National Lutheran School Accreditation
Early Childhood
Validation Team Report

Revised September 2022

Mt. Olive Preschool

Austin, Texas

March 26-28, 2023

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FOREWARD

Becoming accredited is a strenuous process. The school and its administration are highly commended for their efforts in this ongoing accreditation process. The preparation and the arrangements for the Validation Team were well done. It is the hope and prayer of the members of the Validation Team that the enclosed document is accurate and helpful for the continued improvement of **Mt. Olive Preschool.**

The members of the Validation Team express sincere gratitude to the administration, staff and community of **Mt. Olive Preschool** for the opportunity to serve on the Validation Team and for the kindness shown during the visit.

Mt. Olive Preschool is a good program. This was reflected not only in the Self-Study Report but also in the comments and observations of the Validation Team. The school effectively represents the Christian faith and values not only to its children and families, but also to the surrounding community.

The Self-Study Report is carefully written and includes specific recommendations to be considered seriously by the school and all constituents of **Mt. Olive Preschool** and its sponsoring congregation, **Mt. Olive Preschool**. Not every suggestion must be followed, however, each is to be considered and addressed in follow-up reports, specifically the annual ongoing cumulative report submitted to the school's district office.

The report was written collaboratively and edited by the Validation Team with minor editing completed by the Team Captain. The report reflects the talents and expertise of all team members. Wherever possible, specific and practical recommendations were made to help address concerns.

The Team Captain, Team Members and the Consultant pledge their continued support and assistance in the implementation process and look forward to hearing about and/or seeing the progress of the School Action Plan.

May the Lord richly bless the staff and constituents of **Mt. Olive Preschool** so that with the power of the Holy Spirit they might continue to proclaim His Gospel ever more effectively to the children and families they serve.

In His Service,

Suzan Winkelman
Validation Team Captain

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REPORT SUMMARY

The Validation Team's Overall Impression of the School

Mt. Olive Lutheran Preschool is a hidden gem that sits atop the hills of southwest Austin. The church has prioritized the outreach mission of the preschool. The director made implementations that set higher standards that have changed the culture at Mt. Olive Lutheran Preschool. The teachers and staff are passionate about Jesus and are committed to the development of the children. The feeling of "family" is evident in all aspects of the ministry. The preschool is highly regarded by the parents, church and community. The ministry of Mt. Olive Lutheran Preschool is making a significant impact in the lives of their families.

Outstanding Strengths

- **Mt. Olive Lutheran Church members see the preschool as an extension of their ministry and place a high priority on Lutheran early childhood education through their consistent support.**
- **The preschool director implemented necessary changes to the curriculum, safety of the facility, and school climate.**
- **The teachers and staff build good relationships with students and parents.**
- **The positive and warm classroom environment is conducive to student learning.**
- **Mt. Olive Lutheran Preschool has done several upgrades to be attractive, inviting, and developmentally appropriate for students.**

Major Deficiencies

N/A

Checklist

YES	NO	
X		The *General Information about the school* is complete.
X		The Required Responses are complete.
X		The Required Evidence is complete.
X		The Required Indicators of Success are met in full.
X		The General Indicators of Success are rated and reflect the actual practice in the school.
X		The total point value of all applicable Indicators meets/exceeds 80% of the eligible points.
X		Review of the School Action Plan is complete.

Summary Evaluation of Indicators of Success

Standard	Number of Rated Required and General Indicators of Success	Total Number of Points Possible for Rated Indicators *(Previous Column x2)*	Total Number of Points Earned for Rated Indicators
Standard 1A – Mission and Ministry	5	10	10
Standard 1B – Philosophy	5	10	10
Standard 2A – Home/Family Relationships	17	34	33
Standard 2B – Congregational Relationships	14	28	28
Standard 2C – Elementary School to Early Childhood Center	N/A	N/A	N/A
Standard 3A – The Early Childhood Governing Authority	30	60	60
Standard 3B – The Early Childhood Administrator/Director	28	56	55
Standard 4 – Personnel	14	28	28
Standard 5 – Staff/Child Interactions	18	36	36
Standard 6 – Facilities	23	46	46
Standard 7A – Health and Safety	53	106	106
Standard 7B – Food and Nutrition	18	36	36
Standard 8 – Curriculum	25	50	50
Standard 9 – Infants/Toddlers	72	144	144
Standard 10 – Continuous Improvement	10	20	20
Overall Totals:	332	664	662
Final Percentage Score: *(To calculate final percentage score, divide "Total Number of Points Earned for Rated Indicators" by "Total Number of Points Possible for Rated Indicators")*	99.69% *NOTE: An overall score of 80% or higher is required for recommendation of National Lutheran School Accreditation in Good Standing.*		