



The Episcopal Church in Delaware

The Rt. Rev. Kevin S. Brown, Bishop

all things in love

1 Cor. 16:14

October 21, 2026

Dear Beloved in the Episcopal Church in Delaware,

I am writing to share some important news about an opportunity for ministry that extends beyond the borders of our diocese.

I have been nominated by the Standing Committee of the Diocese of Easton to serve as the provisional bishop of their diocese. After prayerful consideration and conversations with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe's office and the Standing Committees of both Easton and Delaware, I have agreed to allow my name to go forward as the sole nominee for election at Easton's annual convention on February 26, 2027.

If elected, I will serve as provisional bishop of Easton while continuing as the Bishop of Delaware.

The Diocese of Easton is in a season of transition and discernment, considering what its future may hold and how best to move forward. During this time, its leaders are asking for stability, pastoral care, and episcopal leadership that will allow them to continue their ministry while thoughtfully discerning their next steps.

When I was first approached by the Presiding Bishop's office about this nomination, I gave it considerable thought and prayer. I recognize the responsibilities I already hold here in Delaware and the importance of the work we are doing together. My commitment to our congregations, clergy, and the ministries we share remains as strong as ever.

At the same time, I believe there are moments when we are called to look beyond our own borders and consider how we might serve the wider Church. Easton is our neighbor and our sister diocese. When our neighbors need help, we have an opportunity to respond with generosity, compassion, and faith. I believe this is one of those moments.

What Does This Mean for Delaware?

First and most importantly, I will remain your Bishop of Delaware. Delaware is my home, and serving as your bishop continues to be a great joy and privilege. I will continue to provide Episcopal leadership, pastoral care, and oversight to our clergy, congregations, and ministries. Our shared mission and the important work before us will continue.

This nomination is not a secret signal that Delaware and Easton have planned to merge. We will remain two distinct dioceses, each with our own governance, ministries, and identity.

For those unfamiliar with the term, a provisional bishop is an already consecrated bishop who is elected to provide temporary episcopal leadership to a diocese during a vacancy or time of transition. A provisional bishop carries the authority and responsibilities of a diocesan bishop, providing pastoral oversight and leadership while the diocese discerns its future. This is an established practice within The Episcopal Church.

I recognize that this news may raise questions, particularly about how my time and responsibilities will be shared between Delaware and Easton. Arrangements are still being developed in conversation with the leadership of both dioceses. I am committed to approaching this thoughtfully, ensuring that the needs of Delaware remain a priority while also providing meaningful support to our neighbors in Easton.

Looking Ahead

On Friday, February 26, 2027, the Diocese of Easton will gather for its annual convention, when they will decide whether to elect a provisional bishop. If elected, I would begin my ministry in Easton that day.

In the months ahead, we will continue working through the details of this arrangement and sharing information as plans take shape. We have prepared a *Frequently Asked Questions* resource to accompany this announcement, and I encourage you to read it for additional information.

As I reflect on this invitation to serve, I am reminded that we are part of something much larger than any one congregation or diocese. We are members of one body in Christ, bound together by faith, strengthened by community, and called to serve one another. Sometimes that calling asks us to stretch beyond what is familiar or comfortable, trusting that God will provide what we need along the way.

I am deeply grateful for the faithful ministry taking place throughout Delaware and for the many ways you share Christ's love in your congregations and communities. There is much good work before us, and I look forward to continuing that work together. My hope is that we can also extend a hand of love and support to our neighbors in Easton during this important season in their life.

I ask that you keep the people of Easton, our own diocesan community, and me in your prayers as we move forward. May we continue to listen for God's guidance, trusting that the Holy Spirit is at work among us and that our shared calling to love and serve one another will lead us faithfully into the future.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kevin S. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rt. Rev. Kevin S. Brown