

## The Emmanuel Church Vestry 2009-2010



### **The Rev. John Beach, Rector, Worship**

Fr. John has been the rector of Emmanuel Church since February 2006. He came here with his wife, Denise Bénéteau, after serving as chaplain at Trinity College, University of Toronto. Their two grown children, Jeremy and Laura, continue to live in Toronto.

Fr. John, originally from New York, was ordained in Montreal 25 years ago and has served as chaplain at McGill University and Concordia University (both in Montreal), Florida State University, and The University of Toronto. He has also ministered in two Montreal parishes.



**Bradley Dewey, Senior Warden, Stewardship**

Bradley has been in Geneva off and on since 1979. He and his wife, Marietta, are originally from Boston but have made Geneva their home since 1979. He is the managing director of a small global senior executive search firm and works from his home/office in Hermance when he is in Geneva. Brad is involved with Emmanuel Church, the Geneva Cursillo community, his three sons, three granddaughters and one grandson and motorcycle touring in the Alps with his wife.



**Andrew Close, Junior Warden, Adult Christian Education**

Andrew moved to this parish in 2004 from Adelaide, Australia, to be with his partner, Shauna Beesley (our music director and organist). A professional musician, Andrew teaches music and drama at the International School of Geneva, and is finishing a Doctorate in Education. He brings his substantial musical and pastoral gifts to the ministry of this church.



**John Kennedy, Vestry Treasurer, Finance and Treasury**

John Kennedy has been in Geneva since 1981 and has been a member of our parish for six years. Although originally from Massachusetts, he and his family have made Geneva their permanent home. He has been involved in the local scouting movement and several other community organizations. With banking experience in New York and Istanbul, he now works for a private bank in Geneva. He is married to Catherine Reid. They have three grown children.



**Samuel Mbele-Mbong, Vestry Secretary, Communications**

Samuel has been a member of Emmanuel Church for 25 years and comes to us from Cameroon. He retired from the World Meteorological Organization in 2002 after 22 years of service, of which three were at the Regional Office for Africa in Burundi. He has served on Vestry for three terms and has been involved in the music ministry and the ministry to children in our community. We are all exceedingly grateful for his faithful, thorough, and meticulous contribution as Vestry scribe. He is married to Helena and they have two grown daughters and a grandson.



**Christine Housel, Community Inreach**

Christine has been a member of our congregation for eight years and has roots in Delaware and North Carolina. She is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and works for the World Student Christian Federation. She has been actively involved in Christian education, children's ministries, and ministries of hospitality and serves as a lay preacher in our congregation.



**Miss Fanni Retchisky-Jones, Hospitality**

Miss Jones has been a member of our congregation since 1955 when she arrived in Geneva from New Jersey. She is an extraordinary musician who has made great contributions to our worship and social gatherings. She is also actively involved in ministries of hospitality and inreach—with a heart for those who are sick or suffering. She is married to Marcel and has three grown daughters.



**Amy van den Dijssel, Youth Ministry and Youth Activities**

Amy moved to Geneva with her husband Jan-Willem and their daughter Sofia from Miami Beach in 2004. They had another wonderful daughter, Emma, in 2005. Amy has taught Sunday School and has helped with our Christmas pageant. She also serves on the board of the American International Women's Club, is a Daisy Girl Scout troop leader and helps plan events for the Georgetown University Alumni Club of Geneva and her daughters' school, Mosaic.



**William (Bill) Vought, Buildings and Grounds**

Bill moved to Geneva in 1972 to join the International Labour Office and has been a member of this congregation since then. While being active in our community, he has also been involved in the local German Lutheran church. He is married to Brigitte and they have two adult children and one grandchild. He has been involved in ministries of feeding the hungry and has taken an active interest in exercising good stewardship over our building and grounds.



**Robert White, Christian Outreach**

Robert and Benedicte White have been members of our congregation for three years and have three grown children. They live in Versonnex, France, and have been based in the region since 1981. Bob spent most of his career with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and now works in the Ecumenical Center at Action by Churches Together (ACT), which coordinates humanitarian assistance activities by various church organizations. Bob is originally from the United States, and Benedicte from France. They are involved in outreach ministries, Cursillo, and our ministry of hospitality.