

Manage your Data Better for a Healthier Church



SOLUTION GUIDE

A focused, in-depth look at how to gauge the health of your church based on your data and how our whole-church solution, Realm®, can help you take next steps.

Our Goal Is To Help You Have Real Ministry Impact



With nearly four decades of experience in providing services and software to churches of all sizes throughout the world, ACS Technologies has learned a lot. We've collected data, gained vital information, and received thousands of first hand testimonials on best practices and methods that effectively help ministries the most.

This knowledge is the basis for our free ministry guides like the one you're reading right now. We also offer a whole lot of other services, making us the world's largest provider of ministry solutions to churches.

We know everyone needs a little help sometimes. That's why we are providing advice, examples, tips, and information to help you turn your ideas into real ministry impact — that's what we mean when we say "Ideas to Impact."

It is our aim to assist in strengthening how you're currently doing church in providing an alternative to your current efforts. Whichever the case may be, it's our goal to be a trusted resource for how you're serving God.

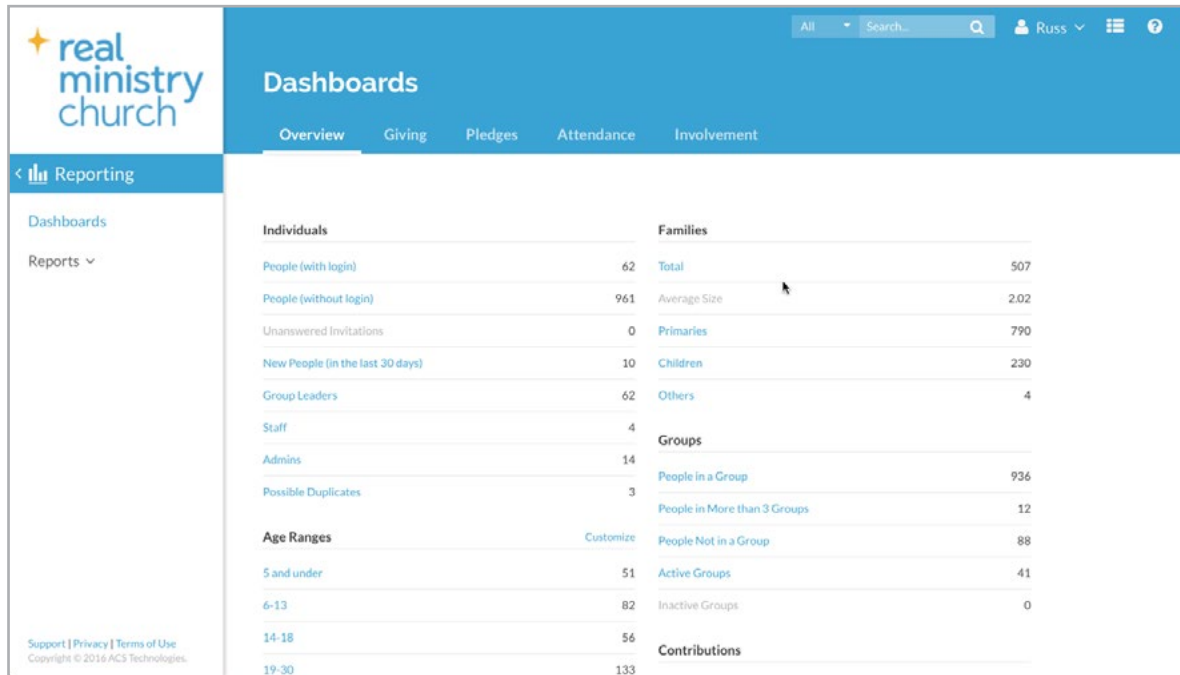
There are a bunch of ways we can help, and the visual aid on this page outlines ways we can connect with you and help strengthen your ministry.

Thank you for downloading this ministry guide. It is our hope that the knowledge included can help empower you and grow your ministry the right way.

If you're interested in learning more or taking the next step for your ministry, you'll find our contact information at end of this guide.

Realm provides a new, robust experience for visualizing data, searching data, reporting data and then taking action.

Realm is all about supporting your ministry. Sometimes, data directs you to take action. And that's built into Realm. When you find people missing three consecutive Sundays, you want someone to contact them and see if everything is ok. When you preview a list of your top 10% of givers, you want to thank them for their continued support of the ministry. When you view a list of your first time attenders, you want to activate your welcome team. There are a lot of things data can tell you about the health of your ministry. There are also a lot of things you need to do when the data tells you things are going well, or not so well.



