Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Grace Lutheran Preschool

Provider No.: 34744

Address: 415 10th St, De Witt, IA, 52742

County: Clinton

Director's Name: Christine Greve

On-Site Supervisor: none

Phone Number: 5636599153

E-Mail: preschool@gracedewitt.org

HHS Visit Date: 08/31/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2025 to 11/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 12/11/2023

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Wednesday		8:00 AM to 300pm	
Thursday		8:00 AM to 3:00 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 11:00 AM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			28		28
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 8/31/26. The center director, Christine Greve, was present along with other staff. Christine is qualified with education and experience working at a child care center and as a center director at another child care center prior to this center. This center is owned and operated by the Grace Lutheran Church and is managed by a voluntary preschool board made up of church members. The center does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program partnering with the DeWitt School District. The center director states the preschool uses the Creative Curriculum Gold, Kickstart Literacy, Eureka Math, and Second Step for the four year old program. For the three year old preschool the curriculum is center created based on a monthly theme with a weekly plan. The center reports enrollment of 33 children at the time of the visit.

The center uses two classroom areas located on the lower level of the church. Both preschool rooms continue to be bright and decorated in child-friendly themes. Both rooms include a very nice supply of age appropriate materials and furniture. Books are displayed nicely for the children. The rooms are arranged with various learning/activity centers including; blocks, books, music, sensory table, arts/crafts, manipulatives, dramatic play, and games/puzzles. The children leave the program rooms to travel down the hallway to use the restroom areas marked separately for boys and girls. Staff travel with the children for these activities to ensure supervision. The center uses the fellowship area of the church for yoga activities. Required postings and child and staff files were reviewed. The licensing notebook including emergency drills, first aid supplies, playground checklist, radon testing, fuel burning appliances inspections, and policies were reviewed. All program space was observed. Staff and child interactions, food service, and hand washing practices and procedures were observed. Health and safety practices were also reviewed including medication management, cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting procedures, excluding ill children/staff, incident reports, and first aid kits.

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Nutritional and food safety practices were observed. Snack and beverage are provided by the center. The center does not participate in the CACFP but does follow guidelines as required. The church kitchen is used for dish washing (pitchers used for snack) activities.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center director is highly qualified as outlined above. There continues to be active involvement and support from the church and the community in providing a quality preschool program. The staff continue to work well together. The staff were once again observed to provide careful supervision of the children and were very engaged in activities with the children. The children appeared to enjoy their preschool experience. Activity planning and newsletters provide detail as to what the children are learning at preschool. The preschool compiles individual keepsake journal binders as observed for all of the children in the four year old preschool. The program rooms are bright, colorful, clean, and organized. Program materials are well maintained and accessible. The building itself is well maintained, generally clean, and organized. Staff and child files and other licensing information continue to be highly organized. The attention to detail in the operation of this center does not go unnoticed.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

N/A

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with (director) their oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.
The center director provided the following responses:
1) It is in the staff handbook. We discuss at our first meeting of the year and then as needed throughout the year.
2) We talk about when they feel frustrated that they can reach out to our staff in ratio, or if on a Friday to a 4-year-old Teacher to help them with de-escalation; whether it be the staff takes a couple minute break, or the other teachers help with the situation.
3) Talk daily with the staff about how they are feelings. Asking if there is anything they need help with and then always reminding them that we are there to help them.

The center will continue with a full license. This report does not require a written response. Thank you.

Date: 09/04/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.