

First Merchants Corporation Announces Second Quarter 2023 Earnings Per Share

July 25, 2023

First Merchants Corporation (NASDAQ - FRME)

Second Quarter 2023 Highlights:

- Net income available to common stockholders was \$60.4 million and diluted earnings per common share totaled \$1.02, compared to \$38.5 million and \$.63 in the second quarter of 2022, and \$63.6 million and \$1.07 in the first quarter of 2023.
- Adjusted net income¹ was \$60.4 million and adjusted diluted earnings per share¹ totaled \$1.02, compared to \$60.0 million and \$1.01 in the second quarter of 2022, and \$63.6 million and \$1.07 in the first quarter of 2023.
- Strong capital position with Common Equity Tier 1 Capital Ratio of 11.07 percent
- Total loans grew \$46.7 million, or 1.5 percent annualized on a linked quarter basis, and \$163.2 million, or 5.4 percent annualized when excluding non-relationship based commercial loan sales that occurred during the quarter of \$116.6 million.
- Total deposits declined \$122.1 million, or 3.3 percent annualized on a linked quarter basis
- Nonaccrual loans totaled \$69.2 million compared to \$46.6 million on a linked quarter basis
- The efficiency ratio totaled 52.21 percent for the quarter

MUNCIE, Ind., July 25, 2023 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Mark Hardwick, Chief Executive Officer, stated, "We are pleased to report our second quarter 2023 results. Performance remains healthy and strong and our teams continue to meet the demands of our communities and client base."

Second Quarter Financial Results:

First Merchants Corporation (the "Corporation) has reported second quarter 2023 net income available to common stockholders of \$60.4 million compared to \$38.5 million during the same period in 2022. Diluted earnings per common share for the period totaled \$1.02 per share compared to the second quarter of 2022 result of \$.63 per share. Prior year results included acquisition costs related to the acquisition of Level One of \$29.3 million resulting in a reduction of \$.38 of diluted earnings per common share.

Total assets equaled \$18.0 billion as of quarter-end and loans totaled \$12.3 billion. During the past twelve months, total loans grew by \$1.0 billion, or 9.2 percent and were offset by the non-relationship based commercial loan sale of \$116.6 million and PPP loan forgiveness of \$29.6 million. On a linked quarter basis, loans grew \$163.2 million, or 5.4 percent, when excluding the loan sale that occurred during the quarter of \$116.6 million.

Investments, totaling \$3.9 billion, decreased \$738.5 million, or 16.0 percent, during the last twelve months and decreased \$165.9 million, or 16.4 percent annualized on a linked quarter basis. The decline during the quarter was primarily due to \$101.0 million of bond sales.

Total deposits equaled \$14.6 billion as of quarter-end and increased by \$10.3 million over the past twelve months. Total deposits declined \$122.1 million, or 3.3 percent annualized on a linked quarter basis. The loan to deposit ratio for the current quarter ended at 84.3 percent.

The Corporation's Allowance for Credit Losses – Loans (ACL) totaled \$221.1 million as of quarter-end, or 1.80 percent of total loans, a decrease of \$5.1 million from prior year. Loan charge-offs, net of recoveries, for the quarter totaled \$1.9 million. No provision expense was recorded during the quarter or during the last twelve months. Non-performing assets to total assets were 0.43 percent for the second quarter of 2023, an increase of 13 basis points compared to 0.30 percent in the second quarter of 2022.

Net-interest income, totaling \$137.8 million for the quarter, declined \$6.3 million, or 4.4 percent, compared to prior quarter and increased \$9.2 million, or 7.1 percent compared to the second quarter of 2022. Stated net-interest margin on a tax equivalent basis, totaling 3.39 percent, declined by 19 basis points compared to the first quarter of 2023 but increased 11 basis points compared to the second quarter of 2022. Net-interest margin, excluding the impact of fair value accretion and PPP loans, totaled 3.34 percent, a decrease of 18 basis points compared to 3.52 percent for the first quarter of 2023 but an increase of 15 basis points from the second quarter of 2022. During the quarter, increased deposit costs and mix offset the increase in earning asset yields reducing net-interest margin.

Non-interest income, totaling \$26.3 million for the quarter, increased \$1.3 million or 5.3 percent compared to the first quarter of 2023 but decreased \$2.0 million from the second quarter of 2022. The increase over first quarter of 2023 was driven primarily by higher gains on the sales of loans and BOLI death benefit gains.

Non-interest expense totaled \$92.6 million for the quarter, a decline of \$1.1 million from the first quarter of 2023. The decrease was from lower salaries and employee benefits, partially offset by increases in FDIC assessments and other real estate owned and foreclosure expense.

The Corporation's total risk-based capital ratio equaled 13.48 percent, common equity tier 1 capital ratio equaled 11.07 percent, and the tangible common equity ratio totaled 7.99 percent. These ratios continue to reflect the Corporation's strong liquidity and capital positions.

¹ See "Non-GAAP Financial Information" for reconciliation

CONFERENCE CALL

First Merchants Corporation will conduct a second quarter earnings conference call and web cast at 11:30 a.m. (ET) on Tuesday, July 25, 2023.

