

# 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): January 27, 2003

## **FIRST MIDWEST FINANCIAL, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

0-22140

42-1406262

-----  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

(Commission File No.)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

Fifth at Erie, Storm Lake, Iowa

50588

-----  
(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (712) 732-4117

N/A

---

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

**Item 5. Other Events**

On January 27, 2003, the Registrant issued the attached press release announcing the appointment of former South Dakota Congressman John Thune to its Board of Directors.

**Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(a) Exhibits

1. Press release dated January 27, 2003.

## 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 thereunto duly authorized.

### FIRST MIDWEST FINANCIAL, INC.

*Date: January 28, 2003*  
-----

*By: /s/ Donald J. Winchell*  
-----

*Donald J. Winchell, Senior Vice President,  
Treasurer, Chief Financial Officer and  
Principal Accounting Officer*

[First Midwest Financial, Inc. Letterhead]

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Investor Relations

Telephone: 712.732.4117

**JOHN THUNE JOINS FIRST MIDWEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

(Storm Lake, Iowa - January 27, 2003) First Midwest Financial, Inc. announced today that former South Dakota Congressman John Thune accepted an appointment to its Board of Directors. He will also serve on the First Federal Savings Bank, Security State Bank, and First Services Trust Company boards and on the Audit and Stock Option Committee.

Thune received his Master's Degree in Business Administration from the University of South Dakota in 1984. He then worked in Washington, DC as a legislative assistant for U.S. Senator Jim Abdnor of South Dakota. From there, he was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to serve at the Small Business Administration.

In 1989, Thune returned to South Dakota to serve as Executive Director of the state's Republican Party. In 1991, Governor George S. Mickelson appointed John as State Railroad Director. He held this post until 1993, when he accepted the position as Executive Director of the South Dakota Municipal League.

In 1996, John sought and won his first term as South Dakota's lone Representative to the U.S. House. Thune was reelected in 1998 and 2000. He served on the Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Small Business Committees.

James S. Haahr, Board Chairman of First Midwest Financial, Inc., commented, "We are pleased and honored to have Mr. Thune join our board of directors. He brings local, regional and national insight that will benefit our customers, our banks, and First Midwest shareholders."

First Midwest currently operates two South Dakota banks - Brookings Federal Bank at 600 Main Avenue in Brookings, and First Federal Savings Bank at 2500 South Minnesota Avenue in Sioux Falls.

At December 31, 2002, First Midwest Financial, Inc. had assets of \$673 million and shareholders' equity of \$44.7 million. The company's stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "CASH."

Corporate Profile: First Midwest Financial, Inc. is the holding company for First Federal Savings Bank of the Midwest, headquartered in Storm Lake, Iowa, and for Security State Bank, headquartered in Stuart, Iowa. First Federal Savings Bank operates as a thrift with four divisions: First Federal Storm Lake, Brookings Federal Bank, Iowa Savings Bank, and First Federal Sioux Falls. Security State Bank operates as a state-chartered commercial bank. Sixteen offices support customers throughout northwest and central Iowa, and in Brookings and Sioux Falls, South Dakota.