

From Sandra's Study  
Rev. Sandra Fees

This is a time filled with fear and anxiety. Our troubled economy has raised many concerns for people. We want to know we will be able to pay our mortgage and rent, buy groceries, and take care of our basic needs today. Many of us also worry about the future – our own as we move toward retirement or our children's future. We want to know that we will be okay. I think the real questions we have are how long will this last and how much is it going to hurt. History would suggest that this will not last. But for those struggling now, that is little help.

The reality is none of us knows for sure where this will all lead, and when it will end. I don't know. I do have hope that we can find ways to make it through this challenging time. And the single most important way we make it through is by being there for each other. We need each other.

I am grateful to be part of this faith community that is called to kindness, hope, compassion, and strength. I find our faith spiritually uplifting. I also know that we can turn to each other for comfort and support. Our church is a place where we can give and receive care. Sometimes this is a listening ear, sometimes a ride home, sometimes a meal. There are many ways we support each other.

I hope we will pay careful attention to the needs of those in our church as well as to those in our local community. We sometimes are busy helping the world outside and we do not notice that the person sitting right next to us on Sunday morning is hurting. It isn't always easy to know. So we need to be attentive and sensitive to each other's lives in these vulnerable times.

My hope for our community is that we will take good care of each other. My hope is that we will be there for each other's spiritual, physical, and emotional needs. My hope is that we will be there for each other.

Yours in faith,  
Sandra