The screenshot shows the 'Dashboards' section of the Real Ministry Church software. The interface includes a navigation menu on the left with 'Reporting' and 'Dashboards' options. The main content area displays two columns of data: 'Individuals' and 'Families'. The 'Individuals' column includes metrics like 'People (with login)', 'People (without login)', 'Unanswered Invitations', 'New People (in the last 30 days)', 'Group Leaders', 'Staff', 'Admins', and 'Possible Duplicates'. The 'Families' column includes 'Total', 'Average Size', 'Primaries', 'Children', 'Others', 'Groups', 'People in a Group', 'People in More than 3 Groups', 'People Not in a Group', 'Active Groups', and 'Inactive Groups'. There is also an 'Age Ranges' section with a 'Customize' link and 'Contributions' data.

Individuals		Families	
People (with login)	62	Total	507
People (without login)	961	Average Size	2.02
Unanswered Invitations	0	Primaries	790
New People (in the last 30 days)	10	Children	230
Group Leaders	62	Others	4
Staff	4	Groups	
Admins	14	People in a Group	936
Possible Duplicates	3	People in More than 3 Groups	12
		People Not in a Group	88
		Active Groups	41
		Inactive Groups	0
		Contributions	

Age Ranges [Customize](#)

5 and under	51
6-13	82
14-18	56
19-30	133

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Dashboards in Realm provide that quick snapshot of KPI's in the church.

Almost every church pays attention to key demographics, attendance (whether by headcount or individuals), giving, and spiritual growth. Realm has dashboards for all of these. And for churches that conduct pledge campaigns, there's a dashboard for that too. All of the dashboards have the ability to drill down to detailed data, giving you a quick, reliable view of everything that's happening in your ministry. Need to see individuals who gave for the first time? Simply navigate to the Overview Dashboard, find the "first time givers" link, click and the list displays. Need to see a list of people who aren't connected to a Small Group? Easy, just go to the Overview Dashboard and choose the "People Not in a Group" link. Click on the number and the list displays. Need to see everyone who gave to the mission fund? Navigate to the Giving Dashboard, click on the missions fund in the graph, and the list of donors displays.

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the 'real ministry church' dashboard interface.

Top Screenshot: Attendance and First-Time Attendees

	Total Attendees	Total Attended	Total Meetings	Average # of Attendees
Kids	141	5,560	1,051	5.3
Connectionz				
Life Groups	108	2,719	234	11.6
Student Ministry	87	4,382	305	14.4
System	0	0	7	-

First-Time Attendees

- 34 Total
- 34 joined a group
- 19 gave to the church
- 29 attended multiple times

Consecutive Absences

Bar chart showing consecutive absences for Series 1: 81. The x-axis represents the number of consecutive absences (2, 3, 5, 6, 7+), and the y-axis represents the count (0 to 1500). A bar for 3 absences is highlighted with a callout box.

Attendance by Age

Bar chart showing attendance by age group: 24 and under, 25-42, 43-57, 58-75, 76-90, 91+, and No Age.

Middle Screenshot: 3 Consecutive Absences

Dropdown menu for '3 Consecutive Absences' with options: Send Email, Invite to Realm, Export (.csv), Add to Pathway, and Print Individual Labels.

Bottom Screenshot: 3 Consecutive Absences List

List of individuals with 3 consecutive absences:

- Carla Adams (843) 555-3412
- Gray Atkinson (843) 555-5525
- Brisan Banning (843) 555-1284

'Add to Pathway' dialog box: 81 people will be added to: Follow Up that Work

Dashboards are all about being able to visualize information that churches need most.

You can access the same data from your phone that you can on a laptop. But the real power lies in what you do with the data. That's where Realm Dashboards stand apart from just a simple report. Because the Realm Dashboards let you take action. So, when you preview the list of first-time givers, it isn't just a list. It's the beginning of connecting with that giver. Take action through a simple drop down list. Send an email to those individuals, thanking them for their support of your ministry (and by the way, include a snapshot of how gifts are used in the community). Send them a Realm invite. They gave to your church, right? Maybe they are ready to join the community. Or better yet, add them to a Pathway for guest assimilation so that volunteers can reach out, answer questions and get them connected with a small group or serving opportunity.

