

# Ways to Get Involved at Emmanuel

*The following tasks are all shared with members of our congregation. They are not difficult or time consuming tasks but rather a lovely way to get more involved in our church. No previous experience is required. For each different task a member of the church is a point person to contact with questions.*

## **Worship**

### ***Come to church regularly***

The first act of the congregation is to congregate; the most fundamental way to get involved at Emmanuel is to worship with us regularly.

Each Sunday, we hold two services: the first is a shorter, simpler Eucharist upstairs in the Grand Salle at 8:30 am. The second is the traditional Eucharist with music, hymns, and a full sermon at 10:30 am.

We also have additional Feast Day and special services throughout the year, which will be announced in the Emmanuel Epistle. **For questions, contact the Rector, Michael Rusk - [rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch) or Deacon Richard Cole - [totocole@icloud.com](mailto:totocole@icloud.com)**

### ***Participating through online worship***

The 10:30 am Sunday Service is live-streamed on YouTube each week, and is available as a recording thereafter. You can access the Livestream via the Emmanuel website (<https://www.emmanuelchurch.ch/sunday-online-service>) or on the YouTube Channel

(<https://www.youtube.com/@EmmanuelEpiscopalChurchGeneva/streams>)

**For questions, contact Megan Preston Meyer - [megan@preston-meyer.com](mailto:megan@preston-meyer.com)**

### ***Wednesday Midday Prayers***

Each Wednesday at 12:30 PM, we gather on Zoom and/or in-person in the back of the sanctuary to share together in a service of Midday Prayer. We use a setting from the Northumbria Community. Join us for a short (ca. 20 minutes) moment of calm during your lunch hour in the middle of the week.

The Zoom link can be found below, as well as in the weekly Emmanuel Epistle/on the website.

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84801636699?pwd=YoswQU01Z3M2Q2h5RTZGNENUVit5QTo9>

Meeting Number: 848 0163 6699

Password: 673855

**For questions, contact Megan Preston Meyer - [megan@preston-meyer.com](mailto:megan@preston-meyer.com)**

## **Service Helpers**

### ***Altar Guild***

The Altar Guild makes sure the Eucharist table is set before each service. We ensure that the proper liturgical linens are in place, the wine and bread are set up appropriately, and that the flowers are arranged behind the altar. After the service, we make sure that dirty linens are laundered, that the dishes are washed, and that everything is put back in its proper place.

We typically arrive 30 minutes before the Sunday service and spend 20 minutes afterward. **For questions, contact Evelyne Römer - [evelynecolombettes@gmail.com](mailto:evelynecolombettes@gmail.com)**

### ***Choir***

The Emmanuel Choir is an integral part of our weekly worship. In addition to leading the congregation in hymns, we perform offertory pieces ranging from

the classical Anglican repertoire to contemporary. We rehearse once a week on Thursdays at 19:00, and arrive at 9:30 on Sunday morning to prepare and don our robes. **For questions, contact Debbie Groby - [debbiegroby@gmail.com](mailto:debbiegroby@gmail.com)**

### ***African Singing Group***

The African Singing Group is a regular part of the worship life of Emmanuel, regularly offering musical gifts during the offertory. We sing in a variety of languages and styles from all over Africa - often from Ghana and Uganda. We rehearse on Tuesdays from 19:00 to 20:00 and arrive at 9:30 to prepare on those Sunday mornings that we perform. All are welcome, wherever you are from. **For questions, contact Jane Inkoom Pittet - [jamapit@yahoo.com](mailto:jamapit@yahoo.com)**

### ***Usher***

Ushers at Emmanuel make sure that the logistics of a Sunday morning flow smoothly. We rope off several pews at the rear for latecomers, we greet parishioners and visitors as they enter and make sure that they have the Service Bulletin. We ring the bell as the prelude finishes (unless a choir member does it). We sit in the back of the church to greet and seat latecomers. During the service: we bring forward to the officiant the Eucharist host and wine, then pass the offering plates and then bring them to the officiant at the altar steps; we invite the congregation forward pew-by-pew to receive the Eucharist; and, after the service ends, we straighten the kneelers, collect papers left in the pews, and organize paper recycling. **For questions, contact Peter Cloutier - [peter.cloutier@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:peter.cloutier@emmanuelchurch.ch)**

### ***Lector/Reader***

Lectors read the lessons from scripture aloud to the congregation during the 10:30 AM Sunday service. The readings, typically one passage from the Old