To access via phone, participants will need to register using the following link where they will be provided a phone number and access code: (https://register.vevent.com/register/BIc7becea7282048a2b5559e10b25ca4af)

In order to view the webcast and presentation slides, please go to (https://edge.media-server.com/mmc/p/athyqu7i) during the time of the call. A replay of the webcast will be available until July 25, 2024.

Detailed financial results are reported on the attached pages.

About First Merchants Corporation

First Merchants Corporation is a financial holding company headquartered in Muncie, Indiana. The Corporation has one full-service bank charter, First Merchants Bank. The Bank also operates as First Merchants Private Wealth Advisors (as a division of First Merchants Bank).

First Merchants Corporation's common stock is traded on the NASDAQ Global Select Market System under the symbol FRME. Quotations are carried in daily newspapers and can be found on the company's Internet web page (<u>http://www.firstmerchants.com</u>).

FIRST MERCHANTS and the Shield Logo are federally registered trademarks of First Merchants Corporation.

Forward-Looking Statements

This release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe-harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such forward-looking statements can often, but not always, be identified by the use of words like "believe", "continue", "pattern", "estimate", "project", "intend", "anticipate", "expect" and similar expressions or future or conditional verbs such as "will", "would", "should", "could", "might", "can", "may", or similar expressions. These statements include statements of First Merchants' goals, intentions and expectations; statements regarding the First Merchants' business plan and growth strategies; statements regarding the asset guality of First Merchants' loan and investment portfolios; and estimates of First Merchants' risks and future costs and benefits. These forward-looking statements are subject to significant risks, assumptions and uncertainties that may cause results to differ materially from those set forth in forward-looking statements, including, among other things: possible changes in monetary and fiscal policies, and laws and regulations; the effects of easing restrictions on participants in the financial services industry; the cost and other effects of legal and administrative cases; possible changes in the credit worthiness of customers and the possible impairment of collectability of loans; fluctuations in market rates of interest; competitive factors in the banking industry; changes in the banking legislation or regulatory requirements of federal and state agencies applicable to bank holding companies and banks like First Merchants' affiliate bank; continued availability of earnings and excess capital sufficient for the lawful and prudent declaration of dividends; changes in market, economic, operational, liquidity (including the ability to grow and maintain core deposits and retain large, uninsured deposits), credit and interest rate risks associated with the First Merchants' business; and other risks and factors identified in each of First Merchants' filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. First Merchants does not undertake any obligation to update any forward-looking statement, whether written or oral, relating to the matters discussed in this press release. In addition, First Merchants' past results of operations do not necessarily indicate its anticipated future results.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Dollars In Thousands)	Jun	e 30,	30,		
	2023		2022		
ASSETS					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 108,975	\$	212,559		
Interest-bearing deposits	219,480		136,702		
Investment securities, net of allowance for credit losses of \$245,000 and \$245,000	3,891,491		4,630,030		
Loans held for sale	27,297		9,060		
Loans	12,270,233		11,397,417		
Less: Allowance for credit losses - loans	 (221,147)		(226,275)		
Net loans	12,049,086		11,171,142		
Premises and equipment	114,402		117,757		
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	41,842		38,111		
Interest receivable	89,784		68,728		
Goodwill and other intangibles	743,465		753,649		
Cash surrender value of life insurance	307,020		323,013		
Other real estate owned	7,685		6,521		
Tax asset, deferred and receivable	113,724		114,965		
Other assets	 254,161		198,255		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 17,968,412	\$	17,780,492		
LIABILITIES					
Deposits:					
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 2,636,017	\$	3,435,331		
Interest-bearing	 11,945,138		11,135,538		
Total Deposits	14,581,155		14,570,869		
Borrowings:					
Federal funds purchased	—		100,000		
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	152,472		186,468		
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	723,480		598,865		
Subordinated debentures and other borrowings	 151,325		151,299		
Total Borrowings	1,027,277		1,036,632		

Interest payable	13,595	2,978
Other liabilities	200,820	192,372
Total Liabilities	15,822,847	15,802,851
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Preferred Stock, \$1,000 par value, \$1,000 liquidation value:		
Authorized 600 cumulative shares		
Issued and outstanding - 125 cumulative shares	125	125
Preferred Stock, Series A, no par value, \$2,500 liquidation preference:		
Authorized 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares		
Issued and outstanding - 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares	25,000	25,000
Common Stock, \$.125 stated value:		
Authorized 100,000,000 shares		
Issued and outstanding - 59,297,148 and 59,059,866 shares	7,412	7,383
Additional paid-in capital	1,233,593	1,226,378
Retained earnings	1,097,399	917,311
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(217,964)	(198,556)
Total Stockholders' Equity	2,145,565	1,977,641
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$ 17,968,412 \$	17,780,492

