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Evangelical Lutheran Synod

of

Missouri, Ohio and Other States

Southern Illinois District

OFFICE OF STEELEVILLE CIRCUIT  
STEELEVILLE, ILLINOIS

Sept. 26, 1942.

Governor Dwight H. Green,  
Springfield, Ill.

Honorable Sir:

Somewhat reluctantly I am writing this letter and thereby taking up some of your valuable time, however it would help for the peace of mind of some of my people here to have an official statement from you, Honorable Sir.

This is the situation: Since Pearl Harbor we have entirely dropped all services in the German language which until then we had to some extent. I advised that in the first excitement it might be advisable to drop that language, though I am aware of the fact that our government does not forbid it. But now since the first excitement has quieted down, some of our older people have begged me with tears in their eyes, to let them have some services in the German language again, and I feel that they are entitled to their request.

These people have little or no benefit from service in the American language. My congregation naturally will have to decide the matter before I can do anything in this matter.

I can vouch for the loyalty of these people. We have 32 men in the service today, of these 11 have volunteered, both of my sons are in the service of our country, one in the South-Sea Islands and another in Hawaii. So it is not that any of these people are disloyal to our cause, but because they are not so well versed in the American language. For me personally it will mean more work, but I am glad to do it in order that I may serve all people.

*General Parker  
to am.*

If it is not asking too much I would appreciate a statement from you, Hon. Sir, very highly. It would certainly help to prevent some fanatic from starting trouble.

Respectfully yours,

*J. Mueller*  
Rev. J. Mueller, Steeleville, Ill