

Every **Email**,
Text, and **Post**
You Need to
Connect with
Congregants

HELPING BIG CHURCHES
CREATE A SMALL CHURCH FEEL

People are searching for a connection, to be seen, to be known, and to be valued. We were designed that way. So, it's no surprise that when people don't make connections at your church, they'll seek them elsewhere.

As church leaders, staff, and volunteers, you know the great importance of getting people connected at your church. When they are involved, they become invested. When they are invested, they make commitments. When they commit, they contribute. And when your church is comprised of committed people, it will grow in numbers, depth, and impact.



More and more church leaders have less and less time to connect with congregants.

The time crunch is amplified by the fact that the people you're trying to connect with are busy and bombarded by all types of communication. So, it takes more and more work to make sure you're making the connections they desperately need.

Not to worry. We've put together this toolkit to provide you with copy-and-paste content that will save time while still allowing you to make meaningful connections.

The content provided in this toolkit is designed to be used as-is, with slight customization opportunities to make it authentic. Wherever you find a [BRACKET], you should input what's unique to you. Also, feel free to adapt and modify any of this content to your context.

Our goal in creating this toolkit is to make it easier for church leaders to engage staff and volunteers in the connection process by providing them the tools they need to reach out to others with confidence. We've broken out the content into sections, so you know exactly what to use and when. Enjoy!



Events

One of the best - and first - ways to get people connected is at special events, such as outreaches, social gatherings, special teachings and classes, and even life milestone events like baptisms, communion, dedications, showers, weddings, and funerals.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Hi [NAME], I wanted to reach out and let you know about some exciting and fun ways we will be connecting this season. Put it on your calendar! On [DATE] at [TIME], we are hosting a [EVENT NAME] at [LOCATION]. Get details and register for the event here [EVENT LINK].
- Hey [NAME], It's time to have a little fun and grow together! I hope you can join us for [EVENT NAME] on [DATE] at [TIME]. We'll be meeting at [LOCATION] to [EVENT DESCRIPTION]. This is an "all-play" event, so bring your family and invite your friends! You can get more details and register here [EVENT LINK].
- Y'all ready for this?! We're pretty excited about our upcoming events. You can see a whole list of upcoming events at [EVENT LIST LINK]. Up next is [EVENT NAME]. We're going to be [EVENT DESCRIPTION] on [DATE] at [TIME]. So, sign up and come out for a great time!

REMINDERS

- Hey [NAME], [EVENT NAME] is just TWO WEEKS away! If you haven't registered already, please do so here [EVENT LINK] so we can prepare the best experience for everyone involved. See you at [LOCATION] on [DATE] at [TIME]!
- Alright, just FIVE more days to go until [EVENT NAME]! Are you ready for a good time? If so, make sure to be there on [DATE] at [TIME]! Get more info here [EVENT LINK].
- This is it! Tomorrow at [TIME], we are kicking off [EVENT NAME]. I hope to see you there! Don't forget to invite anyone you think would benefit from gathering with us!

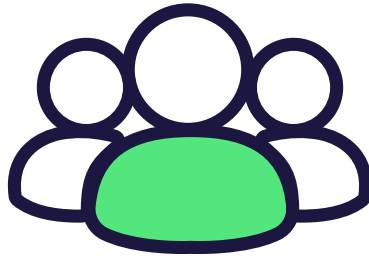


PLANNING

- Hi [NAME], you probably already know we're doing a [EVENT NAME] on [DATE]. But you might not know there are opportunities to serve at the event! We're looking for people like you to make this event the best it can be, helping with things like [LIST OF VOLUNTEER NEEDS]. If you can help, let me know. Or sign up to serve on the event page here [EVENT LINK]. Help us make this event unforgettable!
- Hey [NAME], I know life is busy, but I hope you're doing well. I wanted to see if, in the midst of all that's going on, you might want to bless others by being part of our upcoming event - [EVENT NAME]. We're looking for a few generous people to bring the following items for the event: [LIST OF ITEMS]. If you can help us out by [DEADLINE DATE], it would be a HUGE help. Let me know how you can help. Or, register to bring items here [EVENT LINK].
- Hey volunteers, here's a rundown for [EVENT NAME]. [INSERT TIMELINE].
- Alright, here's who's bringing what for [EVENT NAME]: [INSERT LIST OF NAMES AND ITEMS]. Please let me know if anything has changed so we can make sure this event goes off without a hitch. And, THANK YOU for making this gathering great!