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME	Three Mo		Ended	Six Months Ended June 30,			
(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)		e 30,			e 30,		
	 2023		2022	 2023		2022	
INTEREST INCOME							
Loans receivable:							
Taxable	\$ 186,256	\$	106,787	\$ 358,609	\$	185,862	
Tax-exempt	7,760		5,990	15,469		11,694	
Investment securities:							
Taxable	8,886		10,372	17,973		18,882	
Tax-exempt	14,279		17,212	30,349		33,087	
Deposits with financial institutions	3,164		610	3,801		840	
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	 1,020		175	 1,562		321	
Total Interest Income	 221,365		141,146	 427,763		250,686	
INTEREST EXPENSE							
Deposits	73,201		8,485	123,886		12,779	
Federal funds purchased	123		76	1,420		76	
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	979		134	1,827		223	
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	6,815		1,774	13,879		2,992	
Subordinated debentures and other borrowings	 2,412		2,016	 4,797		3,675	
Total Interest Expense	 83,530		12,485	 145,809		19,745	
NET INTEREST INCOME	 137,835		128,661	 281,954		230,941	
Provision for credit losses - loans	_		16,755	_		16,755	
NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER PROVISION FOR CREDIT							
LOSSES	 137,835		111,906	 281,954		214,186	
NON-INTEREST INCOME							
Service charges on deposit accounts	7,813		7,690	15,172		14,109	
Fiduciary and wealth management fees	7,397		7,634	15,259		14,966	
Card payment fees	4,537		5,175	9,709		10,898	
Net gains and fees on sales of loans	3,632		3,226	6,031		5,425	
Derivative hedge fees	672		1,444	1,820		2,362	
Other customer fees	742		662	1,259		1,072	
Earnings on cash surrender value of life insurance	2,096		1,308	3,384		3,004	
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of available for sale securities	(1,392)		90	(2,963)		656	
Other income	822		1,048	1,645		1,682	
Total Non-Interest Income	 26,319		28,277	 51,316		54,174	
NON-INTEREST EXPENSES							
Salaries and employee benefits	54,753		56,041	112,212		98,560	
Net occupancy	6,674		6,648	13,933		12,835	
Equipment	6,181		6,720	12,307		11,800	
Marketing	1,102		1,414	2,411		2,150	
Outside data processing fees	6,604		4,881	12,717		9,244	

Printing and office supplies	434	381	817	726
Intangible asset amortization	2,182	2,303	4,379	3,669
FDIC assessments	2,740	2,924	4,136	5,116
Other real estate owned and foreclosure expenses	916	(266)	898	298
Professional and other outside services	4,660	10,267	8,358	13,220
Other expenses	 6,347	 6,000	 14,145	12,020
Total Non-Interest Expenses	 92,593	 97,313	 186,313	 169,638
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	 71,561	 42,870	146,957	 98,722
Income tax expense	 10,699	 3,879	 22,016	 11,145
NET INCOME	60,862	38,991	124,941	87,577
Preferred stock dividends	 469	 469	 938	469
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS	\$ 60,393	\$ 38,522	\$ 124,003	\$ 87,108
Per Share Data:				
Basic Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.64	\$ 2.09	\$ 1.55
Diluted Net Income Available to Common Stockholders	\$ 1.02	\$ 0.63	\$ 2.09	\$ 1.54
Cash Dividends Paid to Common Stockholders	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.66	\$ 0.61
Average Diluted Common Shares Outstanding (in thousands)	59,448	59,308	59,446	56,516

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Mo	nths l ie 30,		Six Months Ended June 30,			
	2023	10 00,	2022	2023	e 50,	2022	
NET CHARGE-OFFS (RECOVERIES)	\$ 1,905	\$	263	\$ 2,130	\$	(324)	
AVERAGE BALANCES:							
Total Assets	\$ 18,170,649	\$	17,778,221	\$ 18,096,832	\$	16,627,804	
Total Loans	12,369,673		11,175,188	12,253,176		10,220,860	
Total Earning Assets	16,968,465		16,435,747	16,896,834		15,355,265	
Total Deposits	14,719,913		14,809,528	14,572,480		13,819,111	
Total Stockholders' Equity	2,139,877		2,021,123	2,111,658		1,956,532	
FINANCIAL RATIOS:							
Return on Average Assets	1.34%		0.88%	1.38%		1.05%	
Return on Average Stockholders' Equity	11.29		7.62	11.74		8.90	
Return on Tangible Common Stockholders' Equity	18.04		12.91	18.91		13.98	
Average Earning Assets to Average Assets	93.38		92.45	93.37		92.35	
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans as % of Total Loans	1.80		1.98	1.80		1.98	
Net Charge-offs as % of Average Loans (Annualized)	0.06		0.01	0.03		(0.01)	
Average Stockholders' Equity to Average Assets	11.78		11.37	11.67		11.77	
Tax Equivalent Yield on Average Earning Assets	5.36		3.58	5.21		3.42	
Interest Expense/Average Earning Assets	1.97		0.30	1.73		0.26	
Net Interest Margin (FTE) on Average Earning Assets	3.39		3.28	3.48		3.16	
Efficiency Ratio	52.21		58.45	51.96		55.90	
Tangible Common Book Value Per Share	\$ 23.34	\$	20.45	\$ 23.34	\$	20.45	

