

January 2021

Dear PennyWise Volunteer

Due to the pandemic which still is among us, the PennyWise Board thinks it unwise to hold our annual appreciation luncheon for our wonderful volunteers. However, we cannot overlook that a formal thank you for your service is called-for.

Despite COVID-19-related difficulties, PennyWise is still making a large difference to our community. We were entirely closed for two and one-half months and only open 4 days a week for the next 7 months after we were able to reopen. The protocols in place to keep our volunteers and customers safe since we reopened have been working-praise God. Despite the COVID-19 related store closure and reduced days. PennyWise was able to contribute sufficient funds to allow the Vestry of SMEC to continue to fund outreach grants at the same level as 2020. The grants are going out to the outreach partners this month. We are blessed to work with a church so committed to helping the needy in our community.

During our annual appreciation luncheon in past years. staff have had the opportunity to ask questions and share ideas and concerns. That is valuable input we do not want to forego. We plan to put some forms to capture this input in the rear workroom and a box to drop them in. Please let us know what is on your minds. And while you are at it. we will have a small treat for you.

The entire St. Mary's community is in your debt. The St. Mary's Vestry is very appreciative of your continuing service to PennyWise. The Outreach Commission, which administers the grants funded by your efforts, is equally grateful. And of course, the PennyWise Board cannot adequately express our praise and gratitude for the services you have provided and continue to provide to aid the needy in our community by making PennyWise successful.

So please accept this expression of gratitude until we can dine together and do it up properly. May God bless and keep you.

For the PennyWise Board of Directors