

Newsletter



From the Director's Desk

Light in Darkness — How Do I Say Thank You

How can I be a light in the darkness when life sometimes feels empty and the pain is so heavy? I have been writing and rewriting these words for the last year trying to figure out how to say, “Thank You”.

Being a light for those who are barely surviving, who feel complacent, who are holding on to a thread of hope or to a single dream, can sometimes dim our own light. Walking beside those who are numb, stuck in fight, flight, or freeze, can leave us wondering—*Is this really helping? Am I making any difference? Am I truly impacting someone's life for the better?*

In the midst of my own darkness—through the storm my daughter, my family, Casey's father's family, and I are enduring—the light of Jesus continues to shine in and through me. It may flicker at times, but deep within, I know that light still burns. His strength sustains me and helps me encourage others, even when it feels hard to see past my own pain. While grieving my grandson, I've been deeply comforted by the love and light shared by friends, family, and new acquaintances. Your love, encouragement, and prayers help me persevere when the weight feels unbearable. So many of you deserve a personal shout-out, but listing names would risk overlooking someone—but please know that every act of kindness, every hug, every tear shed on our behalf, every word of comfort, and every prayer has touched my heart in ways I'll never forget and ways you would never imagine.

The road remains rough, and the clouds are still here, but they are no longer as dark or hopeless as they once were. The light of Christ paired with your love and support gives me hope and a renewed purpose. That hope has inspired me to begin a grief session at DBC—for those who have lost loved ones to gun violence, other crimes, or any cause that has left a deep mark on their hearts. This group will meet monthly, offering a safe, faith-filled space for anyone carrying silent pain to begin to heal. Additionally, I am working with others to establish a confidential hotline for young people, especially those caught up in gang life or exposed to trauma—who desperately need someone to listen to in the middle of the night, when the memories are too heavy and the silence is too loud, I want them to have a place to call—a space to speak freely, anonymously, and release their pain without fear.

Sometimes our own light fades and needs to be rekindled. For some, that renewal comes from their faith and trust in the Lord. For others who are drowning in darkness with no direction, we can be that guiding spark. God has given each of us a purpose—to shine light into the lives of those who have lost theirs. We are called to support, not enable; and to strengthen others emotionally, mentally, and spiritually. We may never live in a perfect world, but we can each do our part to move toward a more peaceful, compassionate, and supportive one. Sharing even a small piece of ourselves can transform a life—and remind others of the beauty and strength that comes from love, connection, and faith.

Please continue to keep my family in your prayers, just as we continue to pray for you and our DBC community. I could never truly repay for all the love you've shown, but from the depths of my heart, I hope that my thank you and I love you are enough.

With love, hugs, and blessings,

Annette Cullors

Your Love Overflows into the lives of our neighbors

Trenesa is a devoted mother caring for her two sons. Her oldest, age 19, is battling brain cancer, and her youngest, age 16, lives with a rare nerve condition that has taken control of his body, leaving him unable to speak and fully dependent on his parents. Trenesa spends four to five days each week traveling to medical appointments to care for her boys.

It is always a joy to see her when she comes to the Center to pick up dinner or shop in the food pantry to help feed her family. Trenesa often shares how DBC has helped provide meals and allowed her to save precious funds for other bills and urgent needs. Despite the overwhelming challenges she faces, she usually greets everyone with a radiant smile and a gentle spirit. Few would ever know the heartache she carries or the tears she sheds as she lovingly cares for her sons.

Last Thursday, however, Trenesa walked into the Center with a different expression. Her familiar smile was missing, and the pain she so often hides was clearly visible. She shared that her youngest son has lost weight and that doctors are concerned. His food intake has been increased in hopes that he will regain strength. When I asked how she was doing, she admitted that—for the first time—she was feeling worried.

I asked about her son's emotional state. I can only imagine how difficult it must be for a teenager who can no longer communicate or spend time with friends, and who faces an uncertain future at such a young age. Trenesa shared that he has both good days and bad days. Moments like these remind us how easily we can take life for granted and overlook the emotional burdens others carry so quietly.

Trenesa remains determined. She says she is not giving up and will do everything she can to care for her "baby." Today, I ask our DBC extended family to please keep Trenesa and her family in your prayers.

I look forward to seeing her beautiful smile again.

Annette Cullors

Community Heroes at Work – American Airlines



American Airlines volunteers spent **MLK Day** on the DBC campus, helping beautify our grounds and honoring Dr. King's legacy through service.

A note from American Airlines representative: "Thank you for welcoming American Airlines to take part in the Dallas Bethlehem Center's MLK Day beautification projects. It was an honor for our team to contribute to the meaningful work your organization is leading. As Dr. King reminded us, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, 'What are you doing for others?'"

Your efforts are a powerful reflection of that call to service. We deeply appreciate the impact the Dallas Bethlehem Center continues to make in the community and the lives you touch every day. We look forward to identifying additional opportunities to support your mission and to continue building on this partnership.

Thank you again for the important work you do and for allowing us to be part of it."

FEBRUARY, 2026

Community Heroes at Work – DHL Logistics



We are very grateful to the incredible volunteers from DHL Logistics Company who partnered with **The Walls Project** and DBC on MLK Day for our grounds beautification effort. Your teamwork and enthusiasm made a meaningful impact on our campus.

Special appreciation goes to

Casey Philip (CEO & Executive Director, The Walls Project) and **Paul Franklin (Assoc. Director of Dallas Programs, The Walls Project)**, who spearheaded the project and helped bring everything together so beautifully.

Strong Shelves, strong teamwork



A heartfelt thank-you to one of our most faithful volunteers, **Lynn Fisher**, who not only donated but also personally assembled our new professional steel shelving to help DBC stay organized and serve our community more efficiently.

Her amazing crew included her husband **Robert Fisher**, sister **Wendy Campbell**, and Wendy's husband **Jim Campbell**. We're especially grateful to **Wendy, a dedicated DBC Board member**—it's truly humbling and inspiring to see our Board take time out of their busy schedules to serve hands-on at the facility.

Volunteer Spotlight – Regina Proctor



Ms. Regina Catherine Proctor joined DBC over a year ago after feeling called to serve during a volunteer outreach event. Despite her busy career in real estate and active involvement at **St. Luke UMC**, she has remained one of DBC's most faithful volunteers—serving dinner every Tuesday and Wednesday and assisting families during Thursday shopping.

Born and raised in this neighborhood, Regina finds joy in giving back to her own community. Her leadership, consistency, and heart for people strengthen DBC's mission every week.

Regina brings a rich professional background, including 28 years as a **USPS Trainer**, 20+ years as a **real estate agent**, and certifications as a **notary** and **tax arbitrator**.

She is a **TWU Nursing graduate**, a 50-year usher, **Vice President of United Methodist Women**, and a 20-year adult **Sunday School teacher**. She also owns a creative business designing Afro-centric children's clothing and uplifting gift items.

The second of seven siblings and proud mother of her son, Adrian, Regina enjoys quilting, reading, traveling, and true-life movies. A devoted Toni Morrison reader, she once spent six months studying the author's writing style, showing the same passion she brings to serving others.

DBC is grateful for Ms. Regina's unwavering commitment, leadership, and love for this community.

FEBRUARY, 2026


dallas bethlehem center

Upcoming Events

Dallas Bethlehem Center presents

28 MARCH, 2026 (SATURDAY)

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

**Meet The Easter Bunny,
Fun Outdoor Games,
Free Food, DJ
Arts & Crafts and
much more!**

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
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