

realm's RATED CHURCH SOFTWARE

VOTED BY MOST CHURCH LEADERS



Voted #1 Most Popular Church Software



Top review sites consistently rank
Realm as the #1 Most Popular Church
Software. It's not easy being #1. More
than four decades of experience
serving the Church, understanding its
needs, and always innovating to stay
ahead of the times has been poured
into making Realm the #1 Most
Popular Church Software.

We designed this guide to show you the top 21 reasons that Realm is the best all-in-one ministry software solution and why it's important to your church.

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ALL IN ONE

We live in an age of specialization. It's a good strategy to know your strengths and focus on them... to a point. While some specialization is helpful, when software solutions become too niche, they lose their effectiveness as comprehensive solutions. This leaves customers cobbling together the "best" independent products in a clumsy way that increases costs and workload. Who needs more systems to manage? Probably not you.

Having multiple products will force staff and admin users to manage different databases, accounts, and more. But perhaps worse, multiple products forces your church users to worry about separate logins and account management for things such as giving, check-in, groups, and communication, which is likely to turn them off to the notion of using ANY of your offered solutions.

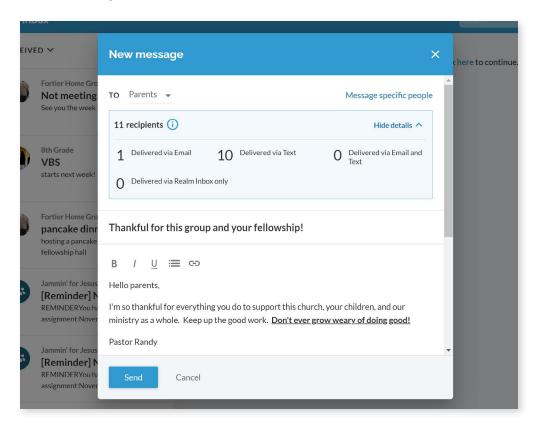
Realm has streamlined all the functions a ministry needs into a seamless, comprehensive, and intuitive software solution. All your data, finances, tools, and community engagement are all in one place, on Realm.



COMMUNICATION

Church communication is always of paramount importance. It forms the foundation upon which all your other activities are built. People need to know what's going on, what God is doing, and how they can participate.

When people's in-person interactions are limited, nuanced communication becomes even more important because you have various segments of your ministry that are all interacting - or not - with messages in different ways.



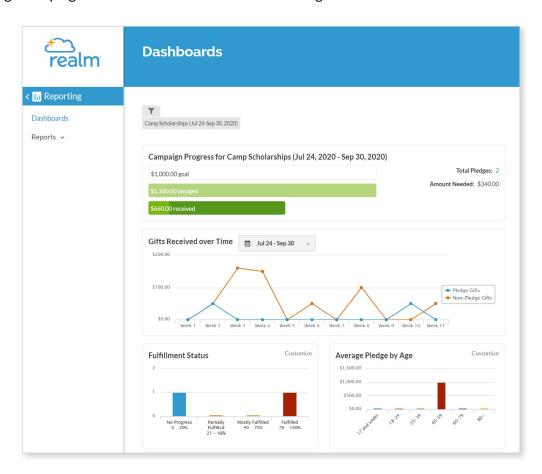
From churchwide notifications, emails, and products to specialized lists, groups, teams - using text, email, mobile apps, and group community tools - Realm gives church leaders the power to communicate all that matters in ways that deliver results.

Communication is a three-way street. You have messages to send. You want to hear back from your people. But you also want them to communicate and connect. There are many ways to send out messages to various groups, but what sets Realm apart is the myriad of ways your church people can interact with you and each other. By using group threads, mobile apps, and all sorts of customizable settings that allow you to manage the conversations and communication at your church. What's more, Realm gives your people the power to set their communication preferences, making them active participants instead of just passive onlookers.

GIVING

Many giving solutions are standardized to perform the various tasks of receiving, recording, and managing donations and donors. What makes Realm unique is how church admin can manage and support donors to ensure every fundraising avenue is explored.

For example, pledge campaigns are an often underutilized resource that matches donors to campaigns and funds they are passionate about. Realm gives leaders tools to follow up with pledge campaigns to ensure that donors follow through on their commitments.



Additionally, giving donors the ability to manage their giving preference right from the Realm Connect mobile app puts donors in touch with their donations, making a more solid tie between their giving and their church.

