



## MARYLAND GOVERNOR VISITS TAKOMA PARK CHURCH

Maryland Governor Wes Moore recently visited Potomac Conference's Takoma Park (Md.) church, a community that he says helped his family through a tough time when he was a child.

"It was a long overdue home-coming," said Moore during his visit to the church.

Addressing the packed congregation, he said, "I'm thankful, not just for the congregations of today, but the congregations of the past as well. I'm thankful, not just for this church, but for the Spirit that guides this church. Because 41 years ago, it was this congregation, this church—it was this house of the Lord—that reminded me and my family how loved we were in our time of greatest pain. [This is] the reason I love this area, this church so much."

Read more in *Potomac People* on page 27.

## NEW DOCUMENTARY HIGHLIGHTS THE SABBATH

SABBATH, a recently released documentary available on the PBS (Public Broadcasting Service) app, shows several interviews from prominent Adventists and highlights the health and spiritual benefits of the Sabbath. How can your church use this film as a ministry tool? Visit our website for some ideas!

## SUPREME COURT ISSUES HISTORIC RULING ABOUT RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION

In a unanimous decision issued this summer, the United States Supreme Court discarded decades-long precedent by strengthening legal protections for workers whose religious beliefs conflict with their job obligations. The ruling in *Groff v. DeJoy* is expected to significantly impact job opportunities for Americans of various faiths who have frequently faced challenges due to their Sabbath-keeping practices. The Court's decision will reshape how businesses offer religious accommodation under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.—*Bill Knott*

## ADVENTIST HEALTHCARE OPENS AMBULATORY CENTER

Adventist HealthCare recently opened its new state-of-the-art Ambulatory Surgery Center, located at the National Harbor in Maryland. During a special ribbon-cutting ceremony (below), local elected officials, Adventist HealthCare leaders and neighboring business owners toured the space and met members of the medical team. The practice is projected to perform 300 surgeries in its first year, ramping up to 800 surgeries per month by its fifth year. Read more on page 42.



MOORE PHOTO BY LUCAS CARDINO; KIBBLE PHOTO BY BACHRACH

# \$188,647

The value of free health care services provided by volunteers from 10 Seventh-day Adventist churches and community members at a recent community health fair in the Tidewater, Va., area. Coordinators say that volunteers served at least 250 people at the event.



## ALVIN KIBBLE PASSES AWAY

Alvin Maurice Kibble, a former North American Division vice president and Allegheny East Conference president from 1988–2000, passed away August 11.

"Alvin Kibble was one of those visionaries who comes along only so often," says Dave Weigley, Columbia Union president.

**THE REST OF THE STORY:** Read full content at [columbiaunionvisitor.com/upfront](http://columbiaunionvisitor.com/upfront).