NON-PERFORMING ASSETS

(Dollars In Thousands)	June 30, 2023		March 31, 2023	De	ecember 31, 2022	Se	ptember 30, 2022	June 30, 2022		
Non-Accrual Loans	\$ 69,240	\$	46,576	\$	42,324	\$	43,508	\$	45,970	
Troubled Debt Restructures (TDR)	 	<u> </u>			224		195		233	
Non-Performing Loans (NPL)	69,240		46,576		42,548		43,703		46,203	
Other Real Estate Owned and Repossessions	7,685		7,777		6,431		6,454		6,521	
Non-Performing Assets (NPA)	76,925		54,353		48,979	_	50,157		52,724	
90+ Days Delinquent	 428		7,032		1,737		764		592	
NPAs & 90 Day Delinquent	\$ 77,353	\$	61,385	\$	50,716	\$	50,921	\$	53,316	
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans Quarterly Net Charge-offs (Recoveries)	\$ 221,147 1,905	\$	223,052 225	\$	223,277 2,674	\$	226,702 (427)	\$	226,275 263	

NPAs / Actual Assets %	0.43%	0.30%	0.27%	0.28%	0.30%
NPAs & 90 Day / Actual Assets %	0.43%	0.34%	0.28%	0.29%	0.30%
NPAs / Actual Loans and OREO %	0.63%	0.44%	0.41%	0.43%	0.46%
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans / Actual Loans (%)	1.80%	1.82%	1.86%	1.94%	1.98%
Net Charge-offs (Recoveries) as % of Average Loans (Annualized)	0.06%	0.01%	0.12%	(0.01) %	0.01%

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

			December	September	
(Dollars In Thousands)	June 30,	March 31,	31,	30,	June 30,
	2023	2023	2022	2022	2022
ASSETS					
Cash and due from banks	\$ 108,975	\$ 125,818	\$ 122,594	\$ 119,532	\$ 212,559
Interest-bearing deposits	219,480	352,695	126,061	179,593	136,702
Investment securities, net of allowance for credit losses	3,891,491	4,057,389	4,263,788	4,294,768	4,630,030
Loans held for sale	27,297	9,408	9,094	25,394	9,060
Loans	12,270,233	12,241,461	12,003,894	11,650,002	11,397,417
Less: Allowance for credit losses - loans	(221,147)	(223,052)	(223,277)	(226,702)	(226,275)
Net loans	12,049,086	12,018,409	11,780,617	11,423,300	11,171,142
Premises and equipment	114,402	115,857	117,118	116,306	117,757
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	41,842	41,878	38,525	38,056	38,111
Interest receivable	89,784	85,515	85,070	71,605	68,728
Goodwill and other intangibles	743,465	745,647	747,844	750,713	753,649
Cash surrender value of life insurance	307,020	309,090	308,311	306,932	323,013
Other real estate owned	7,685	7,777	6,431	6,454	6,521
Tax asset, deferred and receivable	113,724	103,070	111,222	142,110	114,965
Other assets	254,161	206,355	221,631	244,222	198,255
TOTAL ASSETS	\$17,968,412	\$18,178,908	\$ 17,938,306	\$ 17,718,985	\$17,780,492
LIABILITIES					
Deposits:					
Noninterest-bearing	\$ 2,636,017	\$ 2,964,355	\$ 3,173,417	\$ 3,356,651	\$ 3,435,331
Interest-bearing	11,945,138	11,738,932	11,209,328	11,078,174	11,135,538
Total Deposits	14,581,155	14,703,287	14,382,745	14,434,825	14,570,869
Borrowings:	11,001,100	11,700,207	11,002,710	11,101,020	1,010,000
Federal funds purchased	_	20	171,560	185,000	100,000
Securities sold under repurchase agreements	152,472	179,067	167,413	194,482	186,468
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	723,480	823,577	823,674	643,769	598,865
Subordinated debentures and other borrowings	151,325	151,312	151,298	151,301	151,299
Total Borrowings	1,027,277	1,153,976	1,313,945	1,174,552	1,036,632
Interest payable	13,595	11,979	7,530	4,971	2,978
Other liabilities	200,820	187,218	199,316	197,971	192,372
Total Liabilities	15,822,847	16,056,460	15,903,536	15,812,319	15,802,851
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	10,022,047	10,000,400	10,000,000	10,012,010	10,002,001
Preferred Stock, \$1,000 par value, \$1,000 liquidation value:					
Authorized 600 cumulative shares					
Issued and outstanding - 125 cumulative shares	125	125	125	125	125
Preferred Stock, Series A, no par value, \$2,500 liquidation	120	120	120	120	120
preference:					
Authorized 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares					
Issued and outstanding - 10,000 non-cumulative perpetual shares	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Common Stock, \$.125 stated value:					
Authorized 100,000,000 shares					
Issued and outstanding	7,412	7,407	7,396	7,393	7,383
Additional paid-in capital	1,233,593	1,231,532	1,228,626	1,226,695	1,226,378
Retained earnings	1,097,399	1,057,298	1,012,774	961,542	917,311
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(217,964)		(239,151)	(314,089)	(198,556)
Total Stockholders' Equity	2,145,565	2,122,448	2,034,770	1,906,666	1,977,641
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$17,968,412		\$ 17,938,306	\$ 17,718,985	\$17,780,492
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CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)

