

ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ST. MARY OF ZION

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 282910

TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL

STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. MARY OF ZION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. MARY OF ZION

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Reference and Administrative Details

The principal administrative details are included below:

Charity Number 282910

Charity Name Ethiopian Orthodox Church St Mary of Zion

Registered Address 61 Coopers Lane
London
E10 5DG

Board of Trustees	Status	Date Elected
Mr. Keith Samuels (Kes Haile Maskel)	Priest/ Keyholder	30 April 2008
Mr. Trevor Field (Melaka Sion Habte Mariam)	Priest in Charge	30 April 2008
Mr. Guy Tombs (Tekle Wolde)	Financial Advisor	26 November 2018

Legal Status Registered with Charities Commission

Independent Examiner Sam Tanyi: FAAT. MIFS. MCIE
13 Arkley Road
London
E17 7PD

2 Objectives and Activities

Ethiopian Orthodox Church St. Mary of Zion (EOCSMZ) is a branch church Of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo (EOC), based in London UK. EOCSMZ has been catering for the spiritual, social, cultural and educational needs of her membership for the last 48 years. The EOCSMZ was registered as a charity on 23rd May 1981 with the objective of the propagation of the Gospel of Christ by advancing the EOTC faith and, in particular, charitable works within the Greater London, Africa and the Caribbean Islands. Ordained priests and deacons of the EOCSMZ conduct baptisms, marriages, funerals and other services in accordance with canon law. A key objective is to support families and their children by educating them on the orthodox way of life.

A key project is the renovation of the property at 229 Lower Clapton Road into a place of worship/community centre in the traditional Ethiopian Orthodox style. The building is already used for a number of church activities including meetings and classes, but work is required to make it fully suitable for the all the required activities. The project was presented for discussion at the annual general meeting. It was then formally approved by a meeting of the parish council and also by a meeting of the trustees. Planning permission for the proposed development is in place and some work has been completed. A re-design has recently taken place and work commenced which is intended to focus efforts on making full use of the building as soon as resources permit.

3 Structure, Governance and Management

____ The EOTCSMZ is constituted as a trust. The governing body of the EOTCSMZ is the parish council, the ____

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membership of which includes a chairperson (the priest in charge), vice chairperson, the General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. Selected members of the parish council are also trustees of the charity.

Besides the parish council there are other sub-committees that have been established to carry out the aims and objectives of the EOCSMZ, including:

- Clergy Committee
- Finance Committee
- Funding Application Committee
- Multimedia Committee
- Building Maintenance Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- Sembete (Festival) Events Committee
- St. Mary Mehabre
- Evangelism Committee
- St. Tekle Haymanot Youth Association
- St. Gabriel Mehabre

The annual activities and financial status of EOCSMZ are reported to the congregation every year in September. Our parish council also has a bi-annual meeting in March to monitor the half yearly progress. All sub-committees also submit progress reports at these meetings. All trustees, parish council members, committee members as well as priests and deacons are voluntary workers.

New trustees are appointed from the church membership by unanimous vote of the existing trustees. Every three years there is a formal selection committee formed to manage the re-election of parish council members.

4 Achievements and Performance

Our community continues to support all the fundraising initiated by various committees. This includes events such as auctions of religious items including icons, church outings, major donations, sponsorship of key initiatives by members, selling tea, coffee and refreshments from the kitchen after services, an internal shop selling religious items and a church entrance shop which serves the community prior to entering the church before the liturgical service.

There has been a significant uplift in Fundraising Committee activities, focussed on generating the funds required for the redevelopment of the church at 229 Lower Clapton Road. Key events included the cultural event in March, a sports event in May and again in July. Additionally Barnabas Aid International provided a grant of £100,000 towards the project.

5 Financial Review

There has been an increase in general ministry income, from £66,849 to £79,015 mostly due to increased collections and rent pledges. Restricted fund income has increased from £49,650 to £301,020 due to several successful fundraising events, the successful application for a grant from Barnabas Aid International and a general increases in building donations, sponsorship and shop sales following the announcement that the building work would re-commence.

