements and Performance 5

Independent examiner’s report 7

Financial Review: 8

Declarations..... 11

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Members of the Board of Trustees on 30 September 2023

Mr Mulubrha Berhie Bahta

Rev Hadgu Yemane Tesfay

Mr Yohannes Petros Berhane

Mr Bereket Yohannes

Charity name:

Debresina Mariyam Eritrean Orthodox Christian Community Church

Charity registration number:

1200432

Registered Address: as of July 30 2024

Debresina Mariyam EOCCC
Shipcote Terrace
Gateshead
NE8 4AA

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Trustees' Annual Report

The Board of Trustees presents its report of Debresina Mariyam Eritrean Orthodox Church (St Mary) for the year ended 30/09/2023 from 21/09/2022. The financial statements have been prepared following relevant account policies and compliance with the charity's governing document and applicable law- the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Report) Regulation 2008 and the latest Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORN) Financial Reporting Standard 102, As amended.

Name, Objectives and Activities

Name

The name of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("the CIO") is Debresina Mariyam Eritrean Orthodox Christian Community Church. The acronym of the CIO is EOTCCC.

Objectives

To advance the Eritrean Orthodox Christian religion for the benefit of the public through holding prayer meetings, lectures, public celebrations of religious festivals, and producing and distributing literature on the Eritrean Orthodox religion to enlighten others about the Eritrean Christian Orthodox religion.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for purposes which are not charitable in accordance with section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and section 2 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008. Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document

Activities

In compliance with their duty under the Charities Act 2011, the Trustees have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. In particular, the Act requires the Trustees to explain how the activities of the charity benefit the public or a section of it.

The Trustees believe that the fundamental purpose of the Debresina Mariyam Eritrean Orthodox Christian Community Church is to advance the Christian religion and relieve poverty and distress from family members. Faith is important, not just for its intrinsic value to the individual, but because it is also often the motivating factor in enabling people to turn their lives around; and equipping them to make effective and relevant contributions to society.

More specific benefits to the public are demonstrated under the various sections of the report of activities. Trustees aim constantly to seek ways of increasing the impact and effectiveness of the charity so that they can expand the benefits provided by the charity as widely as possible.

Appointment of charity trustees

1. Apart from the first charity trustees, every trustee must be appointed for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.
2. In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the charity trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Every three years the Management Committee may nominate a new Trustees from amongst the membership of the congregation. At the third of their term, Trustees must retire from office but may be re-elected by members of the charity.

Any person who subscribes to the objects may become a member of the charity, subject to their willingness and fitness for purpose.

The Board of Trustees and the Management Committee is responsible for identifying and proposing potential new Trustees. The Committee gives relevant information to potential candidates, and induction and training as appropriate to newly elected Trustees.

The officers of the charity have the responsibility of assessing the skills of the nominates candidates and identifying areas which need strengthening.

Organisation

The charity is based in the United Kingdom and has been providing services in the NorthEast Of England. Its congregation comes from all parts of Tyne and Wear. The Board of Trustees meets at least quarterly.

The Management committee conducts the day-to-day running of the charity's and reports to the trustees every month about the administration and activities of the charity.

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Achievements and Performance

The church, despite some challenges of finding the right venue, has made utmost efforts to provide normal church prayer services every Sunday throughout the year and a mass once a month on the last Saturday of each month. In addition, the church held a prayer programme during fasting periods and holy week. The Charity conducted several christenings throughout the year services during the Mass service and wedding services in April 2023.

The Church appointed a permanent priest in May 2023, then the weekly prayer service was enhanced to be a Mass service. This means the church started to conduct a holy communion service from once a month to once a week.

The church relies on volunteers to function. This is not only during Services, from welcoming people to helping run the service itself, but beyond that to the mid-week small group.

God bless those who rise to help vulnerable people in this difficult time. Pastoral care continues as usual helping others is a demonstration of our faith, whether practical, emotional or spiritual.

We delight in the ecumenical links that we have with other Eritrean Orthodox churches in the UK ,and in particular the close relationship we have with Oriental Orthodox Churches in the UK such as The Coptic Orthodox Church and the Indian Orthodox Church.

By 30 September 2023, the Charity achieved a net operating income of £97,092 (2022: £21,325). The church managed to collect more income this year due to our congregation and church attendants made more donations than they did in the previous year as the church was open to the public without any restriction; we are determinedly looking to acquire a permanent place of worship. The Management Committee's main working priority in the year was strengthening the charity's governance by approaching new trustees with required skills and experience and finding a property for our church.

