



## Steven E. Berry

### True Independent Senate Vermont

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**Steven E. Berry M.Div, D.D., D.Min.**

Steve Berry's distinguished career has taken him from the backwaters of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont to **Yale University** where he was a Teaching Assistant to world famous author and spiritual teacher **Henri J.M. Nouwen**. **He founded an inner-city Soup Kitchen, a model Interfaith Program, Film Forum, Art Gallery and a Learning Center.** As the Senior Minister of the historic **First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, CA (Pilgrim School and Cedar Lake Camp)**, he initiated **Hands-Across-LA** after the civil unrest. He became a leader with **Habitat for Humanity** and a chaplain in the **LAPD**. He has received numerous awards for his humanitarian work and activism including the **United Nations Associations' Ralph Bunche Peace Award**. He has made documentary films and has authored essays and books, including books with theologian **Walter Wink** and theoretical anthropologist **René Girard**. He teamed up with **Human Rights Pioneer, Jack Healey** to make **VT** the first state to adopt a resolution honoring the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**. He led the **VT initiative to Reverse Citizens United in 2013**.

**Steve was elected to the Vermont House of Representatives, served on House Human Services and represented the State of Vermont in the Assembly of State Legislators where he was on the Executive Committee.**

Steve has served on numerous international, national and regional Boards of Directors which include the **LA Mission, City Mission International, the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches, International Congregational Fellowship, Henri Nouwen Society, Campaign Non-Violence, Pace e Bene, SolarFest.**

Steve designed and initiated and was Dean of the **Pastoral Preparation Program in Vermont** in 2013 that has graduated eleven women and men to serve as local parish ministers keeping churches and meetinghouses open throughout communities in southern Vermont. **He is leading the effort in saving the historic 1786 Rupert Meetinghouse of the Congregational Church of Rupert, VT, the oldest meetinghouse in continuous operation in the State of Vermont.** He lives in Manchester, Vermont with his wife Carol.

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I am a true Independent Candidate free from the duopoly of the DNC or the RNC. My comprehensive vision for policy reform includes:

1. **Adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)**
2. **Stopping the USA’s Endless Wars** (Transitioning to a Peace Economy and out from under the Military Industrial Complex)
3. **Tackling** the out-of- control **National Debt**
4. **Repealing the USA Patriot Act** – dismantling the Omniscient Managerial Technocracy and the Surveillance State
5. **Prioritizing Health through Campaign for Safe and Nutritious Food and Regenerative Agriculture**
6. **Upholding Body Autonomy and Freedom of Choice** (reform the Medical Industrial Complex’s interface with the Insurance Industry to allow natural alternatives to Big Pharma)
7. **Respecting our Natural Environment: Soil, Water, Air and All Our Relations**
8. **Reverse Citizens United** and Reform Campaign Finance Laws
9. **Restore** the Middle Class through small and medium business, manufacturing, energy infrastructure, good paying jobs.
10. **Create an alternative economy** that subsidizes small farms, supports affordable housing, offers vocational training, **supports our combat veterans with extra care,** rehabilitates those afflicted with addictions, and use art and the arts for health and wellness, beauty and hopeful care of the souls of Vermonters, our nation and our people.

**My goal is to preserve our freedoms and rebuild our unity for the betterment of Vermont, the nation and the world.**

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