



CASE STUDY

Youth for Christ

Halfmoon, NY

Products Installed

- Forest Rx — 3,000 SF

Project Needs

- Shock Absorbent
- Low Maintenance
- Durable

Product Benefits

- Ergonomic
- Quiet
- Easy to Clean

Youth for Christ's Call for Multi-Purpose Flooring is Answered with Forest Rx.

About the Project

Youth for Christ is an independent, privately funded organization that's goal is to bring the Christian message to adolescents and teens. The organization achieves this by providing a space for teenagers and young adults to congregate. "We offer lots of different ministries," said John Richmond, Director of Capital District Youth for Christ north of Albany, N.Y. "We offer a Teen Mom's Group, City Life for urban youth, Campus Life for suburban teenagers, and a Wilderness Adventure Program." The Wilderness Adventure Program includes rock climbing, which the Capital District Youth for Christ chapter is very passionate about.

"We utilize indoor rock climbing as another avenue to impact young people," said Richmond. "In our rock gym, we offer youth climbing leagues, climbing teams, and take kids to regional and national competitions. One year, one of our boys won a national competition in Denver. Unfortunately, the rock climbing facility we used closed down. We received a one-hundred-thousand dollar grant from New York state to create a high ropes course,

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and we had some land donated. That's when we came up with the vision for a new building."

This 22,000-square-foot building is now a reality. In addition to a rock climbing gym with more than 14,000-square-feet of climbing space, it houses an 8,000-square-foot gym, internet café, ministry offices, outdoor ropes course, and campfire area. "We wanted to create spaces that are very attractive to kids and help leverage our mission," said Richmond.

When it came time to select the flooring for the recreation gym, the decision was extremely important, because it's a multi-purpose space. In addition to hosting traditional sports, such as basketball, volleyball, dodge ball, and floor hockey, this area



is also used as a banquet facility, concert hall, and conference space. "We needed the flooring to stand up to multiple types of usage," said Richmond. "From my research, I thought ECOsurfaces was the best for that. They have an unsurpassed warranty as well. I felt it was our best choice."

Youth for Christ selected Forest Rx and had lines painted on it, another option, for use in basketball. The surfacing features ECOsurfaces' patented itsTRU™ technology, which fusion bonds a vinyl wear layer to a composition rubber backing. The result is beautiful flooring that looks like real wood, but is more economical, durable, and easier to clean. Forest Rx is ideal for a multi-purpose space, because of its anti fatigue properties, durability, and ease of maintenance – only a dry and wet mop and buffing are required. This floor does not require waxing. "This product is perfect for independent and small, private schools that need a multipurpose room that gets a lot of mixed use," said Howie Charbonneau, the ECOsurfaces' sales representative that sold the flooring to Youth for Christ. "It's too expensive for people to buy maple hardwood floors. This surfacing covers all uses. You can roll chairs on it and put forklifts on it to fix lights and basketball hoops, etc."

As Youth for Christ continues to grow, it hopes to install more ECOsurfaces' products in other parts of its facility. "We are very pleased with this product," said Richmond.