



## Multi-Ethnic Ministry *of North Texas*

1 John 4:19

**We love because He first loved us.**

Ministering to the spiritual, physical, social, and emotional needs of new Americans in North Texas.

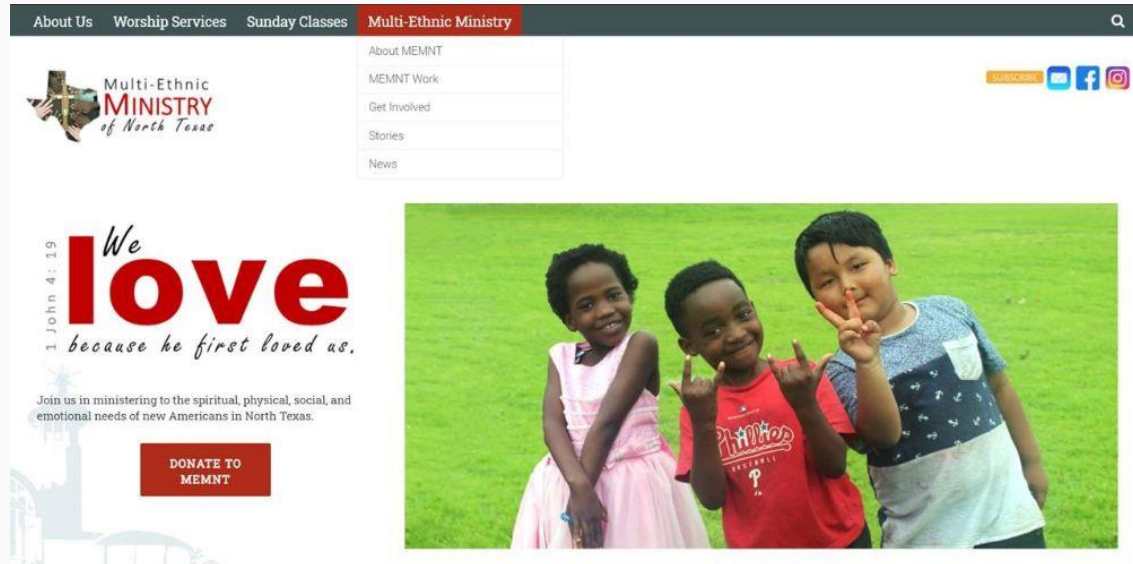
### **A message from Rev. Dr. Solomon Yadessa**

In the first part of Luke 16, Jesus tells his disciples the parable of a master and his dishonest manager. The manager is accused of wasting his master's possessions, and the master says to him, "Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager." Before the manager turns in the account, he meets with each of the master's debtors to reduce their debt so that they will take him into their homes and help him now that he has lost his job. Though his possessions have been mismanaged again, the master commends the manager for his shrewdness and shows grace by not having him jailed or forced to repay what he has lost.

At the end of the parable Jesus tells us that those who are consumed by this world are often more shrewd than believers in their dealings. He also cautions that we cannot serve two masters, both God and money. Since God graciously gives us all that we have, including life, we must take care to manage His gifts well and use them shrewdly to serve others in His name and for their eternal good. Also, we must not pursue money or use it to advance ourselves. Instead, we should use it for purposes that glorify God and advance His kingdom.

Think of yourself as manager of God's resources. Are you managing well what He entrusted to you? One day we will give our account to God. Is there anything you want to change? We can't do it on our own, but help from the Holy Spirit is always available.

Sooner or later, we are going to lose all that we think we possess, but the good news is that we have something far more valuable: forgiveness and eternal life. Like the master in the parable, God shows us grace. Every day. Even when we don't measure up. His grace is always there for us in Christ Jesus. Amen.



## Check out the MEMNT website

We are pleased to announce the launch of the [MEMNT website](#). There you will find information about the ministry, the work, and how to get involved. You can read stories about volunteers and people being served by the ministry, as well as our news archive. You can learn about urban missionaries, why the ministry was founded, volunteer opportunities, and what the current needs are. And you will find links to help you [donate](#), [email](#), and [subscribe](#) to this newsletter. Join us in ministering to the spiritual, physical, social, and emotional needs of new Americans in North Texas!