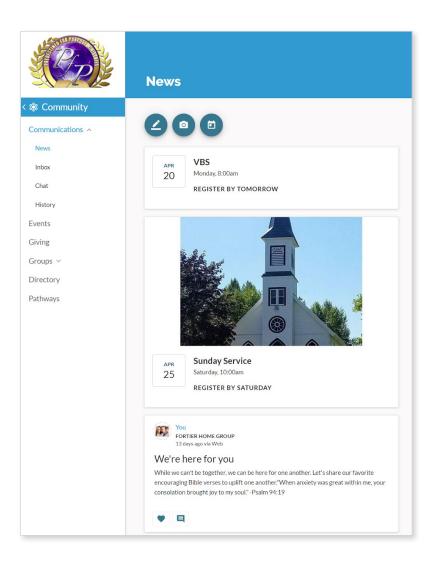
Every way that's possible to receive, manage, and follow through with giving is available on Realm: eGiving via text, mobile app, and web; traditional giving with checks and cash; reports; preferences; pledge campaigns; and more.

Never miss an opportunity to raise more money for ministry and join the thousands of churches that have increased their giving with Realm.

GROUPS & COMMUNITY

Stop thinking about groups as the small gatherings of people who meet to have a Bible study. Groups are comprehensive. Everybody in your church will naturally or artificially find themselves thrust into some social circle that builds community and requires maintenance to stay strong.

Teams, committees, affinity groups, Bible studies, online classes, and so many more all need a platform to manage their communication, collaborate on work, encourage each other, and otherwise stay connected, building community and strengthening their faith.



Realm offers the most robust group management and communication tools that empower leaders and users according to staffset permissions so every group or affiliation in your church can function in the unique ways that best serve their purpose.

Your church needs to develop a better community through better group communication and management. With Realm, you'll have the comprehensive and customizable tools to organize and empower all your groups and leaders, however they look.

LIVESTREAMING

Everything is moving more digital and more visual. Many streaming solutions let you take the input from a camera and post it to popular platforms. But Realm sets itself apart by providing the ministry nuance that you need to make the most of streaming in a way that other platforms don't allow.

First of all, you get unlimited streaming and storage so you don't have to pick and choose what's most important. Use streaming for various events: worship services, classes, new visitor orientation, live events, and more.

Your content can be customized and branded with editing tools, then delivered to users on your chosen platforms when you choose to send it. You can even schedule recordings in advance to help your staff manage all the content you have to get out there. All the content is designed to be consumed just as well on the web or mobile devices so your people will get what they need, when and where they need it.

Don't leave streaming to a one-and-done weekend service output. Use all the various advantages of a multi-platform, ad-free, customized, branded, unlimited streaming solution.





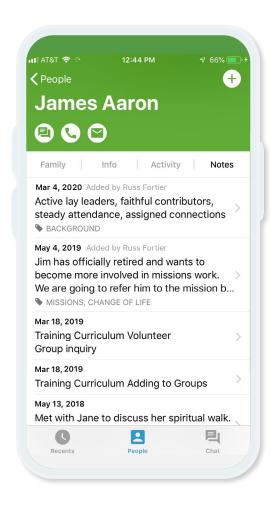
Learn more about all the ways livestreaming on Realm will expand your reach and draw your community together.

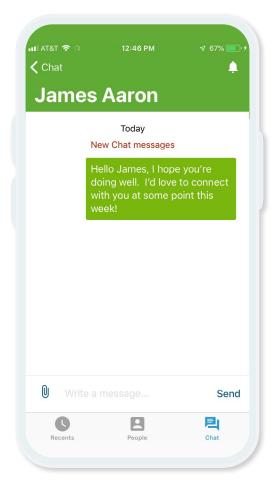
MOBILE APPS

You can't expect to stay engaged and connected with your people if you're not leveraging mobile technology.

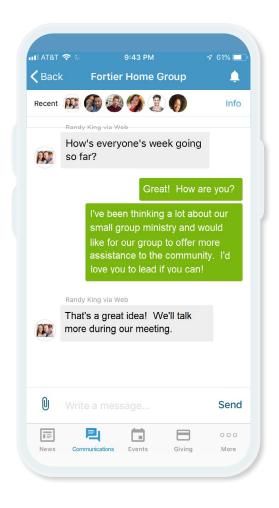
Realm offers not one but two world-class mobile apps: one for pastors and another for leaders and congregants.

