

**From Sandra's Study**  
**Rev. Sandra Fees**

In May I had the opportunity to co-facilitate an anti-crime forum in the City of Reading. The event was structured so that community members were invited to come and speak, while the elected officials and candidates listened. Neighbors shared solutions to crime, naming everything from increasing the number of good jobs and providing better support to existing crime watch groups to creating greater unity among people, dealing with undocumented visitors, and doing a better job of enforcing existing laws.

I agreed to co-facilitate as part of my work this year on peace and non-violence. I also joined the Board of Directors of Berks Connections/Pre-Trial Services (previously Berks Prison Society), spoke at a vigil after a Burger King shooting, carried my peace sign on the Penn Street Bridge, and participated in the anniversary peace walk in Oley. This summer, I will also be participating in the Peace Parade and Fair. And at PrideFest, I will be a speaker and also serve as a non-confrontational buffer – a “silent witness” – for attendees.

These are a few of the things you may not realize I do as your minister. I believe it is important for me to have a public presence and to represent our UU values in the public square. I am grateful to be doing such rewarding and meaningful work, and to be engaged with all of you in efforts to get our liberal message of hope and love to people who need and want it.

Warmly,  
Sandra