FOLLOW-UP

- Thank you so much for being part of [EVENT NAME]. I'd love to get some feedback on how you thought it went. Also, check out what's coming up for future events at [EVENT LISTING LINK].
- Hi [NAME], we're wanting to see how God is moving through the things we're doing at [CHURCH NAME]. Any chance you could share your thoughts on how it went at [EVENT NAME]? Thanks for your help!
- I just wanted to take a moment to say a big "THANK YOU" for helping out at [EVENT NAME]. I know your efforts and generosity blessed people. You're the best! Let me know how I/we can help you get involved with future events.



Groups

Getting people into groups, and helping your group members connect among themselves, is essential to building next-level connections that lead to life change. It's not enough to invite people to groups and hope they connect. We've created content to help your group members not only discover groups but to thrive in them.



INVITATIONS

- Life is better together. Group signups are happening now! Discover how you can connect and get growing together! [GROUP LIST LINK]
- Hi [NAME], I hope this season is one of growth and peace for you. What better way to grow and get built up than in a group of people who have gathered for the same purpose? I hope you can find a group in this season where you can be blessed and bless others with your presence. See all of our groups and sign up for one (or two!) here: [GROUP LIST LINK].
- Hi [NAME], I'm reaching out to see if you would join me at the group I'll be part of this season. It would be great to have you join us. Let me know or sign up here [GROUP LINK].

CONVERSATIONS

- Hey Group, just checking in to see how everyone's week is going. I also wanted to see how the things we've been talking about in the group are affecting your life this week. Anybody have anything to share?
- Hi [NAME], I wondered if you might be willing to share in the group how God has been moving in your life. I know testimony has a lot of power to encourage others. What do you think?
- Hey Group, what ideas do you have on how we can support each other this week?



GROWTH

- Hey Group, last week we talked about [TOPIC]. I'm wondering how you all have been living that out in your life this week. Let's encourage each other with our stories!
- Hey guys, we're looking to grow our group to bless others with what God has been doing among us. I'd like to ask you to pray and see who God puts on your heart to invite to our group!
- How do you think we could encourage each other to live out what we're talking about in our group in our daily lives?
- Hey group, does anyone have any verses or other things you've read or heard lately that correspond to what we were talking about in the group last week?



Serving

Some people form the strongest relationships when they are working together toward a common goal. What better way to serve this purpose than to get people serving. Beyond the signups are the thanks, encouragements, and ongoing support.



SIGNUPS

- Hi [NAME], You have certain gifts, talents, and experiences that are unique to you. How would you like to leverage those gifts to bless others through serving? There are lots of ways to get connected to serving at [CHURCH NAME]. Let's talk!
- Hi [NAME], I know you've been getting more involved at [CHURCH NAME]. I'm wondering if you'd like to take the next step by getting involved with serving. There are lots of opportunities to grow and be a blessing as you serve. Let me know if you'd like to talk further about exploring those options.
- Hey, Church! We're making a big impact in this community as we use our gifts, talents, and experiences to bless others. We want you to be part of that! Let me know how I can help you live into your purpose at [CHURCH NAME]!
- Hi [NAME], I know that life is busy. But a packed schedule doesn't mean it's a fulfilling one. I'd love to encourage you to carve out some time to explore what it would look like to start serving at [CHURCH NAME]. We can find something that respects your other time commitments while also allowing you to flourish in ministry as you bless others!
- Sometimes serving at a new church feels like a big commitment. And yes, we want to be a committed group of people, to each other and God. But, serving doesn't mean you have to give your life away. We have one-off opportunities to serve, regular volunteer positions, and other unique ways for you to use your gifting. Let me know if you want to talk about how you can take the next step on your journey; growing as you help others grow!



TRAINING & SUPPORT

- To all our great volunteers, the Bible tells us that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few, so pray for the workers in the field. Your leaders are praying for you! I want to encourage you to pray for each other and for new people to join your teams! Keep on pursuing the harvest!
- Welcome to serving at [CHURCH NAME]! I'm so glad you decided to use your God-given talents and experiences to bless this church. Over the next few days, we'll be providing you with some instructions and resources to help you do your job at your best. In the meantime, feel free to reach out to [TEAM LEADER] with any questions or concerns you have!
- Thanks for serving at [CHURCH NAME]. Your main point of contact is [TEAM LEADER]. Please make sure you're present and ready by [CALL TIME] on the days you're signed up to serve. I can't wait to see what God will do through your efforts!
- Now that you've joined a serving team, I'd love to share a little more about what it means to serve at [CHURCH NAME] and what you need to know about its roles and responsibilities in your team. Please follow this link to the resources we've prepared [LINK]. And then, reach out to your team leader with any questions and scheduling concerns you might have.
- Hey Volunteers, let us know how to best schedule you in your chosen roles. If you could reply by [DEADLINE] with your availability in [MONTH], it would help us make a schedule that's best for everyone... especially YOU!
- Let us know what your first serving experience was like at [CHURCH NAME]. We want to make sure we're doing all we can to bless you and this church. Your feedback is important. If you could reach out to your team leader and answer these questions, that would be awesome! 1) Did you feel equipped to serve in your role? 2) Did you meet anyone new while serving? 3) What do you need to do your job even better?



