

FIRST MERCHANTS CORP  
Form 8-K  
August 17, 2016

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, DC 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DATE OF REPORT (Date of earliest event reported): August 11, 2016

Commission File Number 0-17071

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

INDIANA 35-1544218  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation) (IRS Employer Identification No.)

200 East Jackson Street  
P.O. Box 792  
Muncie, IN 47305-2814  
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(765) 747-1500  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Not Applicable  
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

ITEM 5.03 AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OR BYLAWS; CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR

Effective August 11, 2016, the Board of Directors of First Merchants Corporation (the “Company”), by unanimous resolution, amended Article V, Section 1 of the Company’s bylaws to extend the mandatory retirement age for directors from age seventy (70) to age seventy-three (73). A copy of Article V, Section 1 of the Company’s bylaws, restated to reflect this amendment, is filed as Exhibit 3.1 to this Report.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

(a) Not applicable.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit 3.1 Article V, Section 1 of the Amended and Restated Bylaws of First Merchants Corporation (as amended August 11, 2016)

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

First Merchants Corporation  
(Registrant)

By: /s/ Mark K. Hardwick  
Mark K. Hardwick  
Executive Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer  
and Chief Operating Officer

Dated: August 17, 2016

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EXHIBIT INDEX

| Exhibit<br>No. | Description   |
|----------------|---|
| 3.1            | Article V, Section 1 of the Amended and Restated Bylaws of First Merchants Corporation (as amended August 11, 2016) |