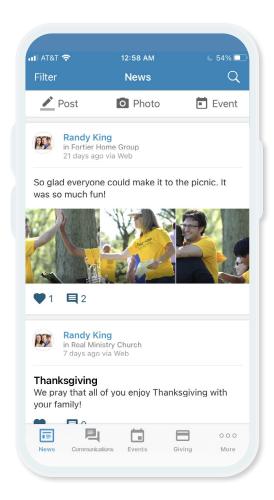
The Shepherd app is a lightweight mobile app designed specifically for pastors to stay in touch with their people. Pastors have quick access to their member database and can message people individually and in groups. They can send and share files and use the app to keep their finger on their people's pulse.





The Connect app keeps your people connected to each other and your church. Using it, congregants can find and register for events, manage giving, communicate in groups, stay abreast of church updates on the Newsfeed, and even manage their serving schedule and preferences.





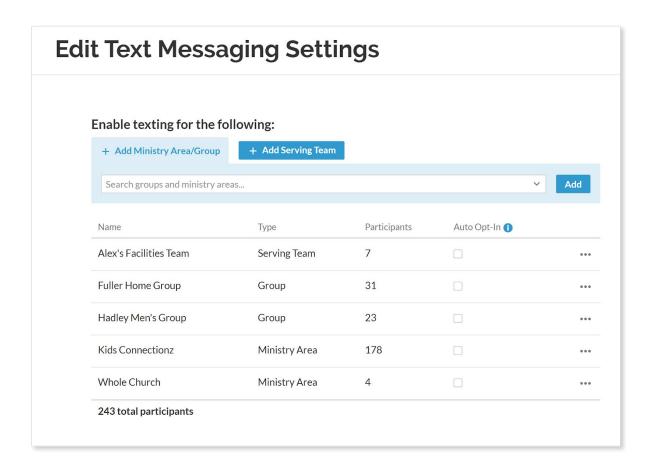
There is no better way - actually two ways - to keep your people informed, connected, and participating in every aspect of your church than with Realm mobile apps.

TEXT MESSAGING

People are getting harder and harder to reach. Some prefer email, some use dedicated apps, and others - maybe even most - respond best to text messages.

Send text messages to individuals or groups with important communication that you need to know will be read and responded to.

Your leaders can manage their text messages from their phone or Realm, and all text history stays recorded on Realm, even if deleted from the users' mobile devices. This cool little feature means that conversation history can be pulled up when needed to track past conversations for relevant information.



One of the biggest problems with text communication is how messy and unorganized it can become. One of the things that makes Realm the #1 most popular church software is the convenient, clean, and intuitive way that leaders can manage their text communications with the church.

CHECK-IN

It's not just for children anymore. Check-in on Realm takes a multifaceted approach that is as much about safety as it is efficiency. Track everyone who attends events, groups, and yes, your children's ministry to know who's coming and going and how you can best follow up with them to determine the next steps.

2020 has shown us that it's important to know who's part of what's happening. If someone tests positive for COVID-19, now you know who to notify.

Whether it's from a mobile device, a computer, or a conveniently placed kiosk, on Realm you can customize your check-in experience to create welcoming environments while you track attendance.

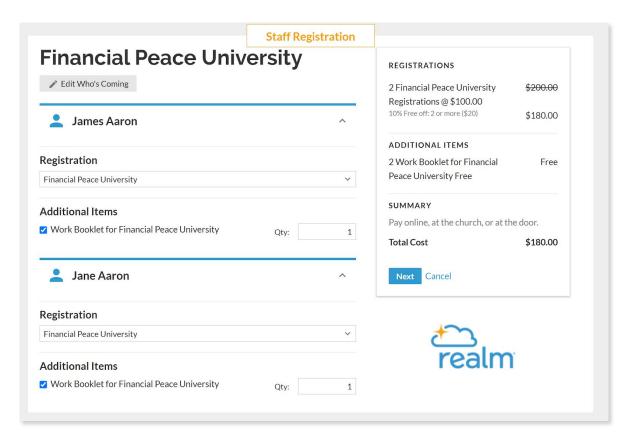


Check-ins on Realm take the guesswork out of attendance and provide a powerful history of how your people engage with your events and services. As you know who's engaging with your activities, you can better understand what's important and what's less appealing to your people.

EVENTS

While check-in and attendance tracking are a big part of event management, there is so much more to pull off successful events. Especially now, when more frequent, smaller events are preferred over large gatherings, your church needs convenient and powerful tools to create, manage, and follow up with events.

