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

Name of Center: Community Lutheran School Preschool **Enrollment:** 37 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 36306

Street: 124 W 4th Street **City:** Readlyn Iowa **Zip** 50668 **County:** Bremer

Mailing Address: 2681 Quail Avenue, Readlyn, IA, 50668

Director's Name: Teresa Imbrogno **Phone Number:** 319-279-3541

On-Site Supervisor(s): Teresa Imbrogno **E-Mail:** timbrogno@communitylutheranschool.com

Date(s) of Visit: 09-09-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 02-19-2024

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 X 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	0	0	23	18	41
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 09-18-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 09/09/24 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 has been with the program since August 2018. The program employs a total of six staff member.

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 are currently a total of 37 children enrolled in the program. They have sixteen preschool children and twenty-one school-age children.

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

The licensed program operates out of one classroom but has a second room available for the overflow of school age children for childcare. An inspection each room was completed. The preschool room was within ratio during my visit. The second room has not had to be used yet this year. Windows provide natural lighting. 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 an Epson 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 were 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. 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 used as 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. The 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. 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 2024. Radon testing must be repeated every two years. The results were within the EPA recommended guidelines. A radon mitigation system was installed in February 2017 after having repeated high radon testing results. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is located near the entrance. 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, who 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 also 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. 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 snack.

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 items 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.

Staff members are experienced and have worked together as a team for a long time. Staff members greeted the children and parents as they arrived for the day. They have fun and creative activities for the children to help teach them learn. Staff members provide clear and easy to understand directions to the children. Staff members are enthusiastic and provide the children with praise. Staff members provided great reminders for the children to wash their hands. Staff members sang with the children while they washed their hands. They had conversations with the children about sharing. Staff members provide the children with choices and were actively engaged in activities with the children. Staff members used play to teach the children about colors and counting. Positive redirection was used when necessary. The children enjoyed their time at the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Imbrogno states the church is committed to the program. They hired a new custodian who was out working on the playground to get it ready for school. They have a great school board and church Trustees. They recently bought a new washer and dryer to put at the school so she did not have to take the laundry home. They meet all the needs of the program.

Ms. Imbrogno states the program is always evolving and improving.

Ms. Imbrogno states they have consistent staff members. They have passion and commitment for the program.

Ms. Imbrogno states the program is serving the needs for children from many communities. Only one child in the preschool program lives in Readlyn.

The program has an IQ4K level of 1 that expires on 05/31/26.

The program provides a quality education in a Christian environment while inspiring students to go forth living Christ-centered lives. 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 is in a secure building.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

*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.