Amounts)	June 30, 2023	March 31, 2023	De	ecember 31, 2022	Se	eptember 30, 2022		June 30, 2022
INTEREST INCOME								
Loans receivable:								
Taxable	\$ 186,256	\$ 172,353	\$	156,102	\$	128,504	\$	106,787
Tax-exempt	7,760	7,709		6,930		6,500		5,990
Investment securities:								
Taxable	8,886	9,087		9,417		10,055		10,372
Tax-exempt	14,279	16,070		17,033		17,261		17,212
Deposits with financial institutions	3,164	637		959		704		610
Federal Home Loan Bank stock	1,020	542		541		314		175
Total Interest Income	221,365	 206,398		190,982		163,338		141,146
INTEREST EXPENSE								
Deposits	73,201	50,685		33,516		16,644		8,485
Federal funds purchased	123	1,297		808		418		76
Securities sold under repurchase		-,						
agreements	979	848		541		372		134
Federal Home Loan Bank advances	6,815	7,064		4,932		3,493		1,774
Subordinated debentures and other								
borrowings	2,412	 2,385		2,229		2,105		2,016
Total Interest Expense	83,530	62,279		42,026		23,032		12,485
NET INTEREST INCOME	137,835	 144,119		148,956		140,306		128,661
Provision for credit losses - loans	_	_		_		_		16,755
NET INTEREST INCOME AFTER								
PROVISION FOR CREDIT LOSSES	137,835	144,119		148,956		140,306		111,906
NON-INTEREST INCOME								
Service charges on deposit accounts	7,813	7,359		7,097		7,165		7,690
Fiduciary and wealth management fees	7,397	7,862		7,501		7,221		7,634
Card payment fees	4,537	5,172		4,533		4,776		5,175
Net gains and fees on sales of loans	3,632	2,399		2,087		2,543		3,226
Derivative hedge fees	672	1,148		326		700		1,444
Other customer fees	742	517		362		501		662
Earnings on cash surrender value of life		011		002		001		002
insurance	2,096	1,288		1,515		6,655		1,308
Net realized gains (losses) on sales of	,	,		,		-,		,
available for sale securities	(1,392)	(1,571)		57		481		90
Other income (loss)	822	823		672		(425)		1,048
Total Non-Interest Income	26,319	 24,997		24,150		29,617		28,277
NON-INTEREST EXPENSES		 ,	·	,	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	- , -	·	
Salaries and employee benefits	54,753	57,459		52,331		56,002		56,041
Net occupancy	6,674	7,259		6,638		6,738		6,648
Equipment	6,181	6,126		6,148		5,997		6,720
Marketing	1,102	1,309		3,157		2,401		1,414
Outside data processing fees	6,604	6,113		5,611		6,827		4,881
Printing and office supplies	434	383		390		472		4,001
Intangible asset amortization	2,182	2,197						2,303
FDIC assessments	2,182			2,303		2,303		
	2,740	1,396		2,295		2,824		2,924
Other real estate owned and foreclosure expenses	916	(18)		197		328		(266)
Professional and other outside services	4,660							
	4,880 6,347	3,698 7,798		3,961 6,668		4,461 8,025		10,267
Other expenses		 	·	-			·	6,000
Total Non-Interest Expenses	92,593	 93,720	·	89,699	·	96,378	·	97,313
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAX	71,561	75,396		83,407		73,545		42,870
Income tax expense	10,699	 11,317		12,647		9,793		3,879
	60,862	64,079		70,760		63,752		38,991
Preferred stock dividends	469	 469		468		469		469
NET INCOME AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS	\$ 60,393	\$ 63,610	\$	70,292	\$	63,283	\$	38,522

Per Share Data:						
Basic Net Income Available to Common						
Stockholders	\$ 1.02	\$	1.07	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.64
Diluted Net Income Available to Common						
Stockholders	\$ 1.02	\$	1.07	\$ 1.19	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.63
Cash Dividends Paid to Common						
Stockholders	\$ 0.34	\$	0.32	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.32
Average Diluted Common Shares						
Outstanding (in thousands)	59,448		59,441	59,384	59,339	59,308
FINANCIAL RATIOS:						
Return on Average Assets	1.34%	, D	1.42%	1.59%	1.43%	0.88%
Return on Average Stockholders' Equity	11.29		12.21	14.36	12.54	7.62
Return on Tangible Common						
Stockholders' Equity	18.04		19.82	24.21	20.85	12.91
Average Earning Assets to Average						
Assets	93.38		93.35	93.66	92.90	92.45
Allowance for Credit Losses - Loans as %						
of Total Loans	1.80		1.82	1.86	1.94	1.98
Net Charge-offs (Recoveries) as % of						
Average Loans (Annualized)	0.06		0.01	0.12	(0.01)	0.01
Average Stockholders' Equity to Average						
Assets	11.78		11.56	10.98	11.36	11.37
Tax Equivalent Yield on Average Earning						
Assets	5.36		5.06	4.73	4.11	3.58
Interest Expense/Average Earning Assets	1.97		1.48	1.01	0.56	0.30
Net Interest Margin (FTE) on Average						
Earning Assets	3.39		3.58	3.72	3.55	3.28
Efficiency Ratio	52.21		51.72	48.60	53.34	58.45
Tangible Common Book Value Per Share	\$ 23.34	\$	22.93	\$ 21.45	\$ 19.26	\$ 20.45

