

October 2021

Main Street Presbyterian Church

The Main Thing

Welcome to REALM

by Ron Simpson

Last month I told you to expect some minor changes in how we handle and organize information here at the church. I gave you a little heads up about REALM software, changes to online giving, and tools that will hopefully help us keep church education, serving teams, and events running smoothly. REALM is now in place, and a handful of us are doing our best to learn all about it. I am confident we have made the right choice with this new software. But I have to say; this is going to take some time.

One of the first challenges we have had to deal with is updating membership information in REALM. You see, the old ACS software was used primarily as an accounting tool. For various reasons, the ACS software has not been our primary software for tracking church family information through the years. ACS was excellent for maintaining giving records and monitoring budget items. It was not as easy to work with as Word or Excel, though, when recording and accessing family information, phone numbers, email addresses, and physical addresses. REALM, however, works smoothly, fast, and is comprehensive. It will allow us to consolidate tasks currently performed by multiple pieces of software. With REALM, giving records, Sunday School organization, digital communication, church directory, attendance records, access to online giving, and church calendar are all in one place. Because the task of updating all this is so big, we will need you to help us.

First, we must get our current church directory up to date. It will be a few months before the REALM directory can completely take the place of the current CTRN directory you access through our church webpage. As we update the church directory, we need you to log in to it and make sure your current information is correct, as we will be using its data to help update REALM. Make sure your phone number, address, email address, **and birthday information** are all accurate. If possible, upload current family and individual photos. Most of the ones in our directory are several years old. If you have lost your log-in credentials for the church directory, email me at ronsimpson64@gmail.com, and I will reset your password. The more information you can update for yourself, the more accurate it will be, and the fewer work hours we will have to spend on this end doing that.

Then, we will be sending you an invitation through email to log in to REALM. Follow the invitation link, set up your password, and log in to REALM. Check and update family information in REALM and upload some current photos. **When you update your profile, be sure to use the drop-down menu under your name in the top right portion of the computer screen. One of the options on the drop-down will be Manage Privacy. When you select that, you will see options for who can see your contact information. If you would like for the church family to be able to find your email or phone number, be sure to select "Anyone in the church."** To access the REALM communication features on your phone, go to your mobile phone app store and download "REALM Connect." Using the same credentials from your REALM account, log in to the REALM Connect app. Now you have the entire church directory at your fingertips on your phone.

Once we feel as though we have all the information up to date in REALM, we will deactivate the current CTRN directory and switch over entirely to REALM. Your participation in this will help move the process forward.

Once all this is in place, how will REALM help us? If you are the leader of a group like WIC or an event like Men's Prayer Breakfast, you will be able to put church members into your group by selecting their profiles with a click of the mouse. With the REALM app, you will send emails, phone notifications, or chats to your group. Leaders of Sunday School classes will be able to record attendance with the app. Leadership groups like Deacons, Elders, or committees will store resources and files accessible only by their group. If you have a proposal to share with other committee members, upload it to the group resources and inform your members through a group email. Each member can access the recommendation, review it, consider it, and be ready at your next meeting to discuss it. We can send announcements and receive RSVPs for Church Dinners and outings with the app. Once Sunday School classes are put in place, promotion from one class to another will be a simple click of the mouse for leadership. Don't get me wrong. REALM won't solve all our problems, and I am sure it will create its share of difficulties along the way. What we do have, though, is an incredible tool to assist us in the communication, organization, and implementation of the church's work.

Please, help us out by updating your information where possible.



Ron has mentioned many of the "tools" that are accessible to us at Main Street through Realm. While he and others work on certain aspects of the program, my job is to learn how the accounting system works. In order to do that, I will be involved in a series of Zoom conference calls. I have included the schedule here and on the calendar for your benefit.

Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding while I train to learn the new system and hopefully serve you better in the future.

Diann

Realm Training

Wednesday, October 20	8-9:30
Thursday, October 21	12 – 1:00
Friday, October 22	8-9:30
Monday, October 25	8-9:00
Tuesday, October 26	11-12:00
Wednesday, October 27	8-9:00
Thursday, October 28	8-9:00
	12-1:00

MSCS NEWS

We have had a great first month of school! The kids are settling into their new classrooms and are having so much fun! We have spent a lot of time on the playground and have been enjoying the start of the fall weather coming in! The children will be learning all about how the leaves change in the fall and how it gets cooler outside. October is also fire safety month! They will learn all about firefighters, their trucks, and of course how to stay safe in an emergency. The children always enjoy this unit!

