Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: St John Lutheran Preschool

Provider No.: 18187

Address: 416 Main Ave, Clinton, IA, 52732

County: Clinton

Director's Name: Cindy Sperry

On-Site Supervisor: none

Phone Number: 5632425588

E-Mail: csperry@stjohn-clinton-ia.org

HHS Visit Date: 09/08/2025

Licensing Period: 02/01/2025 to 02/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/08/2023

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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Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			24		24
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this center on 9/8/25. The center director and lead preschool teacher, Cindy Sperry, was present along with another staff on the day of the visit. The center director is highly qualified with education and experience. The center's main assistant has been with the program for a number of years. This center is not for profit and is owned and operated by the St. John Lutheran Church. The center uses designated space in the St. John Lutheran Church including one classroom area, restroom areas, and some space in the church kitchen. There is also a large outdoor play area. This program does not participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The classroom area is large and very well organized. It is clean and very well maintained. The room is bright with large windows, and is abundantly stocked with age appropriate and accessible materials and is decorated in a child-friendly manner, including displaying items made by the children. The room is arranged with centers to support the learning activities including; writing/art, manipulatives/games, computer, sensory table, books, and blocks. The preschool displays books nicely for the children, and books are further organized by topic for easy access by staff. The center also uses the church chapel for "chapel time" with the church pastor. The center occasionally uses the church fellowship hall for indoor large motor activities. The program room includes an adjacent restroom area with one sink and one toilet. Men's and women's restroom areas are used in the hallway area just outside of the preschool room as well. All program space was observed.

The children are required to bring their own lunch from home. The center provides milk for the lunch and reports monitoring the lunches and supplementing to meet CACFP requirements whenever necessary as required.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center director and her assistant continue to be enthusiastic and highly involved with the children in the presentation of a variety of activities. The children appeared engaged in and to be enjoying their preschool experience. The program continues to be highly organized, and materials abundant, are well maintained, and are accessible to the children. Books are displayed nicely for the children and are relevant to the present activity plan/topic/theme. The program room is bright and spacious, and hallway are decorated with the children's projects. The staff continue to work very well together. Activity planning and posted lesson plans are excellent. The center has set up the outdoor play area in the outdoor classroom format adding various activity "centers" and has continued to add materials since the last licensing visit. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized. Once again, the attention to detail with the organization and operation of this center does not go unnoticed.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training.
1. _1_ staff file reviewed did not have the required annual training hours.

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

N/A

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

1. Ensure child records include the specific dentist information.
2. Ensure valid immunization certificate (IDPH form signed and dated by medical personnel) is on file at the center before the child attends the center.

The center will continue with a full license. Please address the violation and the concern noted above in this section of the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. This report does not require a written response. Thank you.

Date: 09/22/2025

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**.