LOANS

(Dollars In Thousands)	June : 202			March 31, 2023	C	ecember 31, 2022	S	eptember 30, 2022	June 30, 2022
Commercial and industrial loans	\$	3,531,395	\$	3,502,204	\$	3,437,126	\$	3,330,529	\$ 3,297,477
Agricultural land, production and other loans									
to farmers		230,003		219,598		241,793		221,954	214,904
Real estate loans:									
Construction		949,918		960,979		835,582		828,923	745,983
Commercial real estate, non-owner									
occupied		2,379,819		2,375,410		2,407,475		2,299,272	2,423,185
Commercial real estate, owner occupied		1,179,739		1,244,117		1,246,528		1,268,567	1,264,563
Residential		2,248,473		2,185,943		2,096,655		1,990,668	1,813,297
Home equity		614,366		621,354		630,632		621,619	586,108
Individuals' loans for household and other									
personal expenditures		172,896		172,389		175,211		173,225	157,264
Public finance and other commercial loans		963,624		959,467		932,892		915,245	894,636
Loans		12,270,233		12,241,461		12,003,894		11,650,002	 11,397,417
Allowance for credit losses - loans		(221,147)		(223,052)		(223,277)		(226,702)	 (226,275)
NET LOANS	\$	12,049,086	\$	12,018,409	\$	11,780,617	\$	11,423,300	\$ 11,171,142
	-		-		-		-		

DEPOSITS

(Dollars In Thousands)	June 30,	ľ	March 31,	D	December 31,	S	eptember 30,	June 30,
	2023		2023		2022		2022	2022
Demand deposits	\$ 8,045,455	\$	8,422,387	\$	8,448,797	\$	8,534,950	\$ 8,785,889
Savings deposits	4,530,255		4,499,487		4,657,140		5,054,490	4,875,880
Certificates and other time deposits of \$100,000 or								
more	1,160,303		1,040,379		742,539		443,588	436,942
Other certificates and time deposits	680,965		574,886		468,712		381,365	446,973
Brokered certificates of deposits	 164,177		166,148		65,557		20,432	 25,185
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$ 14,581,155	\$	14,703,287	\$	14,382,745	\$	14,434,825	\$ 14,570,869

CONSOLIDATED AVERAGE BALANCE SHEET AND NET INTEREST MARGIN ANALYSIS

(Dollars in Thousands)

(Dollars in Thousands)					Car the Three N	Jontha Endad						
			For the Three Months Ended June 30, 2023 June 30,									
		erage Balance		Interest Income / Expense	Average Rate	Average Balance		Interest Income / Expense	Average Rate			
ASSETS												
Interest-bearing deposits	\$	343,253	\$	3,164 1,020	3.69% 9.74	\$ 329,626	\$	610 175	0.74% 1.84			
Federal Home Loan Bank stock		41,873		1,020	9.74	38,111		175	1.04			
Investment Securities: ⁽¹⁾		4 070 070		0.000	1.00	0 400 400		40.070	1.00			
Taxable		1,876,676		8,886	1.89	2,189,193		10,372	1.90			
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾		2,336,990	-	18,075	3.09	2,703,629		21,788	3.22			
Total Investment Securities		4,213,666		26,961	2.56	4,892,822		32,160	2.63			
Loans held for sale		19,328		300	6.21	28,491		315	4.42			
Loans: ⁽³⁾												
Commercial		8,605,339		150,766	7.01	8,134,050		85,867	4.22			
Real estate mortgage		2,031,136		20,345	4.01	1,458,317		12,657	3.47			
		831,775		14,844	7.14	772,610		7,948	4.11			
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾		882,095		9,823	4.45	781,720		7,582	3.88			
Total Loans		12,369,673		196,078	6.34	11,175,188		114,369	4.09			
Total Earning Assets		16,968,465		227,223	5.36%	16,435,747		147,314	3.58%			
Total Non-Earning Assets		1,202,184				1,342,474						
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	18,170,649				\$ 17,778,221						
LIABILITIES												
Interest-Bearing Deposits:												
Interest-bearing deposits	\$	5,546,232	\$	34,574	2.49%	\$ 5,372,474	\$	4,569	0.34%			
Money market deposits		2,766,876		18,684	2.70	3,024,560		2,130	0.28			
Savings deposits		1,724,816		3,884	0.90	1,966,054		916	0.19			
Certificates and other time deposits		1,883,998		16,059	3.41	948,799		870	0.37			
Total Interest-Bearing Deposits		11,921,922		73,201	2.46	11,311,887		8,485	0.30			
Borrowings		1,110,486		10,329	3.72	818,851		4,000	1.95			
Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities		13,032,408		83,530	2.56	12,130,738		12,485	0.41			
Noninterest-bearing deposits		2,797,991				3,497,641						
Other liabilities		200,373				128,719						
Total Liabilities		16,030,772				15,757,098						
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		2,139,877				2,021,123						
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$	18,170,649		83,530		\$ 17,778,221		12,485				
Net Interest Income (FTE)			\$	143,693			\$	134,829				
Net Interest Spread (FTE) ⁽⁴⁾					2.80%				3.17%			
Net Interest Margin (FTE):												
Interest Income (FTE) / Average Earning Assets					5.36%				3.58%			
Interest Expense / Average Earning Assets					1.97%				0.30%			
Net Interest Margin (FTE) ⁽⁵⁾				-	3.39%			-	3.28%			
Net interest margin (FIE)(*)				=	0.0970			:	0.2070			

⁽¹⁾Average balance of securities is computed based on the average of the historical amortized cost balances without the effects of the fair value adjustments. Annualized amounts are computed using a 30/360 day basis.

