



An Update for You on the Transition to Merchants Bank – July 2019

In May, we were excited to announce that Merchants Bank had entered into an agreement to purchase First National Bank of Northfield. At this time, we want to provide you with a few updates on our progress and confirm our commitment to serving your banking needs as we move through this transition.

Has the purchase been approved by regulators?

The application for Merchants Financial Group, Inc. to purchase First National Bank has been approved by The Federal Reserve. With this approval, we anticipate a closing date in late August.

When will the bank name change?

Even though Merchants will take ownership at closing, the bank name will not change until April or May of 2020. Why? Because an important part of this process will be transitioning the technology platforms of our two organizations, and integration of these systems will not be completed until 2020.

Merchants Bank will be upgrading mobile and online banking systems next spring. In an effort to minimize disruption for current First National customers, we do not plan to convert systems until spring of 2020 when upgrades are complete. **Until then, you will experience virtually NO change in the way you do your banking with First National.** We will keep you updated as we get closer to rolling this out to you.

Can I keep using my same checks and debit card?

We understand that during this time of transition, you will need to do things like order new checks or debit cards, open new accounts or request new loans. Until spring of 2020, you may continue working with First National as you have for many years. **When the time comes to replace your checks or debit card to complete the transition to Merchants Bank, you will be able to do so at no cost to you.** We appreciate that you have chosen to work with us and want to make any changes as smooth as possible.

When will I be notified of future changes?

Please look for future updates in the coming months – some pieces of communication may be mailed in a Merchants Bank envelope, so please be sure to open. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to call us at First National Bank of Northfield at 507-645-5656.

Thank you again for your loyalty to First National Bank of Northfield. As we look to the future, we are excited about the benefits you'll have as a part of Merchants Bank while experiencing the same personal approach to banking that you've come to expect from First National.