



Larry Lindley
Executive Director

News 'n Notes

1970 Caroline Ave., PO Box 18388, Indianapolis, IN 46218, (317)-637-3776

May-June, 2008

Dear Friends

I have been Executive Director here at the Edna Martin Christian Center for almost 19 years, and now it is time for me to move on to a different phase of my life. I will be retiring from my position in the beginning of August.

Like all ministry, it is in many ways a difficult, stressful vocation, but is also in many ways rewarding. I recently had a conversation with a young man who was just starting high school when I first came here. He has come through some very difficult times to a place where he now has a good job, a nice house, a lovely wife (they were married by me here in the Center), and two children. He has given back to us in many ways. As we talked about the problems of growing up in a neighborhood like this, and the role that EMCC had played in his life in helping him overcome those difficulties, he said, "I thank God every day for the Center."

I think we have made good progress: we have become a United Way agency, we have completed a major building renovation, we have expanded to a second site where we can more effectively provide social services, and our after-school program and summer youth programs have grown considerably. We have established an endowment and have a web-site up

and running, with the capability of accepting donations on-line. We have been instrumental in the formation of the Martindale-Brightwood Community Development Corporation and the Community Resurrection Partnership minister's association. We have become a member of the United Neighborhood Centers of Indianapolis, an exciting new partnership among service centers in the city.

But more importantly, I know that we have had a positive impact on the lives of many people of our community, such as the young man I quoted above, giving them a measure of the love that God has for us all. An important part of that impact has been the work of our dedicated staff, especially Evelyn and Evonne. Thanks to them and to all the staff who work so hard to make the Edna Martin Christian Center an important element of the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood.

Much has been done, but there is, as always, much more to do. The Edna Martin Christian Center will continue to need your faithful support so that we can be even more effective in bringing God's abundant love to the people of our community.

It is not work that we can do alone. We depend on you—on individuals, churches, Sunday school classes, Women's groups, businesses, and

many others. I sincerely thank all of you who have been partners with us in our work, through your prayers, your financial support, your other gifts, your work groups, your sponsorship of campers and Christmas kids, and in so many other ways. Thanks to our foundation and other grant partners for your essential assistance.

In the course of my tenure, I have made many friends, both within the neighborhood and among the larger supporting community. Many good people are working hard to make good things happen here, both at the Edna Martin Christian Center and in the neighborhood where we are located. I am confident that this work will be carried on and that the Center will become even more effective in improving the lives of the people of this community.

I have tried to be faithful to the gospel both in ministering in this neighborhood and in relating to people outside the neighborhood about poverty as I see it every day. God has blessed me in my time here and I hope that I have been successful in passing a portion of those blessings on to all of you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry".

Larry Lindley
Executive Director

A Word from Evelyn

A Time Of Joy

A few weeks ago I was looking forward to the end of the week with time to relax. When I looked at my calendar, however, I realized I had to take twelve young girls to Seymour, Indiana for a Girls of Joy Jamboree sleep-over. I really did not feel up to this task mentally or physically but it was my job to get them there and participate. As we journeyed there the girls were all giggly and happy waiting to see what the Jamboree would be like.

When we arrived the girls that were already there had just finished eating and had begun to sing. Our girls knew the song and just ran up to the group and joined in. I noticed how all the girls just acted as if they all knew each other and had been waiting for us to get there. This was a legitimate greeting and fellowship. I could not help but feel better myself! The girls had worship and a devotion on prayer emphasizing how we should yield our cares to

God. After worship I was ready for an ice cream sundae and the wonderful movie that had been selected for us to watch. After the movie I was "treated" to sleeping on the floor with great anticipation of what was in store the next day.

The next day brought more fellowship, bible study, crafts, (stiff and sore backs from sleeping on the floor for some of us adults), and graduations of the girls to the next level of their Christian growth. There was also a dedication of health kits to the Edna Martin Christian Center and blessing boxes collected throughout the year. After the closing ceremony and many tears of joy we departed for home.

I was well rested in spite of sleeping on the floor and listening to girly talk half the night. The Girls of Joy had helped me forget my tiredness, my sore back and helped me to yield it to God. Thank God for the wonderful leaders of this great organization for all the great work and special thanks to the Girls of Joy.

Shalom,
Evelyn

Driving for Dreams

Come golf for the Edna Martin Christian Center at the Driving For Dreams golf tournament!

The tournament will be held at the Eagle Creek Golf Club on September 12.

For a sponsorship of \$300, you will receive a round of golf, lunch and dinner, and participation in a \$5000 putting contest.

For more information, contact Larry Lindley at (317)-637-3776 or EdnaMartinCC@indy.rr.org

News 'n Notes

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by the

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Center

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EMCC is a home mission of the American
Baptist Churches, USA



Evelyn (right) and our "Girls of Joy"

A Word from Evonne

Overcoming Barriers

When we begin working with a client and look at the many barriers that they face, it is easy for us to become discouraged. We wonder how they will ever overcome their obstacles given their meager resources. At times like this, we have to remember the old adage about eating an elephant “one bite at a time”.