ENCOURAGEMENT

- Hi [NAME], I just wanted to let you know how grateful I am (we are) for how you've been serving on [SERVE TEAM]. I know it's a lot of work sometimes, but it's paying off! People are able to grow in their faith because of what you're doing—much appreciation.
- Hey [NAME], I know life is busy, and serving in the Church can take a lot out of you. But, it's making a difference in people's lives. I'm grateful God is working through you to bless others! Keep up the great work!
- Hey Team, you all have been doing a great job! I love seeing how everyone works together to help [CHURCH NAME] have a significant impact on this community. Let me know how I can support you in your work!



A Word About Pathways

Pathways in Realm allows leaders and staff to create custom, step-by-step journeys for people to walk through. They are great for providing online and in-person training, onboarding, and discipleship. If you have volunteers to train, new people to get plugged in, and congregants that want to grow in faith, Pathways can support all your efforts with an automated, customizable, and consistent solution.



Taking Action

Sometimes, you just need people to take a step in the right direction. This content prompts people to action in a way you know will be beneficial to them.



DOWNLOADING YOUR CHURCH APP

- Hi [NAME], One of the best ways to connect at [CHURCH NAME] is by joining our online community through our mobile app. You'll get access to groups, events, serving, and great conversations. You can even manage your giving and profile to make sure everything is current. Just follow this link and get connected today! [DOWNLOAD LINK]
- Nobody should do life alone. That's why we have a dedicated mobile app to keep people connected at this church. Join the conversations, register for events, stay in the know and keep things up to date. Get connected to the life and operations of this church today! [DOWNLOAD LINK]
- Tired of feeling left out of the loop? Want to make some more meaningful connections? Need to manage your activity at the church with ease? Then download our church mobile app to discover and manage everything in one place. [DOWNLOAD LINK]

STARTING A DISCIPLESHIP RELATIONSHIP

- What new thing is God doing in your life? If the answer is, "I don't know," then you need to get into a discipleship relationship. If the answer is something else, you still need to be in a discipleship relationship to share and grow from it! Let us help you find a mentor who can help you on your journey with God!
- Hi [NAME], We're wanting to help people become more intentional about growing in their faith. We're working to match people into healthy discipleship relationships - just like Jesus did - to be encouraged, equipped, and built up. Would you be willing to explore how discipleship could improve your life?



MAKING A DONATION

- The Church is built up by generous people giving of their time, talents, and treasures. A healthy church needs all three to bless the community and expand its impact. If you have been blessed by this ministry and believe in its mission, I'd encourage you to prayerfully consider supporting this church with all three. When you're ready to start giving, you can make donations online by visiting: [ONLINE GIVING LINK]
- Hi [NAME], Ever since God's people have gathered, there has been a need and an opportunity to support the work of ministry with our finances. It's an opportunity to be blessed by God as we bless his Church with our generosity. I'd love for you to consider being part of that great tradition and to be blessed by God as you support this church with the finances God has given you. If you'd like to talk more about it, let me know! When you're ready to donate, you can do so online at [ONLINE GIVING LINK].
- Hi [NAME], Did you know that most non-profit organizations don't meet their budget until December? That's mostly because of the year-end generosity of donors. This church is no different. As we enter into the season of giving, I'd be so grateful if you would spend some time in prayer to see how God would move you to give to our year-end giving efforts. If you want more resources on biblical stewardship, I'd be happy to provide them. Thank you for investing in this church as we invest in this community!
- Hey [NAME], Thank you for supporting this church with your finances. It's a blessing to be blessed by you! :-)



JOINING AN ONLINE SERVICE

- It's. About. To go. Down! Join us in ONE HOUR for our live-stream online services. Don't forget to jump in on the conversation in the comments section! [LINK]
- 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... And we're LIVE! Worship with us and grow in your faith! [LINK]
- Hi [NAME], I wanted to invite you to our church's online worship services. We live stream every [DAY] at [TIMES]. You can watch, comment, and participate online by following this link. Hope to see you there! [LINK]

