



# Macedonian Call

## July 2017

Recently much media attention has focused on US Senate hearings featuring the testimonies of former FBI Director Jim Comey and current Attorney General Sessions. While those hearings garnered the public's attention, there was another senate hearing which took place early June that received much less press. What came out of that hearing was alarming and revealed, in my opinion, a more serious threat to our democracy than Russian interference in our electoral processes. In the hearing to which I am referring, Russell Vought, the president's choice for second-in-command at the Office of Management and Budget was berated for his Christian faith by senator and former presidential nominee, Bernie Sanders of Vermont. At issue was a column Vought wrote last year suggesting that Jesus Christ is the only way to salvation. Below is a transcript of the appalling attack.

**Sanders:** "Muslims do not simply have a deficient theology. They do not know God because they have rejected Jesus Christ, His Son, and they stand condemned.' Do you believe that that statement is Islamophobic?"

**Vought:** "Absolutely not, Senator. I'm a Christian, and I believe in a Christian set of principles based on my faith..."

**Sanders:** "...Forgive me, we just don't have a lot of time. Do you believe people in the Muslim religion stand condemned? Is that your view?"

**Vought:** "Again, Senator, I'm a Christian, and I wrote that piece in accordance with the statement of faith at Wheaton College..."

**Sanders:** "I understand that. I don't know how many Muslims there are in America. Maybe a couple million, that these people stand condemned? What about Jews?"

Do they stand condemned too?"

**Vought:** "Senator, I'm a Christian..."

**Sanders** (shouting): "I understand you are a Christian, but this country [is] made of people who are not just -- I understand that Christianity is the majority religion, but there are other people of different religions in this country and around the world. In your judgment, do you think that people who are not Christians are going to be condemned?"

**Vought:** "Thank you for probing on that question. As a Christian, I believe that all individuals are made in the image of God and are worthy of dignity and respect regardless of their religious beliefs. I believe that as a Christian that's how I should treat all individuals..."

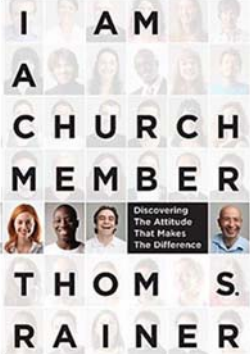
**Sanders:** "...Do you think that's respectful of other religions?... I would simply say, Mr. Chairman that this nominee is really not someone who this country is supposed to be about."

Sanders' comments should cause every Christian to cringe. Mr. Vought's Christian beliefs have nothing to do with his role in the OMB! When has being a Christian or expressing biblical teaching become the basis for disqualifying someone for public office? This outrageous attack wasn't only against Mr. Vought's religious liberty and freedom of expression, it was an attack against all who hold those same beliefs. What is obvious from this exchange is that the senator charging religious discrimination against Mr. Vought was actually guilty of his own charge. As we celebrate the independence of our nation this year we should pray not only for God's continued blessings, we should also pray that He will continue to raise up Christian men and women for public service, giving them both the grace and strength to stand against such outrageous displays of religious discrimination. And, we should unashamedly support and pray for them! *"Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? Who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?"* (Psalm 19:16). ~ Pastor Randy



CARE

Every second Wednesday of each month is C.A.R.E. Night. C.A.R.E. is an acronym for "Christians Actively Reaching Everyone." We have a meal each C.A.R.E. Night beginning at 6:00 pm and ministry opportunities follow at 6:30 pm. This month C.A.R.E. Night is July 12th. Everyone is invited to join us for this night of fellowship and ministry.



**Coming this Summer!**  
**Small Group Study Wednesdays beginning July 19th**



**North Carolina Mission Trip**  
**July 19th—22nd**  
**Goldsboro, NC**  
**Sign-up Today!!**

There will be a variety of projects available as we work to help those affected by last year's floods. Sign up at the Welcome Center for the entire 4 day trip or sign up to come for 2 days or even just 1 day! All help will be greatly appreciated!



**July 23rd at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**  
**Don't Miss the Fun, Fellowship & the delicious Homemade Ice Cream!!!**



**Low Country Boil**  
**July 29th @ 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**

**July 30th**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Psalm 96:1**  
*Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord all the earth.*

**NIGHT OF WORSHIP**

**Join us for a night of music, praise & worship!!**



**Children's Church** is worship designed especially for children 3 years - 6th grade. They will meet this month on July 2nd, 9th & 23rd during our morning worship service.



**TeamKID** is designed for Kids in Discipleship! It features Bible memory games and application of Bible truths, engaging mission videos and activities, and fun activity-based learning all while helping your kids grow to be more like Jesus. Kids Pre-K through 6<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to TEAMKID Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.

# youth group

SCHEDULE



**Sunday Evenings**  
**@ 6:00 pm**

**Weekly Youth Bible Study**

**Wednesday @ 6:30 pm**

**Wednesday Night Study is geared to teach our youth how God's Word applies to our everyday lives.**

 **FUGECamps**

**Youth Summer Camp**

**July 10th—14th**

**Charleston, SC**



**Serving God By Serving Others**

**Youth Mission Week**

**July 24th—28th**

*Don't miss out on this opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus in our community!!*



This month we celebrate our 241<sup>st</sup> birthday as America. Alexis deTocqueville was right when he wrote in the late 1840's "I sought for the greatness and genius of America in her fertile fields and bountiful forests, in her public school system and institutions of higher learning. I sought for it in her democratic congress and matchless constitution. But not until I went into the churches of America and heard her pulpits flame with righteousness did I understand the secret of her genius and power. America is great because America is good; if America ever ceases to be good, she will cease to be great!"

It was not then, nor has it ever been the diction of a man in a pulpit that brought greatness to a nation. But it was obedience in attitude and action of the people who were spoken to that brought God's blessings and protection on our country. Those blessings are available today. I believe the Lord is waiting for someone (you and me) to listen to Him, trust Him and live out His truth and we will leave to our children and grandchildren the country we have always known. We have a great responsibility ahead of us, but our God is greater and will enable us to do it! Let's get busy!! ~ Pastor Joe

## July Activity Schedule



- **JOY Bible Study—Wednesdays at 10:30 am**
- **Narroway Productions Trip—Saturday, July 8th at 10:30 am**
- **Monthly Lunch—Thursday, July 13th at Noon in the Fellowship Hall**

***Narroway Productions Trip***  
***July 8th @ 10:30 am***



**A story based on the biblical account of Hosea. Laugh and cry with America's greatest generation and remember the days of World War II.**