



Sent via email, posted publicly and copied to press and media outlets.

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- **Unconstitutional Vote:** A pastor's call cannot be terminated by a 51% vote. Yet that is what Bishop Wickstrom imposed. Neither Bishop Wickstrom nor Bishop Oslovich has acknowledged this constitutional breach.
- **Illegitimate Leadership Reinstated:** Bishop Wickstrom reappointed an officer who had been properly removed, bypassing congregational election and disregarding our constitution.
- **Manipulated Adjudication:** After her retirement, a flawed C15.11 process was initiated by Bishop Oslovich to retroactively justify Bishop Wickstrom's actions. Our council rightly refused to participate in such illegitimate adjudication.
- **Roster Removal:** Pastor Karen Perkins was removed from the ELCA roster in violation of due process. An interim pastor was then installed without consultation or consent of the council.
- **Prejudicial Actions at Synod Assembly:** The 2025 Synod Assembly includes two deeply troubling elements:
 - A misleading report by Bishop Oslovich mischaracterizing the RLC conflict.
 - A resolution to confer the honorary title of *Bishop Emerita* on Bishop Wickstrom, preemptively enshrining her legacy while her conduct is under scrutiny in a lawsuit brought by Ms. Brendle, without congregation or council authority.

The Broader Impact

The actions of a small faction, enabled by bishops, have compromised:

- **Homeless Services:** Our low-barrier shelter work has been defunded and displaced.
- **Food Programs:** Our pantry and community meals are under threat due to internal sabotage and denial of funds.
- **Educational Initiatives:** Partnerships with schools and youth programs are unraveling.
- **The Arts:** Juneau Live! Studio faces shutdown amid equipment tampering and utility interference.

A Call to the Faithful

We urge you to read our RLC Council Position Statements:

[Understanding Constitutional Violations](#)
[Authoritarianism, Secrecy and Complicity](#)
[Challenge to Act Justly, Seek Truth and Fulfill Fiduciary Duty](#)
[What Happens Next and Your Involvement](#)
[Synod Assembly 2025 Resolutions and Reports](#)

Visit: [RLC Council Position Statements](#)

What We Ask

- **Stand with us** in affirming the right of congregations to constitutional self-governance.
- **Demand transparency and accountability** from Bishop Timothy Oslovich and Vice-President Leslie Swenson.
- **Urge Presiding Bishop Eaton** to review the removal of Pastor Perkins and intervene where governance has failed.
- **Oppose Resolution 2025-2** as premature and divisive.

Final Word

This letter is not a complaint; it is a call. A call to restore what the Church is meant to be—a place where truth matters, governance is respected, and justice flows like a river.

Peace,



Karen Lawfer, President

On behalf of the RLC Congregation Council

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cc: Presiding Bishop Eaton (*by email to Bishop.Eaton@elca.org*)
Alaska Synod Council (c/o rlcoffice@ak.net to forward to Alaska Synod Council members)
RLC Congregation Council (c/o email to klawfer@gci.net)
This letter may be shared with other individuals and groups who may find its content relevant.

Addendums

[Helpful Summaries to the RLC Council Position Statements](#)
[Index to RLC Council Position Statements and Addendums](#)

Links to RLC Council Position Statements

[Understanding Constitutional Violations](#)
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