

Realm Connect Usage Guidelines

- **Be Kind.** This is a congregational communications platform which is a component of our overall church life. Anything said on the Realm platform should be something that would be appropriate to say to another church member personally.
- **Be Respectful.** This platform is not the place to air out disagreements on church policy, practice, or philosophy. Nor is it the space to air personal grievances.
- **Be Generous.** Share freely reports of the workings of your committees, groups, and ministry teams. Take photos to enhance your sharing to the whole church. Give thanks to those who have contributed to the success or impact your teams are making on behalf of CLCC. Celebrate one another and the church - this is the place to practice telling our stories.
- **Be Thoughtful.** Please ask yourself before sharing on this platform: Is this a message that builds up the beloved community, or not? Does this information being shared communicate our praises or does it stay focused on laments?
- **Be Gracious.** We are a diverse church, and so come with a diverse set of experiences, perspectives, and ways of thinking. Some might share a photo with commentary that for them is a positive and empowering statement of faith. But for others, that might not feel the same. We must remember we value our diversity and practice holding space for a variety of interests and convictions-in-faith.
- **Be Faithful.** This platform is focused on the practice of sharing our church's story, communicating church news and witness, and promoting our ministries and mission. The platform is built in similar ways to facebook but is a private space for our church folks only. Grabbing content from facebook or other social media sites to share on Realm is discouraged and works against the intent of this tool. Some post on the wider social media platforms might be appropriate, but any regular practice of this is strongly discouraged. We aim to build up our capacities to be well-informed about our mission and witness. What are *we* doing to further the kingdom?
- **Be Dedicated.** Realm should be the primary space for church communication. As more of our members engage with Realm, the more value it will hold for the church. Leaders will give every attempt to utilize Realm first, before sending emails or communicating through other digital methods.
- **Be Wary.** Any person who is deemed by the Office Administrator and Pastor to be misusing this platform in harmful ways will be blocked from the ability to make any posts or replies.
- **Be Informed.** The platform works on the "groups" model. This is so you can send messages, attach documents to, and create events for the various groups (committees, fellowship groups, ministry teams) in private. The whole church will be the group called CLCC CHURCH FAMILY. Post made to that group will reach the entire congregation. Individuals are only approved to post PHOTOS to the whole church group. All individuals are able to comment on any post that is made. This is to ensure that such posts are engaging to the entire community (pictures are the most fun to share!) This also, we hope, will keep individuals from posting unnecessary opinions or material that is not aligned with the purpose of this platform. Group leaders can submit events to the office administrator (and in the future their council chair) for posting to the whole church group (if such events are churchwide gatherings).