More than a year ago, my article described the plight of a young mother who was facing multiple challenges. These included finding decent and affordable housing, obtaining employment that paid a living wage, and income management. Thanks to funds that we received from the Hoover Foundation, we were able to enroll her in our intense case management program and provide support while she worked to reach her goal of self-sufficiency.

Today this young lady has secured employment and has remained on the job for 10 months. She was proud to report that she has received a raise!

Several months ago during her budget analysis, she was excited to see that she could now afford to move out of public housing. We worked with the Martindale-Brightwood Community Development Corporation and she was able to move into a rehabbed house and is happy that her children now have a backyard in which to play.

We are proud of her and her determination to provide a better life for her children. She reported that this is just the beginning. Her next goal is to attend homeowner training and take advantage of the Individual

Development Accounts to prepare herself for home ownership.

She is continuing to face her obstacles and overcome them “one bite at a time”.

“There is nothing to fear when we are in God’s will”

*Evonne Brown
Outreach Coordinator*

Yes, We Are Still Saving Campbell's Soup Labels.

We have received many items that have been very useful to our youth program through the Campbell's Soup Label Program.

Thanks to all of you who send us the labels, and keep them coming!

The chart below describes what to save and send to us.

ELIGIBLE PRODUCTS – HERE'S WHAT TO SAVE



labelsforeducation.com

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| <h4 style="margin: 0;">Products Worth 5 Points</h4> | | |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Condensed 10 to 11 oz. Soups (Specially marked packages only)</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Soup At Hand</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Goldfish Crackers</p> |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Chunky Soups (bowls) Campbell's Chunky Chili (bowls)</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Supper Bakes Meal Kits</p> |  <p>● - LID V8 Splash Juice Drinks, all varieties V8 Splash Smoothies</p> |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Spaghetti O's Original (15 oz.) Spaghetti O's Meatball (14.75 oz.) (Specially Marked Packages Only)</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Select Soups (bowls)</p> | |
| <h4 style="margin: 0;">Products Worth 1 Point</h4> | | |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Beans Products Campbell's Condensed 10 oz. Soups Campbell's Condensed 26 oz. Soups Campbell's Low Sodium Soups Campbell's Fat Free Soups Campbell's Kitchen Classic Soups Campbell's Tomato Juices Campbell's Gravies Campbell's Soup & Recipe Mix</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Franco-American Gravies</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Spaghetti O's Original (7.5 oz., 26 oz.) Spaghetti O's Meatball (7.5 oz., 26.25 oz.)</p> |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Chunky Soups Campbell's Chunky Chili Campbell's Chunky Fully Loaded</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Pepperidge Farm Soups Pepperidge Farm Breads, Croutons, Rolls & Stuffing Pepperidge Farm Cookies, Crackers, Goldfish Cookies & Snack Mixes Pepperidge Farm Frozen Garlic Breads, Cakes, Turnovers, Dumplings and Puff Pastry</p> |  <p>● - LID V8 100% Vegetable Juice, all varieties</p> |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Healthy Request Soups</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Swanson Broth (can and carton) Swanson Canned Chicken</p> |  <p>● - LID V8 V-Fusion 100% Juice, all varieties</p> |
|  <p> - UPC CODE Campbell's Select Soups Campbell's Select Gold Label Soups (carton)</p> |  <p> - UPC CODE Selected products (tub/carton)</p> |  <p>## - 2 CODE NUMBERS FROM OUTER CASE Campbell's Tomato Juice (11.5 oz./24 cans/case) Campbell's Tomato Juice (5.5 oz./48 cans/case) Campbell's Chef's Kettle Soups (50 oz.) Campbell's Foodservice Soups (50 oz.) Campbell's Low Sodium Soups (50 oz.) Campbell's Healthy Request Soups (50 oz.) Campbell's Chunky Soups (bowls) Campbell's Select Soups (bowls) All Pepperidge Farm Products V8, V8 Splash, V8 V-Fusion Prego Foodservice</p> |



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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Camp is coming

We are about to kick off our full-day summer program for youth. The time will just fly by, and will culminate in a five day rural camp experience at Indian Creek Baptist Camp.



For most of our young people, it is their only opportunity to get out of the city and experience firsthand the nature that God created as a gift to us all.

This year, we are requesting donations of \$200 (the same as last year) for each camper to cover the cost of their camping experience. We have enclosed a

list of young people that we anticipate going to camp.

You can send in a contribution (or make one on-line) to ensure that all of our children can have this valuable experience.

Going Away Party!

*The Edna Martin Christian Center
Board of Directors
Invites you to a Going Away Party
in honor of our retiring Executive Director,
Larry Lindley*

*July 20, 2:00 – 4:00
Edna Martin Christian Center
1970 Caroline Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana*