

Winter 2014

SRC STUDENT

NEWS



January
10-12th over 350
people from 13
different churches
gathered together for a
weekend encounter
with God.

WINTER FEST 2014 A BIG SUCCESS!

The vision of Shelter Rock Church is to reach Long Island with the Gospel of Christ through the continued development of multi-campus communities pursuing excellence in a culturally appropriate context and by working in close relationship with other life-giving churches and Christian organizations. SRC Student Ministries seeks to fulfill this vision through our ministry to teenagers.

In January, we ventured into uncharted territory in the history of SRC Student ministries and spearheaded, for the first time, Youth Winter Fest - a weekend designed to bring people from all around the area together to encounter the person and presence of Jesus. The Bible contains great promises for us when we gather together to celebrate God. Here are a couple of them:

"For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst" (Matthew 18:20).

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity! ... For there the Lord commanded the blessing - life forever" (Psalm 133).

Veteran SRC student ministries volunteer Julia Chu reflected on the weekend and had this to say: "It was great to see students from around the area joined together for the weekend, and it's been neat hearing of how some of them have since seen kids that they met at Winter Fest at other events. It's so encouraging to see a network of likeminded students being built." Recently our Sr. High students went ice skating, and when Pastor Kevin and Ren Jainarine walked in, a young man from the area turned to them and said, "Hey, aren't you guys from Winter Fest?!"

Winter Fest created a fun and exciting atmosphere. Music was led by Texas-based band *All We Are*, and the students really engaged well during the times of worship. Through a real gift of communication, our speaker Duffy Robbins brilliantly used humor and wit to engage students, and at the same time brought real substance and spiritual truth. He was relatable and challenged students to passionately pursue Christ. Our theme was *Surrender*, and it was powerful seeing so many students respond to the Lord's promptings.

We also really enjoyed the ministry of the *Nubian Gents* who ministered through dance, singing, and testimonies. Further, our own SRC students ministered on stage through a drama that ran throughout the weekend.

In all the weekend was a great success, and students from SRC as well as the participating churches were touched by the Lord. We are constantly seeking to improve, and we learned a lot in our first year of Winter Fest which we look forward to implementing at Winter Fest 2015 to make things even better for our students.



See
the Official
Recap Video:
[www.
shelterrockstudents.
blogspot.
com](http://www.shelterrockstudents.blogspot.com)

MEET A VOLUNTEER



Meet **Peter Gong**, one of our newest SRC Student Ministries Adult Youth Workers.

Family: Lavaune (wife), Madeleine (college Junior), Justin (HS senior), and Emma (HS Junior)

Work: I work at Teach For America as the Director/ Business Analysis - Corporate Systems

Favorite TV show: Gilligan's Island (1964-67)

Hobby/Leisure Activity: Running, attempting to play guitar.

How long have you attended SRC? Almost 2 Years.

Favorite Bible verse: "In all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight" (Proverbs 3:6).

Favorite Vacation Spot or Coolest place you've ever been: Hiking to the top of Half Dome, Yosemite National Park with my family.

What do you enjoy about working with students? There is so much potential in these young lives. If we can get them excited about and committed to Jesus, we are that much more ahead towards expanding the Kingdom of God!

STUDENT STORIES

Here are some stories from our team of team who went to Winter Fest early to help get everything ready for the weekend.

"Putting such a fun weekend into a short paragraph would be nearly impossible. It was really awesome getting to know different people from different churches, and seeing that there were other Christians my age from Long Island was pretty amazing. I loved the atmosphere! The theme **Surrender** was on point, and I can't wait for next year." – **Noah Rockmore, 11th grade, Roslyn HS**

"Going to the SRC winter retreat, especially with all the changes over the past year, I wasn't sure what to expect. I was asked to go up two days early to setup for the weekend. What I thought was going to be an exhausting labor turned out to be a fantastic blessing as I got to meet awesome people from other churches who were serving God with their talents. At Winter Fest I encountered God through worship, I heard superb teaching on where my identity and self worth come from, and I had time to talk about spiritual matters with the girls in my room, as well as hang out with a bunch of students from a bunch of churches. God is moving on L.I. through Winter Fest and I am proud to be a member of the church that started this ministry." – **Rachel Dominguez, 11th grade, Herricks HS**

