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## Community center on the way in South Bend, thanks to church

*Tribune Staff Report*

SOUTH BEND — By the time school starts in mid-August, a once-homely strip of storefronts — brightened only by a mural dedicated to migrant farm workers — will reopen as a bright, new center for learning.

Leaders of the 7,000-member Granger Community Church today showed off the renovation that is going on in the early-1900s buildings at Western Avenue and Taylor Street.

The South Bend Common Council will vote at its 7 p.m. meeting today on an appropriation of \$50,000 for the project, Mayor Stephen J. Luecke said. The money comes from the federal Community Development Block Grant program.

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The city also is providing another \$50,000 from the Western Avenue Commercial Corridor initiative, he said.

The Monroe Circle Community Center, next door to public housing, will include an alternative school, after-school tutoring and mentoring, GED classes and life-skills training and a food

pantry.

The storefronts once housed the former Ko-op 65 food pantry for senior citizens.

Church officials said they're in the middle of a \$750,000 capital campaign for the renovation.

**Read more on this story in Tuesday's South Bend Tribune.**

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