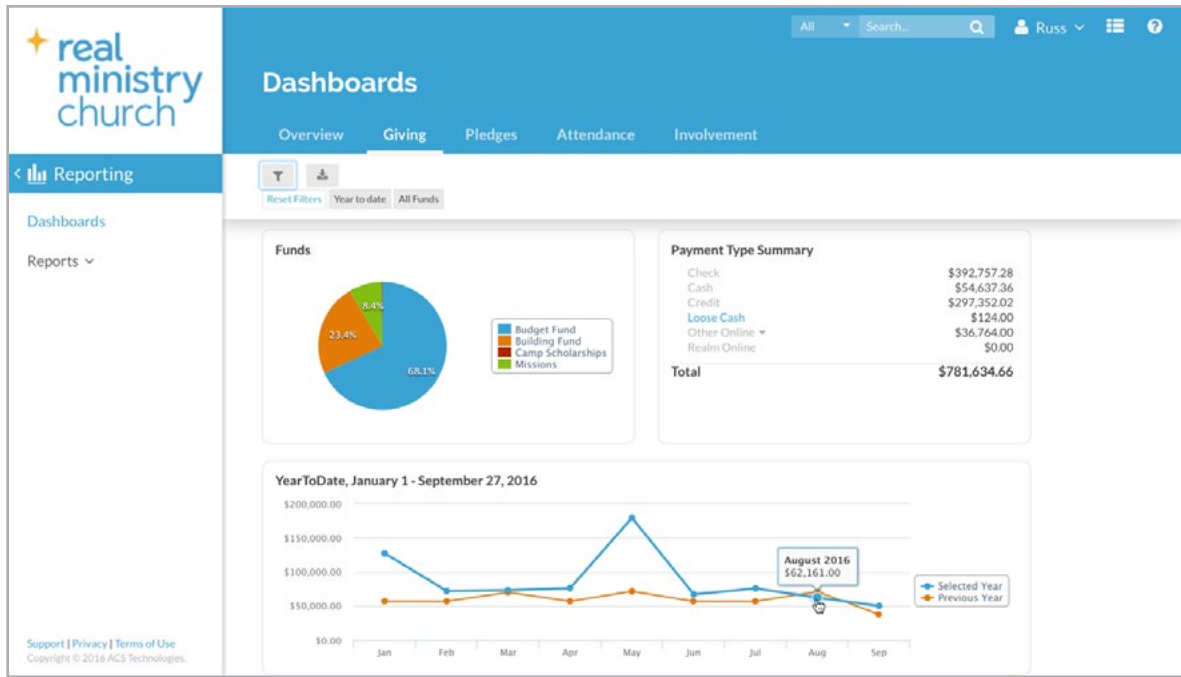
The image displays two screenshots of the Realm Ministry Church dashboard. The top screenshot shows the 'New People (in the last 30 days)' report with a dropdown menu open for actions. The bottom screenshot shows the 'Add to Pathway' dialog box.

Name	Address	Added On	Source	Status
David Bailey (843) 556-2278	4553 Elk Grove Lane Florence, SC 29501	Thu, Sep 22	Staff	Not Invited
Elizabeth Harmon	3350 Young Charles Drive Florence, SC 29501	Wed, Sep 21	Staff	Not Invited
Kenneth Harmon	3350 Young Charles Drive Florence, SC 29501	Wed, Sep 21	Staff	Not Invited
Maggie Harmon	3350 Young Charles Drive Florence, SC 29501	Wed, Sep 21	Staff	Not Invited
Anthony Sinclair	1007 Cedarwood Cir Florence, SC 29501	Tue, Sep 13	Staff	Not Invited

Add to Pathway
10 people will be added to:
Discover Our Church
Add or Cancel

It's all just a couple of clicks to do this from Realm Dashboards. No more complicated searches. No more customized reports. Just see what's happening, decide what you need to do, and then easily accomplish the task in one single screen.