FILLING OUT A CONNECTION CARD OR FORM

- If you've been joining our online services and are ready to take the next step to get plugged into the community, fill out this form and let us get in touch! [LINK TO ONLINE FORM]
- We all need community, a little support, and some encouragement for life. [CHURCH NAME] is here to help you get connected with other people like you so you can form some incredible relationships. The first step is yours. Please fill out this online form (or connection card) and let us get you plugged in!
- Do you like this church and want to take the next step? We make it easy. Just fill out a connection card at our in-person services or fill out our online form if that's more convenient. Whatever you do, start making connections that will lead to a more fulfilling life! [LINK TO ONLINE FORM]



Making Connections

Probably the best way for people to connect at your church is to connect with each other. The following content is designed to be given to people you trust, to reach out to people on the fringes, or people they don't know, to form stronger relationships among the people at your church.



GREETING & CONNECTION

- Hi [VISITOR NAME], I know we haven't met, but my name is [MEMBER NAME], and I just wanted to reach out to introduce myself. I know it can be hard to connect at a new church, it was for me. But I'd be happy to get together and answer any questions you have and even share some of my story on meeting new people here made a big difference in my life. Let me know if you'd like to chat. Thanks!
- Hi [DISCONNECTED PERSON NAME], It's been a while since we've checked in, I know, it's been a crazy year! I hope you're doing well. Is there anything I can be praying for or helping with? Let me know how I can support you in this season. Thanks!
- Hi [NAME], I haven't seen you around church lately. I am not sure if you're participating online or not, but I just wanted to reach out and say "Hi" and see if there is anything I can do to support you this season. I want God's best for your life, so let me know how to be praying for you! Also, let me know if you want to connect sometime soon. Blessings!



Sharing Their Story

Connection is a two-way street. Instead of stopping with the reach out, why not invite people in to share their story as well. When they get an opportunity to contribute to the conversation, it develops a sense of belonging that's stronger than just knowing they're wanted. These communications are meant to elicit responses from your people that will get them talking and knowing their voice matters.



INVITATIONS TO SHARE

- Hi [NAME], I know God has been doing some incredible things at this church, but we don't always know what and how. I wonder if you could let me know how God's been working in your life. Like, are you getting any direction? Has He answered any prayers? How have you been feeling? I look forward to hearing from you!
- Hi [NAME], I know God has been moving in the lives of people at this church. I wonder if you'd consider sharing your testimony in a group or even a video to encourage others about how God moves through his people. We can do whatever makes you most comfortable sharing your story, but I think it would help others see how God helps us through obstacles and opportunities. Thanks for considering it!
- Hey Church, we want to be more connected to one another and to what God is doing in each other's lives. I wonder if you'd be willing to share your story of how God is moving. It could be a challenge or difficulty he's walking with you through, or it could be a miracle or answer to prayer he's delivered on. Whatever it is, let's celebrate God and encourage each other as we share our stories!



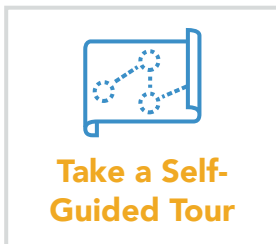
Keep it Coming

Our hope is that the content we've provided will make your job easier. But, we also hope that it will inspire you to create even more of your own. As life goes on and both difficulties and victories emerge, your people need to stay connected to your church and each other. Help your people carry on community load by providing them with pre-made content that's easy to text, email, and post for ongoing relationship-building.



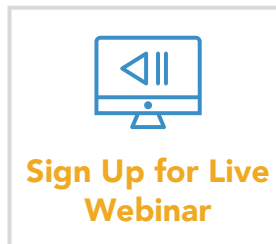
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We'd encourage you to explore all that Realm makes possible by taking a demo, walking through a self-guided tour, or speaking with an associate today!



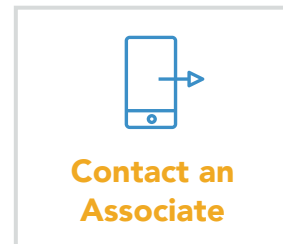
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Let's Talk

We know the challenges of switching or implementing new technology and how that can be intimidating. But we also know the unbelievable changes that have happened within churches that have partnered with us for their ministry needs. Let's connect and see how we can assist you in the greatest thing you do - grow God's Kingdom.

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