Health and Human Services

# Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

## CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Community Lutheran School Preschool

Provider No.: 36306

Address: 124 W 4th Street, Readlyn, IA, 50668

County: Bremer

Director's Name: Teresa Imbrogno

On-Site Supervisor: Teresa Imbrogno

Phone Number: 3192793541

E-Mail: timbrogno@communitylutheranschool.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/09/2026

Licensing Period: 10/01/2025 to 10/01/2027

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**Fire Inspection:**

Date Inspected: 02/19/2024

Comments:

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**Report Visit Type:**

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

**License Type:**

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

**Quality initiative:**

Quality Rating: 1

- [ ] Accrediation

**Program Duration:**

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

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| HOURS: | *Year-round* | *School-Year* | *Summer Only* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sunday | | | |
| Monday | | 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM | |
| Tuesday | | 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM | |
| Wednesday | | 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM | |
| Thursday | | 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM | |
| Friday | | 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM | |
| Saturday | | | |

**Program Population Served:**

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

| LICENSE CAPACITY | Infants | 2 Years | Preschool | School-Aged | Capacity |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| General | 0 | 0 | 23 | 18 | 41 |
| Summer | | | | | 0 |

**1. Basic Overview**

On 09/09/26 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Community Lutheran School Preschool in Readlyn. I met with Teresa Imbrogno, the director and lead teacher of the three-year-old preschool class. Ms. Imbrogno has a BA in elementary education and several years of experience in childcare. She has been with Community Lutheran School Preschool since 2012. Judy Schutte oversees the program when Ms. Imbrogno is away. Ms. Schutte has been with the program since August 2013. Wendy Matthias is the associate in the room for the preschool program. Ms. Matthias was previously the associate in the classroom from 2018 through 2025 and returned this school year. Margaret “Maggie” Young provides childcare to the four year old children in the afternoon. The program employs a total of eight staff members.

This program was given permission to open in August 2013. The program operates out of St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church. It is open Monday through Friday and operates from 7:00 am until 5:30 pm. The three-year-old preschool class offers the option of attending Monday through Friday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday or Tuesday and Thursday. The preschool hours are 8:00-11:30 am. The additional hours are for childcare. It serves children three-years-old through school age. The program does not operate during the summer. There is currently a total of 43 children enrolled in the program. They have seventeen preschool children and twenty-six school age children.

Community Lutheran School operates out of two locations. Preschool through kindergarten operate out of the Readlyn location and fist through eighth grade operate out of a location in Klinger. The Readlyn location is the only one with a licensed childcare program.

The licensed program operates out of two classrooms. The preschool classroom is also where before school childcare occurs. The second room is used for childcare for the four year old preschool children. An inspection of each room was

## CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

completed. The program was within ratio during my visit. Windows provide natural lighting in both rooms. The preschool room is decorated with pictures of the children and their families, pictures of the children's pets, pictures of the children's homes, the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. There is an area for circle time. The classroom has a smart board.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, computers, art, dramatic play, listening, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities and allowed clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they are easily accessible to the children. Materials are switched out routinely to give children variety.

There is a bathroom with one toilet inside the classroom. There are two sinks outside of the bathroom. Handwashing procedures were posted. The children can also use two bathrooms located in the hallway. The girl's bathroom has three toilets and one sink and the boy's bathroom has two toilets, one urinal, and one sink. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations.

Mats are used to nap. They are stored individually in sacks.

The program uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans. They use ECERS-3, Iowa Early Learning Standards and Creative Curriculum are guides for room arrangement, developmental areas of focus and a way to assess students. Activities are typically developed around weekly themes, but they may last longer depending on the topic and children's interest level. The program is a Christian setting. Daily religion time is held throughout the day using the Enduring Faith Religion Curriculum. They attend a chapel service once each week. A weekly newsletter is provided to the parents. Daily reports are provided to the parents to inform the parents what the children did during the day. ASQ-SE-2 social emotional assessments are completed ASQ-3 development assessments are completed on the preschool school. Parent-teacher conferences are in the fall and the spring. Child portfolios are maintained on an on-going basis.

There was a phone with emergency numbers and the program's address and phone number in the classroom. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and the evacuation diagram were posted by the main program door and outdoor exit in each room. A daily schedule was posted and a lesson plan was available for review.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in August 2025. The results were within the EPA recommended guidelines. A radon mitigation system was installed in February 2017 after having repeated high radon testing results. Radon testing must occur every two years due to the program having a radon mitigation system.

