



SOUTHMINSTER ADULT
EDUCATION PRESENTS A
SUMMER EVENINGS CLASS:

RELIGIOUS NATIONALISM: AN OLD STORY RETOLD IN OUR TIME

Recorded on Zoom by Dr. Richard L. Rohrbaugh,
Professor Emeritus, Lewis & Clark College
June 15, 22 and 29 7:00-8:30 PM in Room 7 and on Zoom

This prerecorded 3-part Zoom class by Dr. Rohrbaugh will be shown in Room 7. Southminster Pastor Scott Dalgarno will lead a thirty-minute discussion following each week's one-hour segment. Participants are encouraged to come to Southminster to meet in person, or participate from home via Zoom.

Here is Dr. Rohrbaugh's description of the class:

Some things never change. One that goes as far back as existing human records is religious nationalism. It is an old story: Akhenaten (the Egyptian ruler/sun god), the divine Julius (Caesar), the divine right of kings, the King James Bible, God is on our side, an oath of office on a Bible, or a politician holding up a Bible in front of a church he never attended. The separation of church and state likely had its roots in the Protestant Reformation and the philosophy of John Locke, but in practice it is a modern invention. The American version has recently eroded as a kind of "nationalism with a Jesus face" has exploded among evangelical Christians who increasingly identify with a single political party. Early Jews and Christians faced the same pressures, and the traces of their reactions are all over the New Testament. We will look at five: one Jewish and four Christian responses to Caesar's demand they demonstrate their loyalty to Rome.