St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
COLORADO SPRINGS

October 15, 2026

Dear People of St. Michael's,

I want to share an important update regarding Owen Copps and his ongoing journey of discernment and formation for ministry. After prayerful reflection and discernment, Owen has decided to withdraw from the ordination process in the Episcopal Church and transfer from Seminary of the Southwest to another program where he plans to complete his Master of Divinity with a focus in Interreligious Chaplaincy. Owen is currently discerning a vocation in hospital or university chaplaincy, where he hopes to continue serving others through pastoral care.

Over the past several years, many in our parish have prayed for Owen, encouraged him, and supported him as he has explored God's call in his life. While this represents a change in direction, it is also an important reminder that discernment is about faithfully listening for where God is leading, even when that path unfolds differently than first imagined. To pivot, like Owen is doing, takes a lot of courage and strength.

Owen has repeatedly shared his deep gratitude for the many people in the Episcopal Church in Colorado and especially for St. Michael's who accompanied him along the way. He remains grateful for this community and excited about the possibilities ahead as he pursues ministry in a hospital or university setting.

Many generously contributed to the funds raised to support Owen as he began seminary several years ago. The remaining funds will continue to be held by St. Michael's and designated for seminary education and the formation of future clergy. In this way, your generosity will continue to support those from our parish who may be called to seminary and ordained ministry in the years ahead.

I am grateful for Owen and for the trust he has placed in St. Michael's throughout this journey. Please continue to hold him in your prayers as he enters this next chapter of formation and ministry.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Matt Holcombe
Rector