⁽²⁾Tax-exempt securities and loans are presented on a fully taxable equivalent basis, using a marginal tax rate of 21 percent for 2023 and 2022. These totals equal \$5,858 and \$6,168 for the three months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

⁽³⁾Non accruing loans have been included in the average balances.

⁽⁴⁾Net Interest Spread (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing liabilities.

⁽⁵⁾Net Interest Margin (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average earning assets.

CONSOLIDATED AVERAGE BALANCE SHEET AND NET INTEREST MARGIN ANALYSIS

(Dollars in Thousands)

Assets: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Federal Home Loan Bank stock Investment Securities: ⁽¹⁾ Taxable Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Investment Securities Loans held for sale Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Coans Total Assets S Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Savings deposits	verage alance 258,504	e 30, 2023 Interest Income /	For the Six M	ns Ended	Jur	ne 30, 2022			
Assets: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Federal Home Loan Bank stock Investment Securities: ⁽¹⁾ Taxable Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Investment Securities Loans held for sale Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Securities Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Savings deposits	alance	Interest							
Interest-bearing deposits \$ Federal Home Loan Bank stock Investment Securities: ⁽¹⁾ Taxable Tax-axempt ⁽²⁾ Total Investment Securities	258,504	Expense	Average Rate	 Average Balance		Interest Income / Expense	Average Rate		
Federal Home Loan Bank stock Investment Securities: Taxable Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Investment Securities Loans held for sale Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Assets S Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits	258,504								
Taxable	40,821	\$ 3,801 1,562	2.94% 7.65	\$ 406,698 33,040	\$	840 321	0.41% 1.94		
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾									
Total Investment Securities Loans held for sale Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Assets S Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Savings deposits	1,900,247	17,973	1.89	2,074,074		18,882	1.82		
Loans held for sale Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Assets Total Assets S Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Savings deposits	2,444,086	 38,416	3.14	 2,620,593		41,882	3.20		
Loans: ⁽³⁾ Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Assets Total Assets S Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Savings deposits	4,344,333	 56,389	2.60	 4,694,667		60,764	2.59		
Commercial Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Non-Earning Assets Total Assets Savings deposits Savings deposits	21,952	660	6.01	18,181		355	3.91		
Real estate mortgage Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Non-Earning Assets Total Assets \$ Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits Savings deposits									
Installment Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾ Total Loans Total Earning Assets Total Non-Earning Assets Total Assets Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Money market deposits Savings deposits	8,544,945	290,428	6.80	7,504,740		150,545	4.01		
Tax-exempt ⁽²⁾	1,972,680	38,736	3.93	1,191,075		20,497	3.44		
Total Loans	836,088	28,785	6.89	741,994		14,465	3.90		
Total Earning Assets Total Non-Earning Assets Total Assets \$ Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits Money market deposits Savings deposits	877,511	 19,581	4.46	 764,870		14,803	3.87		
Total Non-Earning Assets \$ Total Assets \$ Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits \$ Savings deposits \$	12,253,176	 378,190	6.17	 10,220,860		200,665	3.93		
Total Assets\$Liabilities:Interest-Bearing deposits:Interest-Bearing deposits:Interest-bearing depositsMoney market deposits\$Savings deposits	16,896,834	 439,942	5.21%	15,355,265		262,590	3.42%		
Liabilities: Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits Savings deposits	1,199,998			 1,272,539					
Interest-Bearing deposits: Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits Savings deposits	18,096,832			\$ 16,627,804					
Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits Savings deposits				 					
Interest-bearing deposits \$ Money market deposits Savings deposits									
Savings deposits	5,405,696	\$ 59,237	2.19%	\$ 5,200,923	\$	6,977	0.27%		
	2,756,519	32,261	2.34	2,770,904		3,002	0.22		
	1,775,233	6,849	0.77	1,917,005		1,357	0.14		
Certificates and other time deposits	1,676,291	 25,539	3.05	 813,482		1,443	0.35		
Total Interest-Bearing Deposits	11,613,739	 123,886	2.13	 10,702,314		12,779	0.24		
Borrowings	1,201,392	 21,923	3.65	 718,270		6,966	1.94		
Total Interest-Bearing Liabilities	12,815,131	145,809	2.28	11,420,584		19,745	0.35		
Noninterest-bearing deposits	2,958,741			3,116,797					
Other liabilities	211,302			 133,891					
Total Liabilities	15,985,174			14,671,272					
Stockholders' Equity	2,111,658	 		 1,956,532					
Total Liabilities and Stockholders'	18,096,832	 145,809		\$ 16,627,804		19,745			
Net Interest Income (FTE)		\$ 294,133		 	\$	242,845			
Net Interest Spread (FTE) ⁽⁴⁾		 	2.93%				3.07%		
Net Interest Margin (FTE):									
Interest Income (FTE) / Average Earning Assets			5.21%				3.42%		
Interest Expense / Average Earning Assets			1.73%				0.26%		
Net Interest Margin (FTE) ⁽⁵⁾		-	3.48%			-	3.16%		

⁽¹⁾Average balance of securities is computed based on the average of the historical amortized cost balances without the effects of the fair value adjustments. Annualized amounts are computed using a 30/360 day basis.

