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How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help? Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. 1 John 3:17-18 (NSRV)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In accordance with our Constitution C10.02, I am calling a special congregation meeting for Sunday, September 10, 2023 at 11:00 am, after worship. The meeting will be in person as well as via Zoom.

The purpose of the meeting is to consider again operation of the Emergency Cold Weather Shelter (CWES). During the previous congregation meeting on June 25, 2023, the motion to submit a bid to the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) did not pass with a 14-14 vote.

The City did not receive any bids for the CWES this season. RLC was approached by the City and Borough of Juneau asking us to discuss the bid, so Pastor Karen, Brad Perkins (CWES Manager for 2 seasons at RLC), and I met with them on August 3, 2023. We discussed items that were of concern for us, but also shared that there were multiple opinions at RLC unrelated to the details of the bid.

The City has explored many options and, at the last Assembly meeting, they presented their final option. That was to idle a decommissioned bus during cold weather days. The bus would fit 35 people and they would have to sit (not lay down) for the night. This was not well received but they are out of options. The City would like to address our congregation, asking RLC to reconsider operating the CWES again.

I look forward to honest, sincere, and prayer driven discussion as we, as a congregation, seek to live out our mission: to promote spiritual growth in Christ and service to all people.

Prayers and Peace be with you,

Karen Lawfer
Congregation President