Testament and one passage from the New Testament, are assigned based on the Lectionary. No previous experience is necessary. We can help if you would like to rehearse first or with calming nerves and preparation. **For questions, contact Deacon Richard Cole - [totocole@icloud.com](mailto:totocole@icloud.com) or Rosalind Cutler - [rosalindy101@gmail.com](mailto:rosalindy101@gmail.com)**

### ***Eucharistic Minister***

Eucharistic ministers assist in administering Eucharist to the congregation by helping to distribute the consecrated wine during Communion. We are trained by Michael and licensed by Bishop Mark. **For questions, contact The Rev. Michael Rusk - [rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)**

### ***Intercessor***

Intercessors offer the Prayers of the People on behalf of the congregation. There are forms of the Prayers of the People in the Book of Common Prayer which serve as a guide, and we are free to add to and customize the prayers as we feel inspired. We mention by name those on the Emmanuel Prayer List, as well as those in the Convocation Prayer Cycle. **For questions, contact Deacon Richard Cole - [totocole@icloud.com](mailto:totocole@icloud.com)**

### ***Sunday School Teacher***

At Emmanuel, We have a vibrant community, including many families with children. We offer Sunday School during the 10:30 morning service during school term. We use lesson plans from the anglican *Roots* curriculum to nurture the spiritual development of the children in our congregation. After receiving a blessing in the sanctuary at the beginning of the service, we

accompany the kids downstairs to the Sunday School room where we play, read, and do activities together.

**For questions, contact Agnes Kalinga Maye - [kalinga@bluewin.ch](mailto:kalinga@bluewin.ch)**

### ***Offertory Counter***

Offertory Counters ensure that the Open Plate offerings collected during services are counted accurately and accounted for properly. We record the amount collected and if counted on a weekday, bank it. **For questions, contact Rob Hamilton - [r.d.hamilton.iv@gmail.com](mailto:r.d.hamilton.iv@gmail.com)**

### ***Flower Donors***

While the flowers are organized by the Flower Guild, the cost of the arrangements is donated by parishioners, often in remembrance of a loved one or in celebration of a special event. The suggested donation is CHF 100. Donors are invited to write a short dedication to be included in the Service Bulletin. **For questions, contact the Rector - [rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)**

### ***Flower Guild***

The Flower Guild ensures that the beautiful altar flowers continue to give pleasure in the coming week. After the Sunday service, they are divided into three or four smaller bunches. These are given to the donor (see above), to those celebrating a birthday or anniversary and finally, if any are left, to a parishioner who has made a particular contribution that week. The two vases are emptied ready, for pick up by the florists, and the table is cleaned. We aim to be sustainable by bringing in wrappings and bows from flowers we received or have at home for reuse. **For questions, contact Lesley Lawson Botez - [lesleyklawson@gmail.com](mailto:lesleyklawson@gmail.com) or Debbie Groby - [debbiegroby@gmail.com](mailto:debbiegroby@gmail.com)**

## Community Life

### *Coffee Hour*

Fellowship is an essential part of the life of Emmanuel, and we join together for coffee each week after the Sunday service. Depending on the season and the weather, this either occurs outside in the garden or upstairs in the Grande Salle. Volunteers for Coffee Hour make this possible. We prepare the coffee, tea, and snacks, and set out cups, napkins, cream & sugar, etc. This happens before the service at 10:00am. We monitor the refreshment levels during the Coffee Hour, and then clean up afterward (which takes approximately 30 minutes). **For questions, contact Evelyne Römer - [evelynecolombettes@gmail.com](mailto:evelynecolombettes@gmail.com)**

### *Breaking Bread Participant*

Approximately monthly, we expand our after-service fellowship to include luncheon. These “Breaking Bread” get-togethers are announced in the Weekly Epistle in advance, and parishioners are invited to bring a dish to share. We drop off our offering before the service, and then, after the service, join together to eat, chat, get to know each other better, and help clean up and put away the tables. Please note – bringing a dish is encouraged, but not mandatory for attendance! **For questions, contact Evelyne Römer - [evelynecolombettes@gmail.com](mailto:evelynecolombettes@gmail.com)**