There has been a small increase in expenses relating to charitable activities, from £37,285 to

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£39,844, due to increased church rent costs. Expenses relating to restricted funds have increased from £44,589 to £246,879, due to the revised development plan commencing as well as increased fundraising expenses and mortgage interest costs.

The cash reserves have increased slightly in the last year, from £126,877 to £205,381. This is due to a substantial increase in fund-raising activities which has exceeded the development costs incurred in the year. The mortgage liability has continued to reduce, falling from £273,485 to £250,199.

This report was approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by Mr. Trevor Field (Melakà Sion Habte Mariam):

Signed.....*Mr T.D. Field*.....Trustee

Date.....*15/01/2024*.....

THE ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. MARY OF ZION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
Incoming Resources					
General Ministry Income		79,015	-	79,015	66,849
Project Income		-	301,020	301,020	49,650
Total Incoming Resources	2	79,015	301,020	380,035	116,499
Resources Expended					
Charitable Activities		39,844	-	39,844	37,285
Project Activities		-	246,879	246,879	44,589
Total resources Expended	3	39,844	246,879	286,723	81,874
Net Movement in Funds before transfers		39,171	54,141	93,312	34,625
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains/ (losses)		-	(330,000)	(330,000)	-
Total Funds Brought Forward		254,983	726,148	981,131	946,506
Total Funds Carried Forward	9	294,154	450,289	744,443	981,131

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BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible fixed assets	4	800,000	1,130,000
Current Assets			
Debtors	5	705	2,148
Cash at bank and in hand	6	205,381	126,877
Total current assets		206,086	129,025
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	(35,915)	(29,093)
Net current assets		170,171	99,032
Total assets less current liabilities		970,171	1,229,932
Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	8	(225,728)	(248,801)
Net assets		744,443	981,131
Funds of the charity			
Restricted Funds	9	350,289	296,148
Unrestricted Funds	9	294,154	254,983
Property Revaluation Reserve	9	100,000	430,000
Total Funds		744,443	981,131

The notes on pages 7-11 form part of these accounts

The trustees declare that they have approved the above accounts which are signed on their behalf by Mr Guy Tombs (Tekle Wolde):

Signed.....Trustee

Date.....15/01/2024.

1 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

a. Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis under the historical cost convention, with the exception of property which is included at market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in: accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard FRS102.

b. Incoming Resources

Voluntary income including donations, gifts, legacies and grants that provide core funding or are of a general nature is recognised when the Charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

c. Donations and legacies

Donations and legacies are recognised on a receivable basis when receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

d. Investment income

Interest is included when receivable by the charity.

e. Resources Expended

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

f. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Property is shown at market value and is not depreciated. Other fixed assets costing more than £500, are capitalised and depreciated on a 25% straight line basis.

g. Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

h. Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity had a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts.

i. Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the Charity. Restricted funds can only be used for the purpose the fund was established.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
2. Incoming Resources				
General Ministry Income				
Dues - Cash	1,294	-	1,294	2,782
Dues - Standing Orders	24,347	-	24,347	22,476
St Mary Mehabre income	1,310	-	1,310	1,520
Collections & Dues	28,177	-	28,177	22,192
Prayers	300	-	300	-
Memorial	1,060	-	1,060	615
Funeral	-	-	-	849
Baptism	1,210	-	1,210	1,640
Tithes	2,079	-	2,079	3,966
Clergy Fund	910	-	910	420
Annual/ Church Outings	1,178	-	1,178	3,660
Candle Box Collection	108	-	108	59
Sponsorship/ Pledges	13,517	-	13,517	6,514
Sunday School	3,409	-	3,409	-
Miscellaneous Income	115	-	115	156
Total General Ministry Income	79,015	-	79,015	66,849
Project Income				
Building Pledges	-	6,038	6,038	2,030
Fundraising Committee	-	597	597	60
Auction	-	9,315	9,315	1,365
PayPal	-	8,598	8,598	5
Building Fund Donations	-	24,921	24,921	7,992
Bank Interest – Project Account	-	1,246	1,246	38
200 Names	-	16,172	16,172	14,573
Grant - Barnabas Aid International	-	100,000	100,000	-
Entrance Shop	-	40,818	40,818	11,166
Event Income	-	65,729	65,729	-
Building Project Sponsorship	-	24,840	24,840	1,700
Ecclesiastical Items	-	2,500	2,500	-
Miscellaneous Income	-	246	246	-
Total Project Income	-	301,020	301,020	49,650
Total Incoming Resources	79,015	301,020	380,035	116,499