Church events are different from regular public events. For example, have you ever wanted to plan a service project? What do you need? A list of things for people to bring or stuff to do. Events on Realm lets event planners create lists for participants.



Registration for events is important. People need to pay for things, have add-ons, make arrangements for different attendee types, and many other details.

Plus, in many cases, you need to communicate to event attendees before, during, and after the event. We've got you covered there, too.

The reason why Realm is so much better at events than other solutions is that we've thought through the unique needs for church events and have tailored an event registration and planning solution to meet those needs.

Increase attendance, perfect the art of follow-up, and get your people participating in ways you've never imagined with Registration Events on Realm.

DISCIPLESHIP

Discipleship is helping people put one foot in front of the other as they determine to follow Christ. To keep heading in the right direction, disciples need a pathway that's customized to their needs but standardized in a way that keeps them from drifting.

Pathways on Realm is a primary feature that enables discipleship because it allows leaders to create step-by-step journeys from point A to point B. You can create as many pathways as needed for things such as putting your faith in Christ, learning the foundations of the faith, developing leadership skills, and more. Simply create your pathways and put people on them to receive the resources, training, and touchpoints they need to keep progressing.



But as we said before, Realm's strength is in its comprehensive, aligned approach to total church ministry. Discipleship requires communication, participation, and feedback.

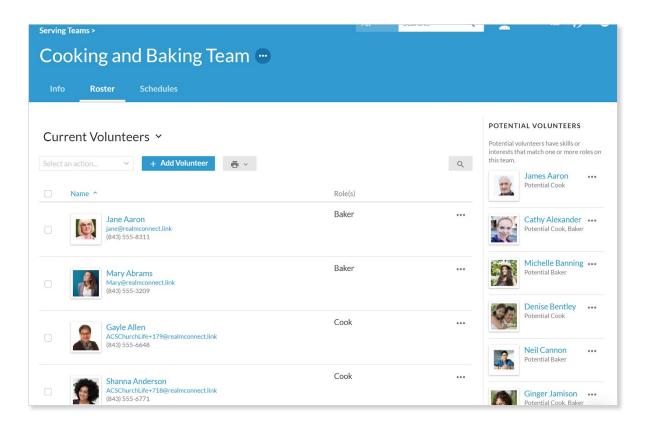
Creating discipleship groups and tracking the activity of disciples in your church is essential in keeping them connected and accountable, just as Jesus did.

By tracking attendance, sending and soliciting communication, understanding giving and serving patterns, and discerning other important activities, disciple-makers can get a comprehensive picture of how their disciples are progressing on their journey so they can keep adjusting and keep them growing.

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT

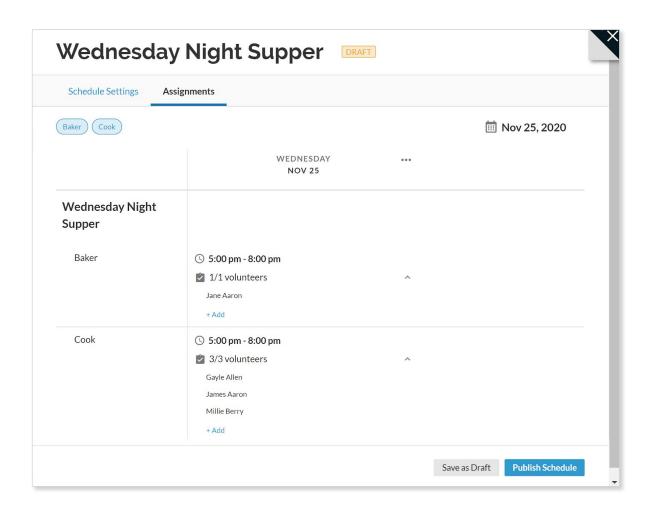
You've got teams, and you've got people. Matching people to the right teams in the right roles is the key to volunteer management success.

Volunteer Management on Realm lets leaders create teams and define roles within those teams to clearly understand what needs to be done and what types of people would be the best fit.



Volunteers can manage their skills and preferences, giving leaders an understanding of who would be a good fit in the right places and if and when those people would want to participate.

Once volunteers are matched with roles on teams, they can be added to the schedule - or sign up to serve - according to the preferences and interests they've set. From there, you can see what holes need to be filled so you can be confident that everything that needs to be done will be done by people who are qualified and excited for their roles.