### **Volunteer spotlight: Curtis Bryant**

#### **How did you first get involved in the MEMNT?**

There was an announcement about it at church. I was interested because of my past experience with Congolese refugees, so I reached out.

#### **What experiences prepared you to volunteer with the MEMNT children's weekend program at Our Redeemer?**

I am quite moved by the plight of refugees in our country today -- my heart breaks for them. Fortunately, I am still somewhat of a kid myself, so working with the children has been fun. I enjoy sports, love learning and education, and am always excited by a game of catch. I had also served as a mentor to a Congolese youth for about five years, which was good preparation. He and I keep in touch. In fact, he, and another African friend of his joined us at the program one Saturday.

**How can other Our Redeemer members connect with the children?**

When times are normal, our church members have an opportunity every Sunday morning before, between, and after services to interact with the kids. All you have to do is take the time to engage with them. Trust me, they remember you! I think this is an important step in building a relationship with them, which ultimately makes you to want to do more.

**What suggestions do you have for others who want to get involved and connect with the children being served by MEMNT?**

I think that any church members who want to get involved need to be ready to step outside of their comfort zones. Not only is the generational gap becoming more significant as technology moves so rapidly, but we need to realize that the environments that these kids come from and still live in may be unfamiliar to many of us. To have the influence that we want to have with these kids and to help them grow their faith, we must first listen to them, get to know them, and demonstrate that we understand them.

**What has your experience with MEMNT meant to you?**

It has been incredibly powerful to see the hardships that people go through and yet see still the work of Christ in their lives. Spending Saturday afternoon or Sunday mornings with these kids was one of the highlights of my week. I look forward to being able to return to that soon, and I hope more members will join me.

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## **Meet Sandrine**

Before moving to the United States in 2018, Sandrine lived in Rwanda. She speaks Kinyarwanda, the official language of Rwanda, and English.

Five fun facts about Sandrine:

- School grade: 9th
  - Favorite subject: math
  - Future job: doctor
  - Favorite activity: dancing
  - Favorite MEMNT memory: playing and singing at the weekend program
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### **Laptops needed**

The MEMNT is in need of 5 new or gently used laptops for some of the families being served. With COVID, finding employment, getting groceries, speaking to a doctor, and staying connected to family and friends have become increasingly difficult. If you are able to donate one or more laptops, please contact either Pastor Solomon (214.326.5969 or syadessa@gmail.com) or Ron Schuldt (214.762.7206 or ssbarranch@gmail.com).

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This summer the Board of Mission and Evangelism at Faith Lutheran - Plano, along with the LWML Women of Faith group, chose to support the Multi-Ethnic Ministry of

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North Texas with proceeds from their Christmas in July event. A Christmas tree - yes, a Christmas tree! - decorated with giving envelopes was set up in the narthex of the church. Congregational members took the envelopes and donated money as they were led. Each week the amount of funds raised was published in the church announcements. At the end of July, \$1,845 of the proceeds were given to the MEMNT. To God be the Glory! Thank you, members of Faith, for supporting the MEMNT with this mission fundraiser.



### **You are invited to get involved!**

The MEMNT was founded in 2017 by Our Redeemer in Dallas, Faith Lutheran in Plano, and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Texas District. Current ministry sponsors are the Lutheran Women's Missionary League Texas District, Peace Lutheran in Texarkana, Arkansas, and the Randolph Foundation in Cypress, Texas. We are looking for individuals and churches who want to join us in reaching out to people who haven't heard the Gospel.

We are mentoring, nurturing, teaching, and preparing people for baptism and Holy Communion. I can't help but become emotional when I see people come to the baptismal font and receive the body and blood of Jesus during the Lord's Supper. Lives change and miracles happen there. Join us in sharing God's grace and the Gospel of Jesus. You can [donate](#) online to the ministry, learn more about [volunteer](#)

[opportunities](#), or contact [memntx@gmail.com](mailto:memntx@gmail.com) for more information. God bless you as you continue to pray for this ministry and be involved in any way you can. In the name of Jesus! Amen!

Pastor Solomon

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