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
3. Resources Expended	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Charitable Activities				
Church Rent	28,910	-	28,910	20,875
Diocese	-	-	-	1,200
Fundraising Committee Expenses	-	-	-	283
Ministry Insurance	481	-	481	306
Miscellaneous expenses	620	-	621	497
Annual/Church Outings	1,900	-	1,900	2,560
Storage	645	-	645	3,089
Travel	355	-	355	187
Utility Bills	1,897	-	1,897	1,790
Bank charges	1,304	-	1,304	205
Multimedia	1,677	-	1,677	1,322
Donations to Monastery/ Churches	-	-	-	-
Accounts/ Audit Expenses	360	-	360	380
PC Administration	877	-	877	442
Funeral Expenses	-	-	-	3,515
Repair and Maintenance	-	-	-	45
Clergy Expenses	818	-	818	-
Total Charitable Activities	39,844	-	39,844	37,285
Project Activities				
Mortgage Interest Payments	-	18,594	18,594	11,742
Legal/Professional Fees	-	48,594	48,594	31,251
Utility/ Security Expenses	-	746	746	625
Building Works	-	167,064	167,064	100
Building Insurance	-	1,574	1,574	871
Fundraising Events Expenses	-	10,307	10,307	-
Building Repairs	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total Project Activities	-	246,879	246,879	44,589
Total Resources Expended	39,844	286,724	286,723	81,874

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4. Tangible Fixed Assets	2023	2022
	£	£
Property Cost/ Valuation brought forward	1,130,000	1,130,000
Revaluation	(330,000)	-
Total Property Valuation carried forward	800,000	1,130,000

The charity owns a property at 229 Clapton High Road which cost £700,000 in 2011. The latest independent valuation indicates this has a market value of £800,000.

5. Debtors	2023	2022
	£	£
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	705	2,148
Total debtors	705	2,148

6. Cash at bank and in hand	2023	2022
	£	£
HSBC BMM A/C	139,374	94,684
HSBC Current A/C	3,590	9,389
HSBC Deposit A/C	56,121	5,225
HSBC Project A/C	4,196	14,567
Paypal A/C	174	730
Cash in hand	1,926	2,282
Total Cash at bank and in hand	205,381	126,877

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade Creditors	158	137
Accrued expenses	11,286	2,172
Provision	-	2,100
Mortgage Loan Account	24,471	24,684
Total current creditors	35,915	29,093

8. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year	2023	2022
	£	£
Mortgage Loan Account	225,728	248,801
Total long-term creditors	225,728	248,801
Amounts falling due between one and two years	26,867	25,935
Amounts falling due between two and five years	92,565	86,305
Amounts falling due after five years	106,296	136,561

The acquisition of the property at 229 Clapton High Road was part funded by a 20-year repayment mortgage from HSBC.

THE ETHIOPIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH ST. MARY OF ZION

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

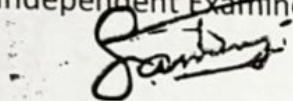
9. Movement of Funds

	At 1 September 2022	Incoming resources	Outgoing resources	Revaluation adjustment	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds	254,983	79,015	(39,844)	-	294,154
Restricted Funds	296,148	301,020	(246,879)	-	350,289
Property Revaluation Reserve	430,000	-	-	(330,000)	100,000
Total	981,131	380,035	(286,723)	(330,000)	744,443

Independent Examiner's report year ending 31/Aug/2023, for
Ethiopian Orthodox Church of St Mary of Zion.

Having reviewed the accounts of this company through the year and
did a final check, I confirm that this company has done nothing
adversely different from their obligations.

Independent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Tanyi', is written over the printed name.

S .Tanyi FAAT, MIFS, MCIE