### *Breaking Bread Organizer*

Breaking Bread organizers ensure that the Breaking Bread meal is ready after the service. They set up the tables and chairs, make sure there are extension cords for the Crock-Pots and hot plates, arrange the dishes that people bring in

a logical order, and make sure that everyone gets their respective plates/baking dishes/Tupperwares back afterward. They also ensure that the Grand Salle and kitchen are cleaned up afterward. **For questions, contact Evelyne Römer - [evelynecolombettes@gmail.com](mailto:evelynecolombettes@gmail.com)**

### ***Event Assistance***

Because fellowship at Emmanuel is varied and full, we often have ad-hoc events (for instance, Thanksgiving dinner, Africa Night, concerts with receptions, etc.). Each event requires organization, and we assist when and as needed. We also welcome suggestions for events involving parishioners. **For questions, contact Rosalind Cutler - [Rosalindy101@gmail.com](mailto:Rosalindy101@gmail.com)**

## **Study**

### ***Midweek Bible Study & Compline***

Each Thursday evening at 18:00, we gather on Zoom to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings. After discussing the lessons, we share in a service of Compline, using a setting from the Northumbria Community. The gathering typically lasts 45-60 minutes. The Zoom link can be found below, as well as in the weekly Emmanuel Epistle/on the website.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89039056979?pwd=ZkZSZmlyYks3L2I4ZTBVdzRaZUN5Zz09>

Meeting Number: 890 3905 6979

Password: 914461

**For questions, contact Megan Preston Meyer - [megan@preston-meyer.com](mailto:megan@preston-meyer.com)**

### ***Study Courses offered by Church Divinity School of the Pacific***

The Center for Anglican Learning and Leadership (CALL) at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific offers online learning opportunities in three

sessions over the year. Topics range from Biblical studies to congregational leadership, from church history to contemporary theology. Each class is designed for you to participate at your own pace and on your own time. Each week has reading and writing assignments which are shared with the rest of the class. In this way, students share their understanding resulting in expanding your insights. You can take one, or many courses over time. These courses are for anyone interested in any of the subjects or for those seeking licensed lay or ordained ministry. We qualify for discounted tuition through the Convocation. For more information and the latest list of available courses, see <https://cdsp.edu/call/online/>. **For questions, contact Helena Mbele-Mbong - [helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr](mailto:helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr)**

### ***Education for Ministry (EfM)***

Education for Ministry (EfM) is a four-year program in practical theology for lay people which explores a wide concept of ministry, based on the baptismal call to minister to each other in our daily lives. Participants register for a year at a time. Over the four years, students study the Hebrew Bible, New Testament, history of Christianity and modern Christian Theology. Discussion focuses on the readings and on “Theological Reflection”, perhaps the most significant part of the course, examining the life around us, big issues and small, through a theological lens alongside our life experience, the culture/society around us, our beliefs and values and Christian tradition. As the study continues, a strong fellowship develops amongst the participants, and they all become more aware of the impact of their faith on their lives. The Convocation typically has a European-wide cohort, which begins during the Spring and meetings are held on Zoom. To find out more, visit <http://www.tec-europe.org/eics/efm/>. **For questions, contact Helena Mbele-Mbong - [helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr](mailto:helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr)**

## ***Convocation Festival of Gathering***

Over the last few years, the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe has held a Festival of Gathering during the same weekend as the annual Convocation Convention in October; all interested people are invited to attend. Past topics have included Welcoming & Walking with Refugees and Becoming Beloved Community. Festivals of Gathering are typically hybrid, with possibilities to attend either in-person or online. **For questions, contact Debbie Groby - [debbiegroby@gmail.com](mailto:debbiegroby@gmail.com)**

## ***Going Deeper***

From time to time, we hold Going Deeper conversations about a particular topic, book, or theme. These conversations allow us to explore an idea in more detail. Past discussions have explored topics as wide-ranging as the theology of Paul and a contemporary book by Joseph Bottum entitled *An Anxious Age: The Post-Protestant Ethic and the Spirit of America*. Ideas for sessions can be brought forward by anyone; dates and themes will be announced in the Emmanuel Epistle. **For questions, contact Megan Preston Meyer - [megan@preston-meyer.com](mailto:megan@preston-meyer.com)**

## **Fellowship**

### ***Emmanuel Writers' Group***

The Emmanuel Writers' Community is a group of people from Emmanuel and Holy Trinity that have in common a love of writing – in whatever form that takes in our lives. We meet once a month on a Monday evening, always on Zoom and usually in-person as well, to discuss a topic or theme related to writing and then to do a writing prompt. From time to time, we do additional

activities, like holding a Writers' Retreat or publishing an Anthology of our work. Everyone, regardless of previous writing experience, is welcome to join us! **For questions, contact Megan Preston Meyer - [megan@preston-meyer.com](mailto:megan@preston-meyer.com)**