"I recently went up early for Winter Fest and helped with setting up equipment, and getting things ready for everyone's time there. It was such a humbling, and really joyful experience. I loved meeting new people and getting to know them during the weekend. Going up early was a lot of work, but it made me appreciate all of the time consuming and hard work that is put into these events. The band that played on this retreat was so awesome, and their energy and passion helped me grow closer to the Lord through worship. I love these retreats because you can escape from your everyday



Sunday A.M. Youth



Paintings
by SRC student
Jennifer
Spicher

life and really focus on growing in your relationship with the Lord, and meeting new people, plus the food is always good." – **Natalie Owens, 11th grade, World Journalism Preparatory School**

"I've been going to retreats for about 6 years with Shelter Rock, and I've always enjoyed my times with my friends and the leaders as we worshipped God together. This year I was asked to help as a leader by going a few days early to help with setup, and I was all for it. As a high school student, I never really thought about how the retreats came to be. I was just happy to be there. But now, as a college student and having gone to the retreat before everything started, I saw first hand just how much work is put into the events that our leaders put together for us. They really think of everything to make our time enjoyable and fun, but at the same time making sure that what we experiences are truly about impacting young lives. I now really appreciate and understand what the leaders do for us and how much of their own time is put into events like Winter Fest. Beyond what I learned as I served behind the scenes, the Winter Fest was great as we were able to meet new people and just worship with our friends, whether we've known them for two minutes or two years. I was renewed with God's love, and I didn't want to let that feeling go. It reminded me to live for Jesus best I can all the time." – **Dan Benz, College Student**



During 2nd Service



“What’s In The Bag?” by @ParentsCoach Tim Smith

“How much would you pay for something that would help you be a **better student**, a competitive **athlete** and would significantly enhance your **social life**?” I asked a high school health class? I held up a **black fabric shopping bag**. “It’s right in here and if you use it you will be better at **school, sports and life**?”

“Is this some kind of trick question? Do you really have something in there?” asked a guy in the back.

“Yes, I really do have something in here. **How much would you pay** for this one thing that could dramatically change your life?”

A girl in the front asked, “Do you take debit cards?”

“I sure do!” I pulled out my *Square* credit card reader and my *iPhone*. “I can take debit, credit or cash. How much would you pay or what’s in this black bag?”

“All I got is \$500 on me,” said a guy wearing an Ivy League college sweatshirt.

“You carry around five Benjamins?” I asked.

“Not all the time, just today.”

“Okay, the highest bid goes to him,” I announced.

“Well, since you can take cards, and you say it will really help me in sports? If so, I’ll use my dad’s credit card and **give you a thousand for it**,” said the water polo player with the chlorine-bleached hair.

“Deal! Let me have it,” I asked.

He handed the card to me, but before I ran it, I said, “**What’s in here is very valuable**. Research by Dartmouth, Michigan, Kaiser Family Foundation and the National Honor Society has all proven this.” (I held up the bag.) “**What’s in this bag is worth more than a tutor**, a private coach or tons of money. And I’m going to give it to all of you for **free**!” I returned the card to the water polo guy, who now looked confused.

“Want to see what’s in the bag?” I pulled out my dinner from *Corner Bakery*. “Having **family meals three to five times a week**



will promote all kinds of benefits that help you be a **better student**, improve as an **athlete** and do better **socially** and make fewer **risky decisions**.”

There were a few groans in the room. I think they were hoping for some techy, iPad app that would zap their brain, give them six-pack abs and better looking friends on *Instagram*.

I explained why it worked. “Having a meal with your family, and it can be breakfast, lunch or dinner; offers benefits to you, **but there are some conditions**: no texting, TV or screens at the table; no harassment about chores, homework or pesky little brothers; and the **quality of food doesn’t matter**! It doesn’t have to be gourmet or expensive to produce the benefits. What the researchers found is that if families can protect **twenty minutes** from distractions and have a positive conversation around a meal, it helps the kids feel nurtured, **connected** and valued. If the kids help prepare the meal or clean up, they feel **capable** because they made a contribution. If their parents ask for their child’s opinion on a topic, and take it seriously, it helps the student develop **critical** thinking skills. And you only have to spend twenty minutes at the table.”


