

Stay Cool All Summer



Schedule The Experts Today!  
574-381-5309

SAVE \$90

REGULARLY \$189 NOW ONLY \$99 on a HVAC Precision Tune-Up

A well-maintained system operates more efficiently, reducing energy consumption and lowering heating and cooling bills.\*

Offer not valid on prior purchases and may not be combined with other offers. Excludes oil furnaces; call for pricing. \*Potential savings may vary depending on age and condition of equipment, personal lifestyle, system settings, equipment maintenance, and installation of equipment and duct system.



WE SERVICE ALL MAKES AND MODELS

© 2026 Service Experts, Service Experts Heating & Air Conditioning, and the Service Experts logo and design are registered trademarks of Service Experts LLC. Offers not valid on prior purchases and may not be combined with any other offers. Call for details. \*Advantage pricing applies to specific equipment only. Some exclusions apply. See the terms and conditions within the Service Experts Advantage Program Lease Agreement for additional information on pricing and program details. Lease with approved credit. License #: 7116944; 205; PC19500035 M

# South Bend Tribune

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026 | SOUTHBENDTRIBUNE.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK



The South Bend Fire Department battles a fire July 6 at Maranatha Fellowship 7th Day Sabbath Church on Ewing Avenue in South Bend. MICHAEL CLUBB/SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE

## Maranatha church vows to keep going after fire

Juliane Balog  
South Bend Tribune  
USA TODAY NETWORK

There is still not much known about the cause of the fire at Maranatha Fellowship 7th Day Sabbath Church, 1406 E. Ewing Ave. on Monday, July 6.

The call came in around 5:15 a.m. from a nearby neighbor who smelled smoke. South Bend firefighters quickly determined the blaze to be too hot and aggressive for them to safely work inside.

The first firefighters on scene de-

clared a structure fire and as more crews arrived, they entered the church, Assistant Chief Fire Prevention Derek Erquhart said. In total, SBFDF responded with 40 firefighters and 15 South Bend companies.

"They were trying to get where the fire was located inside," Erquhart said. "They had extreme conditions, high heat. There was a lot of content [and] trouble finding the seed of the fire."

"And then as it progressed, companies reported the fire burning from floor to floor within the church," Erquhart said. "At that point, the conditions were

to the point where it was unsafe for us."

The fire is believed to have started near the first floor of the church and burned through all the floors and the roof.

Investigators have not yet entered the building because of water in the basement, which needs to recede or be pumped out before investigators can safely enter, according to Melissa Stephens, digital communications and multimedia coordinator with SBFDF. There are no injuries or fatalities as a

See **MARANATHA**, Page 3A

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

## Residence hall rector on leave

Rayleigh Deaton  
South Bend Tribune  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A residence hall rector at the University of Notre Dame has been placed on leave and is under investigation by the university's Office of Institutional Equity after anonymous allegations of sexual misconduct against her were posted on social media.

According to Notre Dame's student newspaper, The Observer, the allegations are against the McGlenn Hall rector, who has held the position since August 2024 and has been on leave since June 29. The Observer says that posts alleging misconduct by the rector began appearing on the Instagram account shareyourstory.notredame on June 17, with the rector's name redacted.

In a statement sent to The Tribune on July 6, the university confirmed that the rector is on leave pending the outcome of the investigation.

"We have been made aware of the online allegations," Notre Dame's statement said. "The University takes allegations of sexual misconduct seriously, particularly when persons in positions of authority may be involved, and is conducting an investigation."

"Members of the campus community who experience sexual misconduct are strongly encouraged to report it to law enforcement and/or the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE). Reports to OIE can be made at [speakup.nd.edu](http://speakup.nd.edu). Without reporting, our ability to investigate allegations is severely limited and we strongly encourage anyone with information to please reach out."

This comes a month after Notre Dame said it was taking immediate action to prevent and respond to any future misconduct following the release

See **NOTRE DAME**, Page 2A

### SOUTH BEND COMMUNITY SCHOOL CORPORATION

## EnrichYou claims partnership remains in effect

Rayleigh Deaton  
South Bend Tribune  
USA TODAY NETWORK

Days after the South Bend school board took a vote to terminate the district's partnership with after-school program provider EnrichYou, Inc., the organization's CEO, Leslie Wesley, said the board did not vote on the correct

memorandum of understanding with EnrichYou. Because of this, Wesley said, EnrichYou's partnership with SBCSC remains in effect.

On Monday, June 29, trustees voted to terminate the professional services agreement between SBCSC and EnrichYou, with board members Kate Lee and Marcus Ellison against the termination, President Stuart Greene absent and

Vice President Carlos Leyva abstaining.

But on July 2, Wesley, herself a former SBCSC board member, sent out a press release that the board did not vote on the memorandum of understanding between SBCSC and EnrichYou through a federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Center Program (21CCLC) — although that was the "stated intent," she said.

Instead, Wesley said, the agreement the board was presented with and that was attached to the meeting agenda was a memorandum of understanding among SBCSC, EnrichYou and SBCSC's college and career readiness program Gear Up South Bend for an entirely different summer program.

See **SBCSC**, Page 6A



LICENSED MEMORY CARE

### BEHAVIORS HAPPEN: RESPOND VS. REACT

Presented by: Patty Piechocki - Alzheimer's and Dementia Services of Northern Indiana

THURSDAY, JULY 21  
AT 3PM- 4PM

1409 E. Day Road, Mishawaka, IN 46545 · [NorthWoodsMemoryCare.com](http://NorthWoodsMemoryCare.com)

It is not easy to stay composed when the individual you are caring for has a negative or hostile reaction. Learn how to see beyond their hostility and how to constructively respond to their needs. Scan, call or go online to RSVP by July 20 to reserve your spot! 574-247-1866.



Get the latest news, sports and more  
See today's top headlines, local breaking news, area scores, things to do and subscriber exclusives at [southbendtribune.com](http://southbendtribune.com).

Subscriber-only eNewspaper  
The eNewspaper is an electronic copy of your print newspaper. Enjoy every page by scanning this code on your mobile device, or go to [southbendtribune.com/enewspaper](http://southbendtribune.com/enewspaper).



Volume 154 | No. 105  
To subscribe:  
800-220-7378  
©2026 \$2.49