The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is in the furnace room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 02/19/24. Fire marshal inspections must occur every three years.

The program does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), but they do follow the guidelines. The children can purchase lunch through the school. The school is on the CACFP. The children can bring their own breakfast in the morning if it is nutritious. The parents provide the morning snack for the preschool program and the school provides the drink. Suggestions for snacks are provided to the parents. The parents pay a milk fee. Parents purchase a hot lunch ticket and a juice and milk ticket for children who utilize the after-school program. An afternoon snack is provided by the school.

Parents also have the option of bringing a cold lunch for their children. Lunches brought from home are monitored to make sure parents are providing five of the CACFP components. If they do not have the necessary components the program is able to supplement the meal. Menus were posted. Daily preschool snacks are documented and available for review. Snacks are eaten in the room and lunch is eaten in the church commons/cafeteria area. Disposable products are used.

The school has a milk cooler that the program uses and a thermometer was present.

The program uses bleach and water to sanitize the food tables in the classroom for morning and afternoon snacks.

The program has a fenced-in playground. Pea gravel is used for fall surface cushioning. There is a piece of climbing

equipment with slides. There is a second piece of equipment that has swings, a slide and rings. There is dramatic play equipment, a sensory table, a basketball hoop and a playhouse and play ship for the children. There are also other activities for the children to play with such as trucks and pails.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the classroom. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

**2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program**

Staff members were patient and they allowed children to acclimate when they arrive at school and do things on their time. Staff members were nurturing and attentive to all children and took special care of children when they were upset. Staff members were actively engaged with the children and bent down to talk with children at their level. Staff members provided the children with reminders to wash their hands and assisted them when necessary. Staff members offered the children choices and talked with the children about using their imaginations. Staff members offered to help the children and if the children decline, they let the children do things on their own. Staff members were enthusiastic but also provided a calm learning environment. They sang with the children and had fun learning activities. Staff members sang directions and used visual cues during transitions. Staff members modeled good manners and reminded children to be good friends. I visited the children on “red day” and everyone in the classroom was wearing red.

Ms. Imbrogno states their enrollment is good.

Ms. Imbrogno states the staff members feel committed to the program. They stay with the program.

Ms. Imbrogno states they work with the schedules. She states, “we work for them and they work for us”.

Ms. Imbrogno states they follow the mission of the school. They provide a Christian environment and teach about God and the rules of the school.

Ms. Imbrogno states they have families who send their children to their preschool who must travel from other times to attend. They meet a need for Readlyn and surrounding towns. She states families want a Christian environment that includes prayer, talking about God, and focus on morals and values.

The program has an IQ4K level of 1 that expires on 06/30/28.

Ms. Imbrogno states they have a smaller class size and they offer families the choice of preschool two, three or five days each week.

Ms. Imbrogno makes a home visit to her preschool children’s homes before school starts.

Ms. Imbrogno states the teachers work together well and everyone does what they need.

Ms. Imbrogno states they offer childcare to families on days when there is no school, but they must have a commitment of eight children to attend. They are not open if they close due to weather.

The program is in a secure building.

The program meets a need for parents who require before and after school childcare. Parents can feel secure that their children are in a safe environment and they do not need to worry about transportation.

Ms. Imbrogno states the church is committed to the program.

They attend chapel once each week, have a Daily Devotion, Bible verse and song.

The three-year-old preschool class has a Facebook page to help with communication with parents. The program also emails a newsletter each Friday to parents and will send paper copies to parents who prefer the communication that way. The

program also has a website.

They are using on-line registration to make things easier for parents.

**3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard**

There were no violations.

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

N/A

**5. Special Notes/Recommendations**

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All HHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management:
I discussed with Ms. Imbrogno her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance. Ms. Imbrogno states staff members have orientation on the program's policies. Their policy is to use positive redirection. They are told to be "gracious in and of ourselves". Ms. Imbrogno states the staff members have worked together so long they can tag out when they need to tag out. She reminds staff members to use humor and not take things so seriously. If staff members need to adjust which group of children they are working with, they will do that because children may respond differently to a different staff member. Ms. Imbrogno states they believe it is important to build relationships with parents and give them tools, options and resources to use at home as that can change how things go at school. She states staff members need to be aware of themselves and take breaks. Be willing to do things differently.

To monitor, Ms. Imbrogno states the program is small and they are always there and always together. They practice the Christian values of telling the truth and being honest. Each staff member brings a different trait to the program.

Date: 09/21/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

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**.