

How Are You Promoting Partnership?

Make sure your partnership is included on your congregation's website.

Having an up-to-date, interesting webpage about your partnership on your congregation's website is a great way to keep church members and visitors informed and excited about the partnership. It's also an excellent visual representation that the partnership is an important part of your congregation's life. If you haven't got a church partnership webpage or if you haven't updated your existing page for a while, here are some ideas to consider.

We've all heard that "pictures are worth 1,000 words", so be sure to include updated pics of you and your partners. Provide a short history of the relationship with interesting facts and links about the partner church and town. Include quotes, short stories, and funny or interesting anecdotes by people on both sides of the partnership. Enhance your content with pictures taken on a visit - as long as you have permission to do so. If you have pilgrimage trip stories and pictures to share, provide separate links so the main page isn't cluttered.

Be sensitive to how your webpage depicts your partners. The goal of Partnership is mutual relationship—so try to make sure that your webpage reflects mutuality. If you have a Transylvanian partner, make sure that the main name you use for your partner is its Hungarian name. Including the Hungarian accent marks is a great way to show your respect for your partners' Hungarian identity.

Sharing our partnerships not only enriches the relationship between you and your partner church, it also tells prospective visitors or members that our faith has roots which run deep and branches that run wide.

Recently, while preparing to conduct a ReFresh weekend at First Church in Providence, they shared the partnership page on their church website. It's a great example! Check it out:

<https://firstunitarianprov.org/member-information/transylvania-partner-church/>

Transylvania Partner Church



History of the Partnership

In 2008, our congregation voted to establish a partnership with a Unitarian Church in Szentgyhaza, Romania. The church is in a small town nestled near the Carpathian Mountains in an area called Transylvania, once a part of Hungary.

Members of our congregation have visited our sister church three times.

We have crisscrossed Transylvania, learning about its history and the founding of the Unitarian Church there in 1568. Members of the Szentgyhaza church have hosted us in their homes and treated us with warm hospitality.



We have participated in their worship services and heard their bells ring from the bell tower we helped to build. You can see gifts they have given us used in our services and on display in our memorial garden. This ongoing relationship has created a special feeling towards our sister congregation and