

FIRST MIDWEST BANCORP INC
Form 425
November 15, 2016

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE
COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 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) November 15, 2016

(Exact name of registrant as
specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State
or 0-10967 36-3161078
other Commission (IRS Employer
jurisdiction) Identification No.)
of
Incorporation)

One Pierce
Place, Suite
1500, Itasca,
Illinois
(Address of 60143-1254
principal (Zip Code)
executive
offices)

(630) 875-7463
(Registrant's telephone number,
including area code)

N/A

(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 8.01 Other Events

On November 15, 2016, First Midwest Bancorp, Inc. (“First Midwest”) issued a press release announcing that it has received approval from the Federal Reserve to acquire Standard Bancshares, Inc. (“Standard”), the holding company for Standard Bank and Trust Company. The press release, dated November 15, 2016, is attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference. The acquisition is subject to approval by the stockholders of First Midwest and Standard, which will be sought at the respective special meetings to be held on November 30, 2016, and the satisfaction of other customary closing conditions.

Forward-Looking Statements

This Current Report on Form 8-K may contain certain “forward-looking statements” within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. In some cases, forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of words such as “may,” “might,” “will,” “would,” “should,” “could,” “expect,” “plan,” “intend,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “estimate,” “probable,” “potential,” “possible,” “target,” “continue,” “look forward,” or “assume” and words of similar import. Forward-looking statements are not historical facts but instead express only management’s beliefs regarding future results or events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of management’s control. It is possible that actual results and events may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results or events indicated in these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance, and First Midwest cautions you not to place undue reliance on these statements. Forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof, and First Midwest undertakes no obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect new information or events or conditions after the date hereof.

Forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including, but not limited to: expected synergies, cost savings and other financial or other benefits of the proposed transaction between First Midwest and Standard might not be realized within the expected timeframes or might be less than projected; the requisite stockholder and regulatory approvals for the proposed transaction between First Midwest and Standard might not be obtained, or might not be obtained in a timely manner; credit and interest rate risks associated with First Midwest’s and Standard’s respective businesses, customer borrowing, repayment, investment and deposit practices, and general economic conditions, either nationally or in the market areas in which First Midwest and Standard operate or anticipate doing business, may be less favorable than expected; new regulatory or legal requirements or obligations; and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions identified under the sections entitled “Risk Factors” and “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” in First Midwest’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015, as well as First Midwest’s subsequent filings made with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”). However, these risks and uncertainties are not exhaustive. Other sections of such reports describe additional factors that could impact First Midwest’s business and financial performance and pending or consummated acquisition transactions, including the proposed acquisition of Standard.

Additional Information for Stockholders

The information contained herein does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy any securities or a solicitation of any vote or approval. In connection with the proposed merger of First Midwest and Standard, First Midwest has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 (File no. 333-213532) with the SEC. The registration statement includes a joint proxy statement of First Midwest and Standard, which also constitutes a prospectus of First Midwest, that First Midwest and Standard have sent to their respective stockholders. Investors and stockholders are advised to read the joint proxy statement/prospectus because it contains important information about First Midwest, Standard and the proposed transaction. This document

and other documents relating to the transaction filed by First Midwest can be obtained free of charge from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov. These documents also can be obtained free of charge by accessing First Midwest's website at www.firstmidwest.com under the tab "Investor Relations" and then under "SEC Filings." Alternatively, these documents can be obtained free of charge from First Midwest upon written request to First Midwest Bancorp, Inc., Attn: Corporate Secretary, One Pierce Place, Suite 1500, Itasca, Illinois 60143 or by calling (630) 875-7463, or from Standard upon written request to Standard Bancshares, Inc., Attn: Lawrence P. Kelley, President and Chief Executive Officer, 7800 West 95th Street, Hickory Hills, Illinois 60457 or by calling (708) 499-2000.

Participants in the Proposed Standard Transaction

First Midwest, Standard and certain of their respective directors and executive officers may be deemed under the rules of the SEC to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from the respective stockholders of First Midwest and Standard in connection with the proposed Standard transaction. Certain information regarding the interests of these participants and a description of their direct and indirect interests, by security holdings or otherwise, is included in the joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding the proposed Standard transaction. Additional information about First Midwest and its directors and officers may be found in the definitive proxy statement of First Midwest relating to its 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders filed with the SEC on April 14, 2016 and First Midwest's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015 filed with the SEC on February 23, 2016. The definitive proxy statement and annual report can be obtained free of charge from the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release issued by First Midwest Bancorp, Inc. dated November 15, 2016.

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 Midwest Bancorp, Inc.
(Registrant)

Date: November 15, 2016 /s/ NICHOLAS J. CHULOS

By: Nicholas J. Chulos
Executive Vice President, Corporate Secretary, and General Counsel