Summary of one study: Compared to teens who have frequent family dinners (five or more per week), those who have infrequent family dinners (fewer than three per week) are **twice as likely to use tobacco or marijuana**; more than one and a half times likelier to use **alcohol**; and twice as likely to expect to try **drugs** in the future, according to *The Importance of Family Dinners V*, a report by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University. www.casacolumbia.org

Make a commitment today to seek to be a healthier family by **establishing healthy routines**. Start with having a **family meal** together.

Also, if your student is showing symptoms of stress have her/him check out our student stress relief site: www.stress-o-meter.com

Here are some links to some of the research on healthy families: www.search-institute.org www.parentfurther.com

Mark Your Calendar!



Parenting Seminar

with Duffy Robbins

One of the most common problems we face in our families is the business and pace of daily living: work responsibilities, school, sports, church, family relationships, we all know the drill. There's not much time to think about direction when we're all traveling at the speed of life. This seminar will give us an opportunity to pull over and look at the map, to regain a sense of perspective and direction. What are our goals as a family? And, in the midst of the busy-ness and the dizziness of our children's teenage years, can we settle on some basic priorities as a family?


“Building Families that Build Healthy People”

Sunday, April 6, 2014, 6-8pm - The Green Vale School 250 Valentines Ln. Old Brookville, NY 11545

PLUS

Separate Activities for Students 7th-12th Grades

Duffy Robbins is in constant demand as a speaker around the world. He is the Professor of Youth Ministry at Eastern University in Pennsylvania and has authored more than 15 books and hundreds of articles.





Winter 2014 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Sun. P.M. Youth					Winter Fest	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Winter Fest						
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			Delta Dinner	Delta Dinner		
26	27	28	29	30		
Bridge Ice Skating			Delta	Delta		

Sunday Mornings
10:30am Manhasset
11:15am Syosset

Delta Small Groups
7:30-9pm in Homes

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Sun. P.M. Youth			Delta	Delta		
No Sun. A.M. Youth Conference for Leaders	10	11	12	13	14	15
					Simply Youth Ministry ROCK ¹⁴ Manup & HRT	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Rock Serve Night		Delta Dinner	Delta Dinner			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Bridge Pizza Party						
30	31					

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Send us your Schedules!


Sports, Concerts, Plays, etc. ...


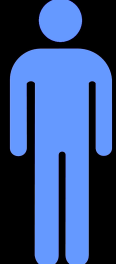
We would love to come support you!

e-mail schedules to:

kevin@shelterrockchurch.com





hrt<3

manUP

monthly gatherings for Sr. High Girls & Guys.



Join or Start



a Christian



Club!



MID-WEEK



DELTA



SMALL



GROUPS



MIKE'S MINUTE

Lately God has been really putting it on my heart to share about worship. The dictionary refers to worship as "the act of showing respect and love." Our main purpose for our life is to bring honor and praise to God by worshipping Him. Does that mean that we just sing along on Sunday mornings, raise our hands, and call it a week? No. Everything we do should be done as an act of worship.

An interesting thing that the dictionary points out is that worship is not a verb, its a noun. That basically means that our worship is not just the act of singing along in church, or going on a missions trip, etc. Although those are great things, we need to combine our actions with a heart of worship. We need to move from thinking that worship is just singing along to a few songs on a Sunday or going to a foreign country on a missions trip to an understanding that worship is to flow out of who we are. As a youth group, let's be worshippers - people who make Jesus "the center" of who we are so that everything we do flows back to God as an act of worship. Whether its studying for a test, or playing on a sports team, let's honor God in our lives.



REN'S RAP

I turned down the money and lifted up my heart. I was at work, and it had been snowing heavily all day. All of us were complaining about it. As we left the office we saw that the snow plows had created mounds of snow around our cars. The frustration continued. I decided it was time to start serving, and got out my shovel and started digging out my co-workers and helping them brush off their cars. They were all shocked by kindness. Something clicked in me, and I just got into a zone of eagerness to serve. I noticed over 30 vehicles in the Long Island Rail Road parking lot covered in snow. I started to shovel and brush the snow away as quickly as I could. Some people were there trying to get their cars out, so I helped them. One man refused my help, even though he was stuck in a snow banks for 15 minutes. When he finally got out, he said to me, "Thanks for offering to help." Others tried to give me money, but gave me shocking looks when I politely declined. Just saying "Thank you" seemed like a foreign concept to them. These people are used to money doing their talking. One man asked me if I worked for some organization. I said, "No, I just love to help. I actually work for JP Morgan Chase."