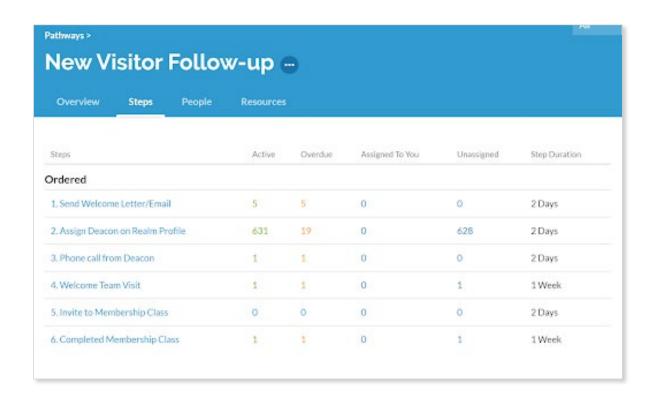


Now, your volunteer culture will be strong and vibrant because everyone is serving where they best fit and they understand what's expected of them. Additionally, leaders can keep their teams more accountable and passionate about their work because they know they've assembled them with excellence.

Forget antiquated sign-up sheets and one-size-fits-all serving opportunities. Get more people in the game by giving them the opportunity to be matched well within your teams.

ONBOARDING & ASSIMILATION

Much like discipleship, onboarding people to anything - new systems, new classes, new teams - and assimilating visitors into your church culture requires a step-by-step approach. They'll need information, back-and-forth communication, and a pathway to help your leaders know that they are on track.

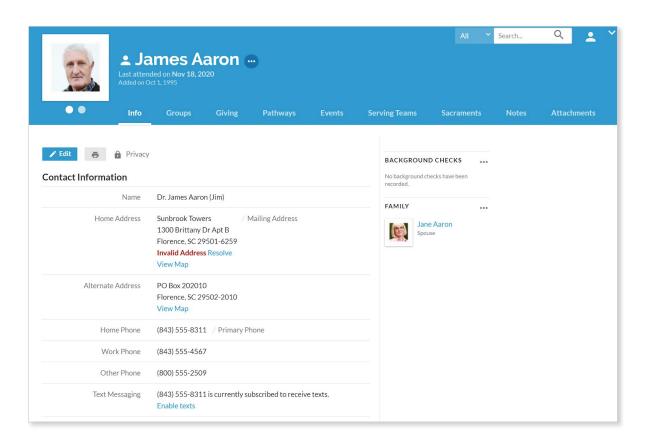


You don't want people to slip through the cracks. You don't want people left in the dark. Using Pathways on Realm and all of the communication tools at your disposal will ensure that leaders follow up with the right people at the right time. Plus, you'll have built-in opportunities to get feedback and input from the people you're leading.

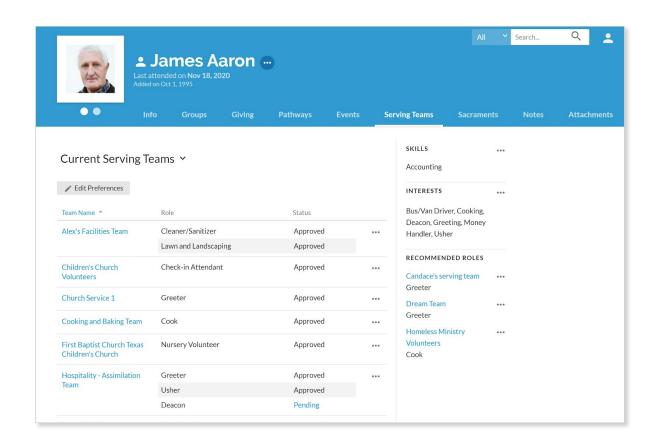
People want to know what to expect. And they want to know who's going to be there with them. Realm delivers all the resources you need to onboard and assimilate new people so you can deliver them to their various destinations.

MEMBER DATABASE

It might seem basic, but member databases are the backbone of any good church or organizational management system. First of all, you need to know who's part of your church. Second, you need to know who they are affiliated with: family, groups, friends. Third, it's helpful to see how they're participating and their history at your church. From there, you can begin to understand your church's makeup and how to serve them best.



From simple things such as contact information to important milestones such as baptism and sacraments, knowing how your people are involved and how you can better reach them is paramount. But each church is unique, requiring knowledge about different actions and activities of the people. That's why Realm also allows for custom fields so you can record and remember anything you want about your people. Need to know who graduated from VBS? No problem. Want to see how many people are qualified to count offering? Just create a field for it. Anything you need to record and keep handy, it's all available on Realm.