### ***Emmanuel Women's Ministry***

The Emmanuel Women's Ministry holds monthly gatherings on Saturday afternoons where there is space for fellowship, conversation, a deepening of faith, and tea/coffee. We share the responsibility of organizing the sessions, working in pairs so that the burden is light. **For questions, contact Debbie Groby - [debbiegroby@gmail.com](mailto:debbiegroby@gmail.com)**

## **Welcoming**

### ***Welcoming Commission***

The Welcoming Commission is responsible for inviting, welcoming, and encouraging newcomers at Emmanuel. We make sure that guests are greeted, spoken with after the service and/or during Coffee Hour, that they receive a welcome packet, and they're invited to fill out the Guest forms so we can keep in touch with them. We answer any questions they may have and follow up with them after their initial visit. We also organize events and other initiatives to welcome our new parishioners into the fold and help them feel at home in the church.

**For questions, contact Meredith Baker - [meredithabaker10@gmail.com](mailto:meredithabaker10@gmail.com)**

### ***Welcomer in Church***

During the Announcements at the service on Sunday, a member of the Welcoming Commission is invited to formally welcome guests in the pews and

online, and encourage guests to stay for coffee hour and/or reach out to us so we can get to know them better. Welcomers rotate each Sunday.

For questions, contact Meredith Baker - [meredithabaker10@gmail.com](mailto:meredithabaker10@gmail.com)

## **Building & Grounds**

### ***Garden Maintenance***

Our lovely grounds are a welcome oasis in the middle of the city. In order to keep them beautiful and inviting, we spend time during the spring and summer months making sure that flowers are planted, weeds are pulled, and that everything is tidy. **For questions, contact Evelyne Römer -**

[evelynecolombettes@gmail.com](mailto:evelynecolombettes@gmail.com)

## **Communications**

### ***Live-streaming***

The Emmanuel community extends across Switzerland and across the globe. For parishioners that can't be present in Geneva, we livestream the service via YouTube. Livestream operators make sure that the cameras and microphones are connected and working properly, and manage the equipment and technology during the services. We ensure that the links to the video and to the Service Bulletin are available on the website and on the YouTube channel, and use our state-of-the-art audiovisual set-up to create a high-quality video experience for Emmanuelites, wherever they may be.

For questions, contact Laurentiu Stehan [laurentiu.stehan@gmail.com](mailto:laurentiu.stehan@gmail.com)

### ***Service Bulletins***

Our Service Bulletins are designed and printed prior to the service. We often include appropriate artwork for the season or occasion, and ensure that the Order of Service is laid out and formatted nicely. We ensure that each week's specific hymns, Scripture readings, ministers, prayer lists, etc. are up-to-date,

and create the PDF service bulletin that is uploaded alongside the Livestream.  
**For questions, contact the Rector: [rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)**

### ***Website/Social Media***

The Emmanuel website is one of the first places that newcomers look to find out about our community, and is also a place where parishioners access Online Worship links and stay up-to-date about current events. We try to keep it updated, helpful, and relevant. We also maintain a social media presence (primarily on Facebook and Instagram).

**For questions, contact Laurentiu Stehan - [laurentiu.stehan@gmail.com](mailto:laurentiu.stehan@gmail.com)**

### ***Weekly Epistle***

The Emmanuel Epistle, our weekly newsletter, is sent out on Thursday afternoons. We include the Collect and readings for the upcoming Sunday, a listing of upcoming services, and announcements about events and community life at Emmanuel. The deadline for announcements is Wednesday afternoon; we usually spend 60 minutes each week to update the template and get it ready to send.

**For questions, contact the Rector - [rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)**

### ***Emmanuel Star (quarterly)***

The Emmanuel Star is a quarterly publication that allows us the time and space to go further in-depth into the life of Emmanuel. We feature reports and

accounts of special events, interviews or stories on notable Emmanuelites, photographs, artwork, and more. This is your chance to write stories about an Emmanuel event you've attended; reflections on Emmanuel as it impacts your life and faith; write a review of a book others might find interesting; extend your literary writing in prose and poetry, artwork, etc... We are open and excited to your contributions! **For questions, contact Helena Mbele-Mbong - [helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr](mailto:helena.mbele-mbong@orange.fr)**

## **Inreach**

### ***Single Parents' Support Network***

The Single Parent Network Group is a group for anyone who relates to the term "single parent" whether a single parent or not. Sometimes people feel like a single parent due to their life circumstances. There is dinner, a discussion and an activity for the children. The Single Parent Network Group meets once a month on a Monday from 6:00-8:00pm. This is not a religiously affiliated group. All are welcome!

