Panamanian and Romanian Pastors Visit Virginia to Minister Through Partnership

Last month, friends from our partnerships in Romania and Panama visited Virginia. While here, they traveled around to 26 churches and seven associations, sharing about the work God is doing through the partnerships. Partnerships involved shared ministry with both partners participating actively in each other’s contexts. Partners work together with each other toward accomplishing a common mission.

Abel Perez, bivocational pastor and associational leader, is the Panamanian partnership coordinator working with the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV). He and his wife, Yolanda, helped with a Stop Hunger Now event in Richmond before moving on to Fredericksburg, where he preached at Bethel and Chancellor Baptist churches. They then traveled across the Commonwealth to West Lynchburg Baptist Church. Before returning to Panama, they also led marriage enrichment seminars for two Virginia Baptist Latino congregations.

Timotei Rusu, a pastor in Deva, Romania, helped provide orientation for the IMPACT Romania! team in Charlottesville before preaching at Smithfield Baptist Church. He also participated in the Stop Hunger Now event in Richmond in addition to visiting the Concord, Appomattox, and Goshen Associations plus Broadway and Linden Heights Baptist churches, both in Staunton.
Irinel Cazacu, a pastor in Ploiesti, Romania, spent time with the Peninsula Association, meeting with a BGAV team to Romania, and speaking at “Romania Night” at Parkview Baptist Church. Bonsack Baptist Church and the Roanoke Valley Association hosted him next, followed by Gordonsville Baptist Church.

All the partners participated in the Leadership Gathering at Eagle Eyrie, the first meeting of the Virginia Baptist Mission Council, and the Virginia Network of Associational Workers. They all commented that their favorite moments here were their interactions with Virginia Baptist congregations.

“We are grateful for our partners and that we can make a difference in the world Together For Others,” said Craig Waddell, BGAV missions partnership coordinator.

For more information about how you and your church can be involved with Partnership Missions, contact:

Craig Waddell
Missions Partnership Coordinator,
Glocal Missions Team
Baptist General Association of Virginia
800.255.2428, ext. 7263
craig.waddell@bgav.org