

RECEIVED FEB 21 1985



• RED RIVER VALLEY SYNOD

LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Office Telephone — 701-237-6444

Office Address — 1351 Page Drive South
Suite 320
Fargo, North Dakota 58103

December 22, 1984

Mr. Charles Matsumoto
849 Reda Road
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Dear Charles:

I am enclosing the material that was sent out in our November mailing to pastors and other leaders of congregations in the Red River Valley Synod.

Included are the resolution adopted by the convention--which I shared with you earlier--and a litany recommended for use in worship on December 9.

Holiday greetings.

In Christ +

Harold R. Lohr

Enc.



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Dear Pastors of the Red River Valley Synod:

The following resolution was adopted by the 1984 Red River Valley Synod Convention, June 16, 1984:

WHEREAS the United States of America, by authorization of Executive Order 9066, February 1942, uprooted from their homes and imprisoned some 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry solely on the basis of race; and

WHEREAS the Executive Council of the Lutheran Church in America, acting at the direction of this church's 1982 convention, requested "the synods to call upon their congregations and ministers to remember in appropriate ways this shameful episode, to pray for the victims of the injustices done, to voice their concern to their elected congressional representatives and to ask God to grant to the American people the wisdom and the will not to repeat it"; and

WHEREAS the Executive Council further called for federal legislation that would issue a public apology to the victimized persons and their descendants and that would affirm the principle of reparations for losses suffered by these people.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Red River Valley Synod, in convention assembled, affirm the Executive Council's action and call upon this synod's congregations and ordained ministers to make responses that are supportive to the Council's request.

Responding to this resolution, the Social Ministry Committee of the Red River Valley Synod offers the following congregational prayer litany. We hope you will use it in your Sunday morning services (reproduce it as necessary). You may wish to use it on December 9, the Sunday closest to December 7, which is the 43 anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor. If that is not convenient, please use it another time.

Sincerely,

RRVS Social Ministry Committee

PRAYER LITANY

Recommended by the Red River Valley Synod Social Ministry Committee
for December 9, 1984 worship services

Today, almost 40 years after the end of World War II, we bring to
mind the horrors of war and pray God's forgiveness and mercy . . .

Lord, help us learn from the past; extend our memories and give
us insight so that we do not repeat the errors of history.
Lord, in your mercy,

(Cong.) HEAR OUR PRAYER

We acknowledge that we are capable of racism - capable of judging
people on the basis of how they look, rather than who they are.
Lord, in your mercy,

(Cong.) HEAR OUR PRAYER

We ask your blessings on fellow Americans of Japanese ancestry
who suffered discrimination and deprivation during the war and
pray that their wounds may be healed.
Lord, in your mercy,

(Cong.) HEAR OUR PRAYER

We acknowledge that as citizens of the United States we participate
in and share the guilt of our country's wrongful actions, and we
ask for your mercy for our past wrongs and guidance for our future
actions.

Lord, in your mercy,

(Cong.) HEAR US AND GIVE US YOUR AID.