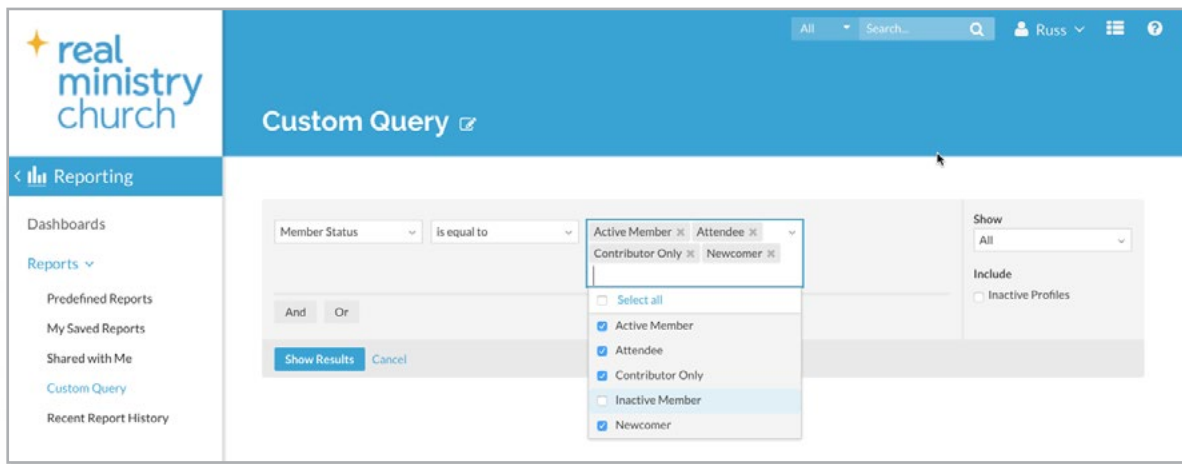
Here's another example of how you can use Realm Dashboards. Ever wonder how effective gifts are coming through online giving versus traditional giving methods? Realm Dashboards have this information at your fingertips. Quickly view giving totals for cash, checks and online payments (which you can also drill down to see how much comes in through ACH and different credit cards). All of this helps you make wise decisions on how to promote giving and provide giving tools for your church. And what's best is....it's real-time data, updating every time you post gifts or someone gives online.



Dashboards are just one part of the reporting capabilities in Realm, but we think you'll always go to them first. Realm also has pre-defined reports for people, attendance and accounting. We know that sometimes, you just need to get a list or a report. We've got that covered and you'll find an ever growing library of commonly needed reports. For those times, you can simply view our samples and print the report you need. All of the reports can be downloaded in PDF format, just in case you need to share them with someone else as well.



Finally, every staff has at least one power user. You know, that person who loves to dig and search in the data. We've got them covered too. All of the data that exists in Realm is accessible through a simple to use query. And once you have the results you need, you can share the same query with other staff users. And queries others have shared with you show up on your "shared with me" tab. You don't have to be an expert to figure out how to conduct a query. Simply follow the on screen prompts and we'll walk you through it. Once you have the results you need, you can easily perform an action from the drop down list. So, once you've found those who have a birthday in October, you can email them and let them know you're celebrating with them. Or find those people who aren't in a small group and add them to a Pathway to help them get connected with a group that meets their needs. It's all about getting the job done once you find the list of the people you need.



Realm is continuing to redefine how churches use data and reports. Think simple, visual, and easy to use.



Real ideas for real ministry impact.

This guide is brought to you courtesy of ACS Technologies. We're excited to share more information with you about our new ministry tool, Realm.

Realm offers something for everyone in your church. It is a totally new type of church ministry software that combines administration, accounting, and community into one system. It also connects your entire church and personalizes each person's involvement in your ministry.

People in your church and on staff will love Realm. They can access it online or from their phones whenever they want. It's quick, user-friendly, and simple to get started. Plus, we've got a dedicated team to make it a smooth transition and guide you the rest of the way.



Administration

- Track what impacts your ministry
- Modernize church giving
- Host organized events
- Know who's coming and going
- Generate insightful reports



Accounting

- Organize your finances
- Maintain vendor relationships
- Pay bills and write checks
- Reconcile your accounts
- Plan and monitor budgets



Community

- Put names to faces
- Connect people in smaller groups
- Facilitate communication
- Shepherd people through life
- Grow your outreach potential

Three easy ways to learn how Realm can help your church:

- 1 Attend: You're invited to attend a live Realm demo. Just pick the day and time that's best for you realmchurch.com/demo
- 2 Watch: Take a quick look into Realm. Visit realmchurch.com
- 3 Talk: Ask us anything. We're here to help.
Call [1\(800\)736-7425](tel:18007367425) or email solutions@acstechnologies.com

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for 40 years



#1 rated
in service



Nearly 50,000
churches served



Over 400 staff
ready to serve



Best place
to work