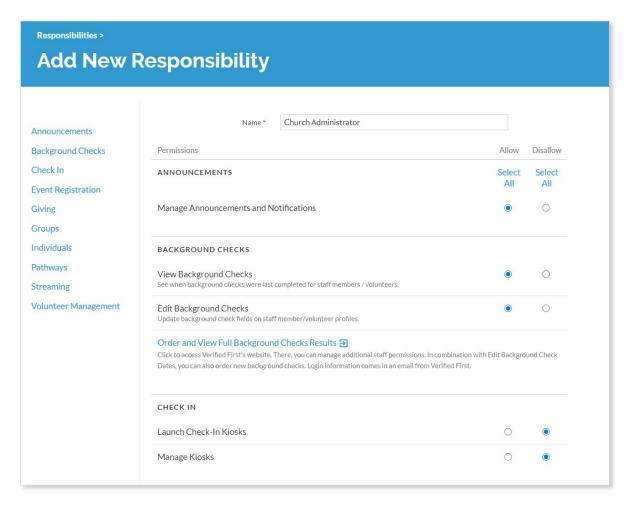


Realm syncs all your people's personal information in one easy-to-use interface, and it keeps it secure by allowing user permissions and restrictions so only the right people can access the data you want them to see, protecting your whole church.

Doing great ministry starts with knowing the greatness of your people. We've got a solution for that.

USER PERMISSIONS

Across the board, in so many different ways, Realm provides user-based role permissions that give the right people access to the right things. Whether it's group leader preferences, member profile access, giving records, background checks, attendance tracking, or discipleship, you can customize who can see and do what to your heart's content.



Every church is structured differently. Every board and committee sets different rules for how sensitive information will be handled. And every leader needs specific access to various aspects of their job. User permissions help churches organize their access the way that makes the most sense to them for the ministry they want to accomplish.

Instead of a one-size-fits-all approach to information and participation access, you can and should customize your church software to let the right people into the appropriate places.

On Realm, everything is safe and everyone is secure because you're in control of who can see, do, and lead what.

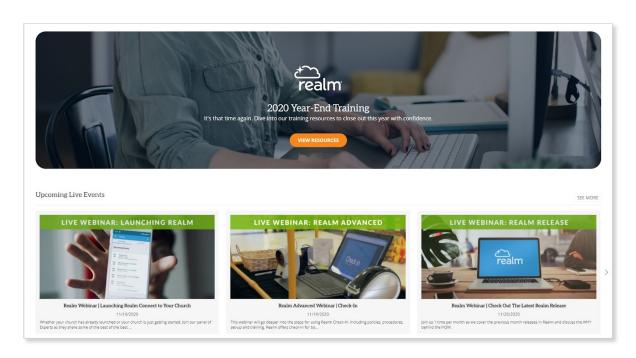
TRAINING & SUPPORT

Your people need resources. They need specific training on how to use your awesome systems. They need general teaching on how to do ministry more effectively. They need guidance on how to approach different ministry situations and people.

MinistrySmart provides access to thousands of training resources for your entire team and can be accessed right from within Realm.

Webinars, videos, articles, and more are all conveniently organized to give your leaders and teams the training they need to move the ministry forward.

Ministry insights from trusted and proven professionals are right at your fingertips. No wonder so many churches are trusting Realm as their #1 church software solution.



But what we offer is so much more than training. We also have the #1 rated support staff, available to you 24/7 to walk you through anything you need. We can help with data transfer, too. So making the switch is easier than you think!

CUSTOMIZATION

By now you've already heard many ways Realm allows for very robust and specific customization. But it's important to understand why it matters.

On the one hand, your leaders and staff need to be able to organize and protect data, communication, and the structure of your teams, roles, and operations. Realm helps with that.

On the other hand, your people can customize their experiences by setting communication preferences, serving schedules, check-in and attendance, and, maybe most importantly, managing their giving.

The first is important because it keeps everything secure and running smoothly. It helps your staff know who's doing what. It gives them parameters to do their jobs well without confusion caused by miscommunication and unclear expectations.

The latter is important because, with everyone's increasingly busy and hectic lives, people will disengage from and shut off the "noise" coming from any unwanted area.

When your people can be active participants in setting their preferences, it not only decreases the chances they'll tune you out but also gives them ownership of their own experience, which creates buy-in that leads to more involvement.