Plans for 2023/2024

The trustees and the Management Committee plan for the coming year include the following:

- Revising and working on the key strategic priorities of the church.
- Recruiting skilled trustees and Management committee members to strengthen governance.
- To find a suitable venue/church to accommodate the service and congregation requirements.
- To do special fundraising to purchase the said larger property/ church.

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Members of the Board of Trustees

Members of the Board of Trustees who served as directors during 2023 were:

Mr Mulubrha Berhie Bahta

Rev Hadgu Yemane Tesfay

Mr Yohannes Petros Berhane

Mr Bereket Yohannes

Statement of Financial Responsibilities

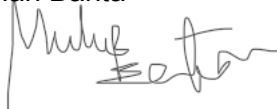
Charity Law requires the members of the Board of Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the situation of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that year. It is also the Trustees' responsibility to maintain adequate accounting records, safeguard the assets of the charity and take reasonable steps in preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and

By the order of the Board of Trustees

Mulubrhan Bahta



Chairman of the trustees

30 September 2023

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Independent examiner's report

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL
ACTIVITIES

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX

For the year ended 30 September 2023

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared without carrying out an audit the annexed financial statements from the accounting records of DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX from information and explanations supplied to us.

Flannagans Gateshead
Chartered Certified Accountants
7 Bankside
The Watermark
Metro Riverside Park
Gateshead
Tyne and Wear
NE11 9SY

**DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Financial Review:

**Statement of financial activities
Including income and expenditure account
for the year ended 30 September 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<u>Incoming resources from generated funds</u>				
Donations		123,192		32,259
Members subscriptions		7,711		4,746
Interest received gross		372		6
		<u>131,275</u>		<u>37,011</u>
<u>Cost of generating funds</u>				
Trade, refuse and cleaning	4,132			
Transportation cost for priest/pope	6,452		6,945	
Food and beverage for the congregations	5,528		2,753	
Hire of hall for church services	5,710		3,300	
Gift	710		330	
Advertisement			156	
Equipment for the church	2,900		2,202	
Staff cost	8,585			
Printing, postage and stationery	166			
		<u>34,183</u>		<u>15,686</u>
Net income for the year		<u>97,092</u>		<u>21,325</u>
Cash funds last year end		73,361		52,036
Cash funds this year end		170,453		73,361

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

1200432

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

21.09.2022

To

30.09.2023

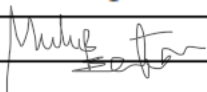
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Members subscriptions	7,711	-	-	7,711	-
Donations from congregations	26,260	-	-	26,260	-
Donations toward purch of building	96,931	-	-	96,931	-
Gross interest received	372	-	-	372	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	131,275	-	-	131,275	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	131,275	-	-	131,275	-
A3 Payments					
Charity registration fee	700	-	-	700	-
Trade, refuse & cleaning	937	-	-	937	-
Transportation cost for priest/pope	6,452	-	-	6,452	-
Food for the congregation	5,528	-	-	5,528	-
Hire of hall for church services	5,710	-	-	5,710	-
Gift to priest/pope	710	-	-	710	-
Equipment for the church	1,900	-	-	1,900	-
Furniture for the church	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Wages for the priest	8,585	-	-	8,585	-
Printing, stamp & stationery	166	-	-	166	-
Orthodox Church fee	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
Professional fees	495	-	-	495	-
Sub total	34,183	-	-	34,183	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	34,183	-	-	34,183	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	97,092	-	-	97,092	-
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	73,362	-	-	73,362	-
Cash funds this year end	170,454	-	-	170,454	-

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash in hand	-	-	-
	Bank account (1)	41,563	-	-
	Bank account (2)	128,891	-	-
	Total cash funds	170,454	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Cooking equipment	679	-	-
	Music equipment	2373	-	-
	Computer equipment (Laptop)	550	-	-
	Furniture (Chairs)	1000	-	-
	Household items -W/machine, fridge,cooker	500	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Mulubrhan Bahta	13/12/2023

DEBRESINA MARIYAM ERITREAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Annual Report for the year ended 30th September 2024

For the year ending 2023, the charity has taken advantage of the audit exemption conferred by section 477 of the Company Act 2006. No member has required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question following section 476.

The trustees acknowledge the responsibility for:

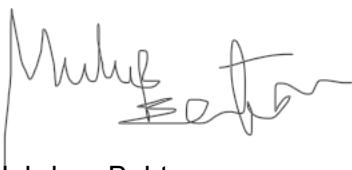
(1) Ensuring the charity keeps accounting records which comply with the requirements of the Act, and

(2) preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the of this financial year following requirements of the Companies Act and related Charity Acts so far as applicable to the charity. The accounts and the financial statements were approved by the board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 13 December 2023.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees



Mulubrhan Bahta

Chair of the Trustees.

29 July 2024