I am excited to say MSCS will have a new assistant joining us this month. Bobbie Couch will be starting October 5th. She will be helping in all the classrooms, but mainly in our 3-year-old room with Ms. Taylor! I know she will be a great addition to our staff and a blessing to the children!



The playground is so much better with friends!



In His Love,

"Ms." Anna Gaines



Check out our new ride!



Who knew rolling pins could be used this way?





Women in the Church



Dear Ladies,

I sure have enjoyed our little hint of fall with the cool mornings. Fall is here and remember to mark your calendar for October 9th. We will have our pie tasting and demonstration. We will meet at 10 in the fellowship hall. Please bring a pie and your recipe card. Bring a big appetite to taste the pies, so we can pick a favorite! This a great time to be thinking of all the great pies served at the holidays. You may find a new one to serve this year. It seems impossible, but there are only 8 more Sundays until Thanksgiving!

WIC at night has begun a new study of "Against All Opposition" by Greg Bahnsen. The books should be here this week. We will be meeting on Wednesdays at 7 pm. This is a wonderful study of defending the Christian faith. In order to tell others about Christ and why we believe what we believe, we have to study and be ready.

In His Service,

Janie



**Happy Hearts will meet on Wednesday, October 20,
at 2 in the afternoon for an ice cream social.**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2 Joseph Crandall
3 Communion	4	5 WIC in the Morning 10:00	6 WIC at Night 7:00 Goodloe Chilcutt	7	8	9
10	11	12 Ladies' Night at The Grill 7 p.m.	13 WIC at Night 7:00 Ethan Senn	14	15 Charles Russell Berry	16 Men's Breakfast 7:30 Nathanael Singletary
17 Ian & Ashley Marble	18	19	20 REALM 8-9:30 Happy Hearts 2:00 WIC at Night 7:00 Kelly & Katie Weber	21 REALM 12-1	22 REALM 8-9:30	23
24 Millie Marble	25 REALM 8-9:00 Janie Williams	26 REALM 11-12 Emiline Allgood David Field Whitt Harris	27 REALM 8-9 WIC at Night 7:00	28 REALM 8-9 12-1	29 Kailee Chilcutt	30 Ben Chilcutt
31						

**Counter
for
October
Gee Allgood**

**Budget
Report
September
\$ 24,736**

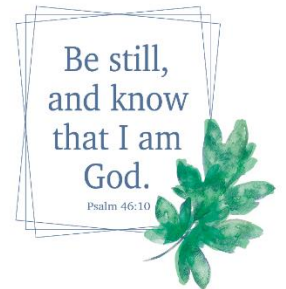
October Volunteers

- 10-3-21 Frances Glenn, Alice Talley, Ivy Harris
- 10-10-21 Dustin & Callie Baldrige, Sarah Bean, Karmel Crandall
- 10-17-21 Katie Singletary, Meryl Fisackerly, Janie Williams
- 10-24-21 Ashlyn Marble, Katie Tait, Bethany Baxter
- 10-31-21 Jay & Hannah Nail, Margo Allgood, Tracy Elgersma



Please remember in prayer:

MSPC Elders and Deacons and The Pastoral Search Committee
 Louise Armstrong, Nancy Franks and Family, Phillip Goodwin,
 Edna Mae McCoy, John Mark Russell, Faith Whitlock, Macy Williams, and
 Jennifer White and Family
 Washington Officials, President Joe Biden
 State, City, and County Officials
 Governor Tate Reeves, Mayor Keith Gaskin, Police Chief Fred Shelton, Sheriff Eddie Hawkins
 Helping Hands, Life Choices Pregnancy Center, Palmer Home, all Columbus Churches and Pastors



Main Street Presbyterian Church

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Main Street Presbyterian Church (A Presbyterian Church in America Congregation)

Sunday Schedule
9:30 a.m. Sunday School
10:40 a.m. Morning Worship