It may seem counterintuitive, but putting the control in the hands of your people increases the inroads you'll have in their lives, creating a culture of openness and transparency that will strengthen and grow your entire church.

DEMOGRAPHICS ANALYSIS

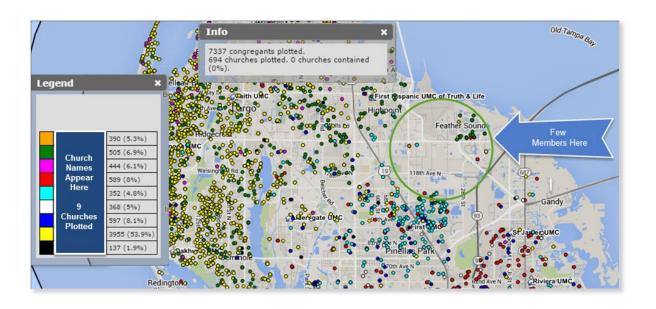
Knowing your church helps you plan for ministry. Knowing your neighbors allows you to apply - and adjust - your plans.

MissionInsite is a community demographics analysis tool that gleans and delivers key insights about your neighboring community. It helps you understand the types of people you have the potential of reaching. You can gear service projects, special events, and ministries around what they need when you know that.

You'll gain access to information such as ethnic makeup, income, age, interests, and much more that will help you craft a ministry approach that's effective.

Chances are, you've been guessing at what might reach people in your area. Remove the guesswork and start offering things to your community that will hit home.

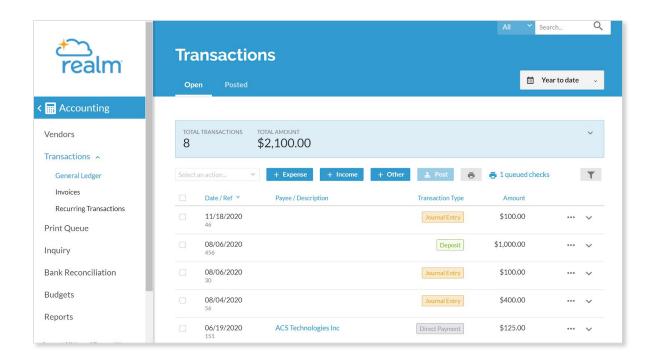
When your church stops taking shots in the dark, you'll start hitting your target, leading to church growth and ministry impact.



ACCOUNTING & PAYROLL

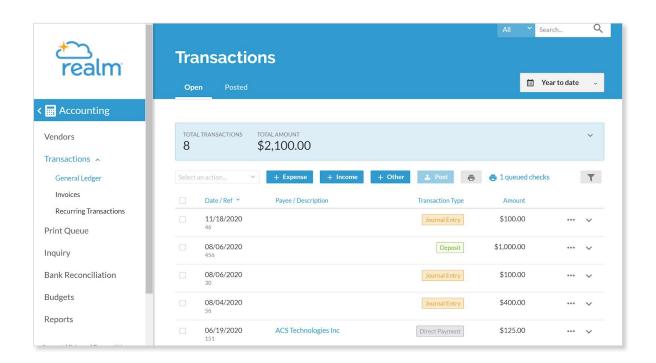
Lots of church software offers some sort of giving solution. None offer a fully functioning accounting software to match.

Accounting on Realm lets you manage ALL your finances - giving, expenditures, payroll - from one location.



Most accounting software is designed for businesses. Accounting on Realm is designed for ministry, which means it comes pre-built with things such as housing allowance, deductions, and more in mind.

Payroll for churches often varies from other organizations. Many people are stipended or part-time - or even 1099 - employees. Combining your accounting and payroll - with associated tax filings - into one location that's built for ministry is a no brainer.



Manage every single aspect of your church's finances right from within Realm.

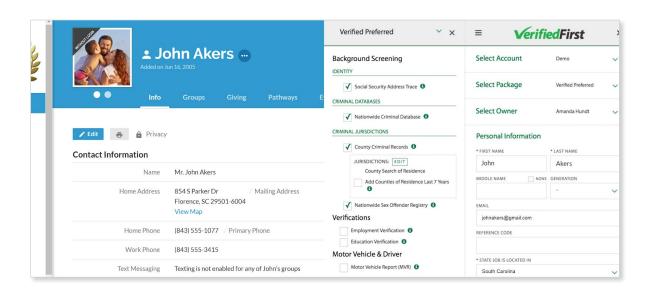
BACKGROUND CHECKS

You know you need them. Most insurance companies require them. And most churches mishandle them. We're talking about background checks.