I know what it's like to be in trouble and feel alone. My car battery died once, and I had to wait for almost 2 hours in a winter storm until help arrived. Another time I ran out of gas and had to walk from the Cross Island Expressway to the Clearview Expressway for gas. So when I see people in need or in need, I imagine myself in their shoes, and try to show them the Hero that lives in me. I believe it is important for us to live out our faith in Jesus by serving others. How can you find simple, practical ways to love others and show them the love of Jesus? Let's not just talk about our faith; let's show it. Be someone's hero today and point them to the real Hero, Jesus.

PK'S PIECE

This winter we have experienced incredible amounts of snow. I grew up in western NY, and when I moved many years ago, I thought I had left snow accumulation like this behind for good. As I shovel, and shovel, and shovel snow, I have plenty of time to think, and a number of thoughts run through my mind. After all of the mumbling, grumbling, complaining thoughts pass, I find myself remembering an important truth. It's winter, BUT spring's comin'! Doesn't that sound good!

Sometimes, in the midst of the snow, it seems like winter will never end. The snow just keeps coming. But the one thing that can offer us hope is the knowledge that spring will certainly come.

Much like the weather, we go through different seasons in life. We go through times when the sun is shining and everything's great (summer), times of change and transition (fall), and times of challenges and difficulty (winter). When we are in the midst of winter in particular, we need to remember that spring will come. Further, we need to recognize that what we are going through in this season can actually help us in the next one. When we are shoveling snow, we develop muscles. The snow actually provides the ground with much-needed water which will allow new life to burst forth once the temperatures begin to rise.

If you're in a winter season, remember that spring is just around the corner! Hold on to that hope. Take courage and press on.

What season are you currently in?

What is God doing in you to prepare you for the next season?



DEVOTIONAL

by
Volunteer
Michael
Schuman

So at the end of last season when we got hit with that huge snowstorm my snow blower decided to stop working. As my brother and I shoveled our way out I had every intention of taking my snow blower in to the shop to be serviced.

Well, now it is 2014 and we have had several snowstorms, and for each of them my snow blower sat in the shed doing nothing while we shoveled and shoveled.

The problem for me is that I had to borrow my parents van then schlepp the thing down to the repair shop and then go back to get it again when it was fixed. It involved taking the seat out of the van to fit it in. It required another person to help me get it in the van. While it was not difficult work it did require time. I was definitely busy, but I remember thinking each time I shoveled, "Surely I could have fit some time to get that thing fixed." I guess it was a matter of priorities.

Why do I tell you this? So often our walk with God we are the same way. We may not feel like spending time reading the Bible. We may not want to pray or worship. We may not want to

make the effort to go to church or small group. We have what is needed to get through a trial or struggle or even life itself, but like the snow blower we are powerless because we are not tuned up. We are out of gas, the oil hasn't been changed, and when the storms of life come we try to shovel ourselves out instead of relying on God.

We try to do things on our own strength and our own power, instead of the power of God. At the end of it, we may be shoveled out, but we are tired, our backs hurt, and there has probably been a fair amount of complaining. Instead, God wants us to utilize His power. The storms will still come. It might be hard to see. It might be cold and icy. Yet in the storm, God will clear the path for us to walk through. We can depend on His power and His strength.

The snow blower does all the work. I just hold on. As soon as I let go, it stops moving. God wants us to trust Him. Hold tight onto Him, and He will guide you. He will clear away whatever is in your path so you can walk through.

Isaiah comes to mind ... ***"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, The Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men***



shall utterly fail, But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand" (Isaiah 40:28-31, 41:10).

Well I am proud to say that my snow blower is now working. It has been repaired and ready to go for the next snow storm! What are the storms in your life? What do you need to surrender to God so that He can clear a path before you?

SHELTER ROCK CHURCH

STUDENT MINISTRIES

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