⁽²⁾Tax-exempt securities and loans are presented on a fully taxable equivalent basis, using a marginal tax rate of 21 percent for 2023 and 2022. These totals equal \$12,179 and \$11,904 for the six months ended June 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

 $^{(3)}\ensuremath{\mathsf{Non}}$ accruing loans have been included

in the average balances.

⁽⁴⁾Net Interest Spread (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average interest-bearing liabilities.

⁽⁵⁾Net Interest Margin (FTE) is interest income expressed as a percentage of average earning assets minus interest expense expressed as a percentage of average earning assets.

ADJUSTED EPS EXCLUDING PAYCHECK PROTECTION PROGRAM ("PPP") AND ACQUISITION-RELATED EXPENSES - NON-GAAP

(Dollars In Thousands, Except Per Share Amounts)		Three Months Ended											Six Months Ended			
, thousand		June 30, 2023		March 31, 2023		December 31, 2022		September 30, 2022		June 30, 2022		June 30, 2023		June 30, 2022		
Net Income Available to Common																
Stockholders - GAAP	\$	60,393	\$	63,610	\$	70,292	\$	63,283	\$	38,522	\$	124,003	\$	87,108		
Adjustments:		(-)		()						((* ()		()		
PPP loan income		(9)		(25)		(109)		(323)		(891)		(34)		(2,775)		
Acquisition-related expenses		—		—		413		3,417		12,549		—		12,701		
Acquisition-related provision expense		—		_				_		16,755		—		16,755		
Tax on adjustment		2		6		(75)		(759)		(6,967)		8		(6,542)		
Adjusted Net Income Available to Common	~	00.000	^	00 504	•	70 504	^	05 040	•	50.000	~	400.077	~	407.047		
Stockholders - Non-GAAP	Þ	60,386	Þ	63,591	\$	70,521	\$	65,618	Þ	59,968	þ	123,977	þ	107,247		
Average Diluted Common Shares																
Outstanding (in thousands)		59,448		59,441		59,384		59,339		59,308		59,446		56,516		
Diluted Earnings Per Common Share -																
GAAP	\$	1.02	\$	1.07	\$	1.19	\$	1.08	\$	0.63	\$	2.09	\$	1.54		
Adjustments:																
PPP loan income		_				(0.01)				(0.01)		_		(0.05)		
Acquisition-related expenses		_		_		0.01		0.05		0.22		_		0.22		
Acquisition-related provision expense		_		_		_		_		0.30		_		0.30		
Tax on adjustment		_		_		_		(0.01)		(0.13)		_		(0.12)		
Adjusted Diluted Earnings Per Common								. /		. /				. /		
Share - Non-GAAP	\$	1.02	\$	1.07	\$	1.19	\$	1.12	\$	1.01	\$	2.09	\$	1.89		

RETURN ON TANGIBLE COMMON EQUITY - NON-GAAP

(Dollars In Thousands)	Three Months Ended											Six Mont	hs E	Ended	
	June		ſ	March 31,	December 31,		S	eptember 30,	June 30,			June 30,		June 30,	
		2023	3 2023		2022			2022		2022	2023			2022	
Total Average Stockholders' Equity (GAAP)	\$2	2,139,877	\$2	2,083,125	\$1	,958,041	\$2	,018,156	\$2	2,021,123	\$:	2,111,658	\$1	,956,532	
Less: Average Preferred Stock		(25,125)		(25,125)		(25,125)		(25,125)		(25,125)		(25,125)		(12,625)	
Less: Average Intangible Assets, Net of Tax		(737,489)	_	(739,190)		(741,632)		(744,069)		(745,614)		(738,334)		(656,042)	
Average Tangible Common Equity, Net o Tax (Non-GAAP)		1,377,263		\$1,318,810		\$1,191,284		\$1,248,962		\$1,250,384		\$1,348,199		\$1,287,865	
Net Income Available to Common Stockholders (GAAP)	\$	60,393	\$	63,610	\$	70,292	\$	63,283	\$	38,521	\$	124,003	\$	87,108	
Plus: Intangible Asset Amortizatior Net of Tax	, 1,	1,724		1,734		, 1,819		, 1,819		1,820		3,458		2,898	
Tangible Net Income (Non-GAAP)	\$	62,117	\$	65,344	\$	72,111	\$	65,102	\$	40,341	\$	127,461	\$	90,006	
Return on Tangible Common Equity (Non-GAAP)		18.04%		19.82%		24.21%		20.85%		12.91%		18.91%		13.98%	

For more information, contact:

Nicole M. Weaver, Vice President and Director of Corporate Administration 765-521-7619

http://www.firstmerchants.com