It starts with making sure everyone who needs a background check - especially kids' ministry workers - has one. So you need a way to get people checked and check off who completed it.

Next, you need to update background checks regularly - often every one or two years - to keep everyone up to date and protected.

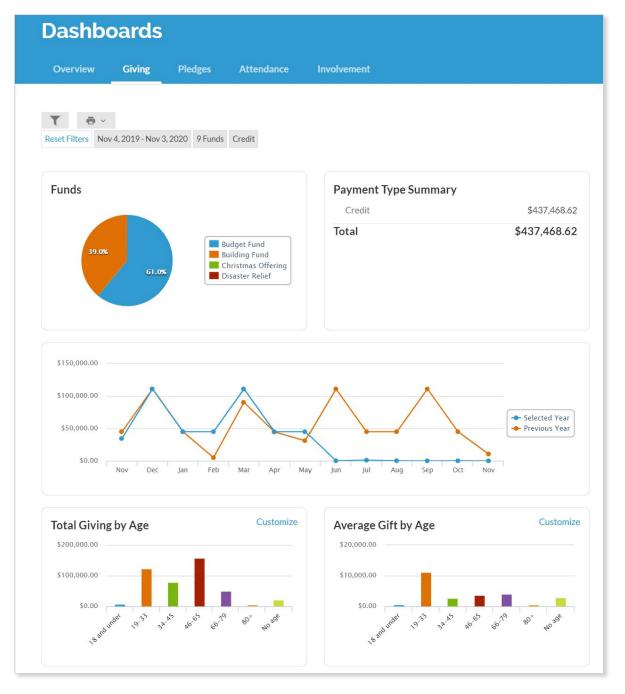
Realm processes background checks, records who have them, and generates reports and automatic reminders to update background checks at intervals you set.



Everything you need to make sure you're protected and secure with initial and ongoing background checks, packed with automated processes, is handled right on Realm.

DASHBOARDS & REPORTS

Nobody has time to comb through pages of personal profiles to decipher trends or collate lists. And yet, you need both at-a-glance insights and detailed reports for a whole host of reasons. Maybe you want to make a list of all the people who've donated more than \$100 this year so you can send them a thank-you note. Or perhaps you just need to see giving trends over the last six months to compare them with a year ago.



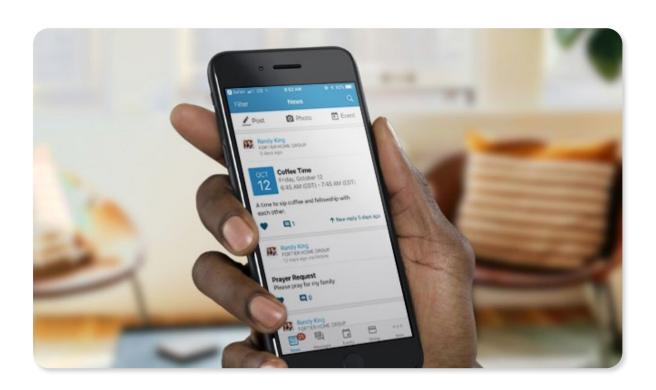
Whatever information you need to assess and move forward with ministry effectively, you can access using Dashboards and Reports on Realm.

Always know what you need to know and discover new insights into your church's life and operations.

PRICING

Do you know what's popular? A good deal. When you put it all together, one of the most appealing things about Realm is the pricing. It's almost impossible not to appreciate the great pricing because it offers so much with a single price tag.

With plans starting at just \$29 per month - and custom pricing to suit the needs of your church so you're not paying for what you don't need - no wonder Realm is #1.





Realm provides solutions that will make your ministry and life easier. It is cutting-edge church management 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.

We'd encourage you to explore all that Realm makes possible by taking a demo, walking through a self-guided tour, or speaking with an associate today!



acstechnologies.com/ products/realm/demo



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1-800-736-7425

Our Mission:

To help you have real ministry impact

ACS Technologies has provided over four decades of services and software to churches of all sizes throughout the world. During that time we have accumulated data, gained vital insight, and received thousands of first-hand testimonials on best practices and methods that most effectively help ministries.

Our years of service have allowed us to become the world's largest provider of ministry solutions to churches of all sizes. It is our mission to furnish advice, examples, tips, and information to help you turn your ideas into real ministry impact.









Nearly 50,000 churches served



ready to serve