We need help creating posters, getting the word out, decorating and setting up the rooms, cooking and helping in the kitchen and tidying at the end of the evening. **For questions, contact Leslie Burgat - [info@leslieburgatcounselling.ch](mailto:info@leslieburgatcounselling.ch)**

### ***Being part of the Inreach team***

For questions, contact Deacon Richard - [totocole@icloud.com](mailto:totocole@icloud.com)

## **Outreach**

### ***Outreach Commission***

The Outreach Commission is dedicated to allocating the part of Emmanuel's budget which works for positive change in the lives of people affected by

disaster, poverty and injustice, in furtherance of the Kingdom of God. We extend our services outside the walls of the church, to try to make a difference to a wider section of the population and community in Geneva and in the world. To do this, members of the Outreach Commission use the abundance which God has given to us: talent, financial resources, personal time and dedicated commitment. We meet about three times a year. **For questions, contact Vicky Maltby: [vickymaltby@bluewin.ch](mailto:vickymaltby@bluewin.ch)**

### ***Refugee Welcome Center***

The Emmanuel Welcome Center is a new initiative that seeks to provide practical help to refugees and migrants in the Greater Geneva area. Under the Director, Christine Agharzarm, the work includes the provision of French tuition classes at A1 and A2 levels; one-to-one French conversations with volunteers; a weekly Coffee Hour on Wednesdays; close links with the Rigot Center for two parties a year - one at Christmas and another in spring. In addition, there are two English-immersion weeklong camps for refugee children. Volunteers are always welcome for this expanding work. **For questions, contact Christine Agharzarm - [christine11479@yahoo.com](mailto:christine11479@yahoo.com)**

## *Jardin de Montbrillant*

Jardin de Montbrillant is a monthly Outreach project in Geneva where we reach out directly to those in need, and supply a cooked meal to 200 - 250 people once per month on a Saturday, year around. The Center, named Jardin de Montbrillant, is run by a local charitable organization located behind the central train station. Our participation allows us to plan a special meal with a team of approximately 10 people, members and friends of the church, who are willing to spend a Saturday morning preparing and serving the less fortunate and offering a welcoming meal and smile. Team leaders organize the shopping for ingredients, and a willing group assists in meal preparation and service. Volunteers typically start at 8:30 am, and finish by 13:00 pm. **For questions, contact Torsten Bartsch - [torstenbartsch@yahoo.com](mailto:torstenbartsch@yahoo.com)**

## **Leadership**

### *Vestry*

The Vestry, working with the rector and deacon, is the governing body of our church. The basic responsibilities of the Vestry are to help define and articulate the mission of the congregation; to support the church's mission by word and deed; to select the rector; to ensure effective organization and planning; and to manage resources and finances. This is an elected position, generally for a three-year term. The 9 to 12 Vestry members meet monthly and are asked to serve either as one of the officers or as a liaison to one of the many commissions of our parish. Becoming a member of Vestry is a rewarding responsibility, though clearly one not to take lightly. As in any group of humans, skills of supportive and loving listening, negotiation and resolving conflict can all be part of this critical role in our parish. We are grateful to all

who serve a term on the Vestry. **For questions, contact the Rector -**  
[rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)

### ***Delegate to Convocation Convention***

Emmanuel is part of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe that links parishes, mission congregations, and specialized ministries spread across Europe. The Convocation, currently led by Bishop Mark Edington, is in turn part of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican communion. Annually, a Convention is held to enact some of the business of the Convocation, and as noted earlier, this has included a Festival of Gathering for developing our training and faith formation. Emmanuel sends two full delegates and two alternates to the Convention. This is a wonderful opportunity to make connections with others across Europe that help further our efforts in sharing God's mission to our world. If you are interested in becoming involved as a delegate or with a mission of the Convocation, do explore the Convocation website: [www.tec-europe.org](http://www.tec-europe.org) For questions, contact the Rector -  
[rector@emmanuelchurch.ch](mailto:rector@emmanuelchurch.ch)