FIRST MERCHANTS CORP Form 8-K March 24, 2011

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): March 24, 2011

Commission File Number 0-17071

FIRST MERCHANTS CORPORATION

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

INDIANA

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

35-1544218

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:

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

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ITEM 7.01 REGULATION FD DISCLOSURE

First Merchants Corporation has compiled a summary performance report that will be available on its website at www.firstmerchants.com/InvestorRelations. The document is also attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

The report may contain forward-looking statements about the Corporation's relative business outlook. These forward-looking statements and all other statements contained in the report that do not concern historical facts are subject to risks and uncertainties that may materially affect actual results.

Specific forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, any indications regarding the financial services industry, the economy and future growth of the Corporation's balance sheet or income statement.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(d) (99.1) First Merchants Corporation summary report, March 24, 2011.

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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 and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: March 24, 2011

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Description

No.

99.1 First Merchants Corporation summary report, March 24, 2011