Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: Our Redeemer Lutheran Preschool **Enrollment:** 41 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18199

Street: 2145 John F Kennedy RD **City:** Dubuque Iowa **Zip** 52002 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 2145 John F Kennedy RD, Dubuque, IA, 52002

Director's Name: Amy Kruse **Phone Number:** 563-588-1247

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** orlpreschool@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-13-2023

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received **Yes** **No** X **NA** **Date Signed:**

FIRE INSPECTION **State** X **Local** **NA** **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 09-12-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			42		42
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 09-19-2023

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this center on 9/13/23. The preschool director, Amy Kruse, was present on the day of this visit along with other staff. Amy has been the director for a number of years. She has a Bachelor's Degree in elementary education with an early childhood special education endorsement, and a Master's Degree in instructional leadership. Amy also functions as the lead teacher for the afternoon four/five year old preschool session. The preschool is owned and operated by the Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. It is governed by a board including church members and parent representatives. The preschool operates out of two rooms within the church building. The preschool rooms are kept secure by locking the classroom doors. The preschool does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The preschool uses two program rooms, a restroom area, a kitchenette area, space in the fellowship hall for indoor large motor activities, and chapel time with the pastor once per week with preschool staff present for this activity. The program rooms provide for ample space for the children and are very well stocked with age appropriate and accessible materials to support programming needs. Both rooms are nicely decorated and provide for a child friendly environment. The children's crafts and projects are also on display in the rooms and hallways. There are restroom areas for boys and girls across the hall from the three/four year old room. Children from that room have to travel across the hall to use the restroom. The program room does include a sink that is used for hand washing. Children in the four/five year old room have a restroom area with a toilet and sink adjacent to the room and another hand washing sink within the classroom. The preschool has use of the fellowship hall which is a nice space for indoor large motor activities. All program space was observed.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The preschool provides the snack and beverage for the children. Snack is prepared in the kitchenette area where the preschool uses space in a refrigerator. All dishes are washed in the dish washing machine in the church's main kitchen area.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director of this preschool is highly qualified as outlined above. The preschool continues with a four star QRS rating through March 2024. The center participates in the Bridges to Reading Program which offers guest readers and free books from the library to the children. The staff were once again observed to be enthusiastic and highly interactive with the children and many positive words of encouragement could be heard throughout the preschool. The children appeared to be having a great preschool experience. Program rooms are bright with windows and are highly organized with plenty of accessible materials, generally clean, and very well maintained. The center has plenty of books which are arranged by topic for easy accessibility to support program curriculum. The staff continue to work quite well together. This is reflected in how well the program is managed and administered. The program offers parent/teacher conferences twice per year for the three year old program and three times per year for the four year old program. The preschool participates in the local AEA program where materials to supplement the preschool can be borrowed from the AEA. Very detailed newsletters and activity plans are posted and provided. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized. The attention to detail and organization of every aspect of this program by the director and staff does not go unnoticed.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.