Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Wee Wisdom Preschool-St Paul Lutheran Church

Provider No.: 30263

Address: 310 E 2nd St, Holstein, IA, 51025

County: Ida

Director's Name: Kathy Mohr

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7123682228

E-Mail: jim.kistenmacher@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 10/21/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2026 to 11/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 10/16/2024

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		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Tuesday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Wednesday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Thursday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Friday		9:00 AM to 11:30 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			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was conducted at this preschool on October 21, 2026. During the visit, this worker met with Director Kathy Mohr. Ms. Mohr holds a two-year degree in a field unrelated to early childhood education and has 26 years of experience working with children. She has also participated in professional development through the Iowa Early Learning Fall Institute, which provides training on topics including child development, inclusive practices, trauma-informed care, social-emotional learning, family engagement, and classroom strategies.

Wee Wisdom Preschool is located within St. Paul Lutheran Church in Holstein and operates in a designated Sunday school classroom within the church facility. The preschool serves children ages three through five years. Programming for four- and five-year-old children is offered on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Programming for three-year-old children is offered on Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The program has a current enrollment of 18 children. At the time of the unannounced visit, 10 children were present and participating in classroom activities. Staff were observed providing supervision and engaging appropriately with the children in care.

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The program incorporates the Creative Curriculum and Pinnacle Bible Curriculum into daily activities. The Creative Curriculum provides developmentally appropriate learning experiences that support children's social-emotional, cognitive, physical, and language development through hands-on exploration and play-based learning. The Pinnacle Bible Curriculum offers faith-based learning opportunities through Bible stories, music, crafts, and activities that promote Christian values

and character development. Together, the curricula provide opportunities for both academic growth and spiritual development. The preschool classroom is arranged in a manner that promotes learning, exploration, and independence. Clearly defined learning centers are well organized and stocked with developmentally appropriate materials. The classroom features a variety of educational displays, including the alphabet, colors, shapes, a word of the day, calendar, daily schedule, and children's artwork. A designated LEGO table provides opportunities for creativity, problem-solving, and fine motor skill development. The environment was observed to be clean, well maintained, and adequately illuminated. Overall, the classroom provides a welcoming, engaging, and developmentally appropriate setting that supports the educational and social-emotional needs of young children.

During the visit, children participated in a variety of age-appropriate activities, including the use of scooter boards. The children appeared engaged and enjoyed the activity. Scooter board play provided opportunities for the development of gross motor skills, including balance, coordination, body awareness, and muscle strength. The activity also encouraged active movement and supported children's physical development in a fun and interactive manner.

The refrigerator was observed to be clean, well organized, and maintained at the appropriate temperature for safe food storage. Parents provide nutritious snacks for their children, and the program follows Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) guidelines when planning and serving food. The center does not administer medication. During the visit, staff and children were observed practicing proper handwashing procedures.

A fully stocked first aid kit was available and accessible. Documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills was reviewed and found to be current. Radon testing has been completed, and results were within acceptable limits. Annual fuel burning inspection complete. These practices contribute to a safe and healthy environment for children attending the program.

Staff were observed to be actively engaged with the children throughout the visit. Interactions were positive, responsive, and conducted at the children's level, supporting learning, communication, and relationship-building. Staff participated in play activities and daily routines while providing guidance and encouragement as needed. These interactions contributed to a nurturing and developmentally appropriate environment that supports children's social-emotional growth and overall development.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Staff were knowledgeable about the children's needs and interests and were observed providing support, encouragement, and guidance during activities and daily routines. The smaller class size allowed for meaningful interactions between staff and children and supported the development of positive relationships in the classroom environment.

Staff were observed to be actively engaged with the children throughout the visit. Interactions occurred at the children's level and were positive, supportive, and responsive to individual needs. Staff encouraged participation in activities, facilitated learning opportunities, and fostered positive relationships with the children. Children appeared familiar with the daily schedule and classroom routines and transitioned smoothly between activities. The established routines and consistent expectations contributed to a well-organized and predictable learning environment.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

109.9(2)d: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center’s care.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.Sufficient lighting shall be provided.Sufficient ventilation.Sufficient heating.Sufficient cooling.Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.

Windows in the preschool room do not all open. This needs to be addressed as the windows are a fire exit.

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

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Targeted Assessment: Behavior Management
I discussed with Kathy regarding her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1) Understand expectations, 2) managing frustrations, 3) monitor performance.

This worker discussed behavior management practices with Kathy Mohr, including staff understanding of behavioral expectations, strategies for managing stress and frustration, and oversight of staff performance. Ms. Mohr reported that, due to the small size of the program and the longevity of the staff, team members know one another well and are able to recognize when a coworker may be experiencing frustration or may need additional support. She indicated that open communication among staff is encouraged and that staff members work together to maintain a positive and supportive environment. Ms. Mohr stated that concerns are addressed through ongoing communication and collaboration, which helps promote positive interactions with children and supports appropriate behavior management practices within the classroom.

Please provide information when aspects that fall behind standards have been corrected or a plan for by 12/31/26

A full license is recommended at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 10/23/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Leann Steinhauer

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**.