



600 East 84th Avenue
Merrillville, IN 46410

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE 2025

Dear Shareholders,

In a world that seems to move faster every year, and one that is increasingly shaped by screens, distance, and automation, Centier has remained steadfast in something timeless: the human side of banking. Over the past year, we have continued to deepen our commitment to being a place where people feel known, welcomed, and at home.

In 2025, that commitment took tangible form as we expanded our presence in Lafayette, Brownsburg, and Fort Wayne. With each new location, we were not simply opening doors, we were extending our welcome. We continued building a bank where clients feel seen, associates feel valued, and communities feel genuinely supported.

Perhaps the most meaningful recognition of this effort came on a national stage. For the first time in our history, Centier Bank was named the best retail bank for customer satisfaction in the North Central Region by the J.D. Power 2025 U.S. Retail Banking Satisfaction Study. This honor is a reflection of something we have long believed to be true – when people feel they belong, they flourish.

As we look ahead, we embrace what is needed to serve future generations. This fall, we will begin the next critical phase of the Bank's evolution with our system core conversion, the most significant technological transformation we have undertaken in half a century. This investment is designed to strengthen our ability to serve people with excellence for decades to come by providing:

- **Enhanced Efficiency** - Streamlining workflows so our team can spend less time on process and more time serving people.
- **Heightened Regulatory Support** - Upholding the highest standards of security, soundness, and compliance.
- **Scalability and Flexibility** - Building the infrastructure needed to support our communities for the next half-century.

To help lead this next chapter, we have expanded our Executive Leadership Team as Centier continues to grow as a mid-size bank, and we are finalizing a Three-Year Strategic Plan built on three enduring pillars:

- **Equip, Enable, and Empower Associates:** Placing the right tools and support in the hands of our greatest asset, our people.
- **Technology-Enabled Business Transformation:** Using innovation to strengthen, not replace, the personal relationships that define us.
- **Disciplined and Diversified Growth:** Ensuring long-term stability through smart, intentional expansion.

And finally, after 53 years of service, I announced my retirement and the formal transition to the fifth generation of Schrage family leadership that includes my sons-in-law Chris Campbell and Anthony Contrucci, and daughter Stephanie Schrage. When I joined the Bank in 1972, the world looked very different. Banking was done face to face, relationships were built one conversation at a time, and trust was earned across desks, drive-thrus, and kitchen tables. Much has changed since then. Yet through it all, one thing has remained constant – our commitment to extraordinary service, hospitality, and to the values of this family-owned institution.

I step away with a full heart and immense pride, knowing that Centier's future is in capable hands and that the principles that shaped us will continue to guide us. Our commitment to remain **Not For Sale** is more than a statement. It is a promise to preserve the independence, character, and care that has defined Centier for generations.

Serving you, and serving the Centier family, has been the privilege of my lifetime.

Sincerely,

Michael E. Schrage
Chairman of the Board

