STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

BEVERLY WALKER-GRIFFEA
DIRECTOR

December 17, 2025

Joseph Barger
Piatt Lake Bible Conference Association
6986 S. Piatt Lake Road
Eckerman, MI 49728

RE: Application #: SR170419287
Piatt Lake
6398 S. Piatt Lake Road
Eckerman, MI 49728

Dear Joseph Barger

Attached is the Original Licensing Study Report for the above referenced facility. The study has determined substantial compliance with applicable licensing statutes and administrative rules. Therefore, original SITE license has been issued.

Please review the enclosed documentation for accuracy and contact me with any questions. In the event that I am not available, and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the licensing unit at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

James Vanden Heuvel

James Vanden Heuvel, Lead Camp Consultant
Camp Licensing Unit
105 W. Allegan St. 2nd Floor
Lansing, MI 48933
616-901-3730

CAMP ORIGINAL LICENSING STUDY REPORT

Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Site License Number	Site Licensee (Campsite) Name	Application Date		
SR170419287	Piatt Lake Bible Conference Association	2/13/25		
Licensee Telephone	**Camp SITE Applicant Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip**
906-331-0080	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SITE Name	**Camp SITE Address**	**City**	**State**	**Zip**
Piatt Lake	6398 S. Piatt Lake Road	Eckerman	MI	49728
Camp SITE Telephone	**Applicant/Licensee Designee Name**	**E-Mail**		
906-331-0080	Jospeh Barger/Piatt Lake Bible Conference Association	jjbarger@comcast.net		

Is the PROGRAM applicant the same as SITE Applicant/Licensee?
☐ Yes ☒ No

Terms: Gender: Both Capacity: 192
From Age: 8 To Age: 18

SITE Type
☐ New Day Site ☒ New Residential Site
☐ Existing Day Site ☐ Existing Residential Site

METHODOLOGY

02/13/25	Enrollment
03/05/25	File Transferred to Field Office
03/26/25	PSOR on Address Completed-No findings
04/21/25	Inspection Completed-Fire Inspection-A Rated
07/08/25	Inspection Completed-Environmental Health Inspection -A Rated
07/30/25	Inspection Completed-Onsite
09/11/25	Contact-Document Sent
11/12/25	Contact-Document Received-PR2024BFS-005650-Miracle Building Approval
12/10/25	Inspection in Full Compliance
12/10/25	Recommend License Issuance

DESCRIPTION OF FINDINGS

A. SITE DESCRIPTION

Outdoor
- ☒ Acreage: 40
- ☒ Water Supply: Private
- ☒ Sewage: Private Sewer
- Bodies of Water: ☒ Lake(s) ☐ Pond(s) ☐ River(s) ☐ Pool(s)
- ☐ Other:

Indoor
- Sleeping: ☒ Dormitory ☐ Cabins ☐ Tents ☐ None
- Dining: ☒ Dining Hall ☐ Outdoor
- Health Area: ☒ Center ☒ Office ☐ Isolation
- Activity Area(s): ☐ Classrooms ☒ Craft Rooms ☐ Gym ☒ Multipurpose ☐ Indoor pool(s)
- Bathroom(s): ☒ Indoor ☐ Portable ☐ Accessible
- Fire Safety: QFI approved
- Env. Health: EHI approved

High Adventure
- Aquatics: ☒ Swimming ☐ Sailing ☒ Canoe/kayak ☐ Waterskiing ☐ Tubing ☐ Waterslide
- Target: ☐ Archery ☐ Riflery ☐ Other:
- Trail Sport: ☐ Biking ☐ Horseback ☐ Go Carts ☐ Other:
- Adventure: ☐ Low Obstacle ☐ High Ropes ☐ Rappelling ☐ Climbing ☐ Zipline ☐ Gymnastics
- Travel: ☐ Day Trips ☐ Overnight Off-site
- Other: ☐ ☐
- Winter Sports: ☐ ☐

Findings: Piatt Lake is a Christian camp and retreat center located in Eckerman, Chippewa County, in Michigan's Upper Peninsula — about 40 miles west of Sault Ste. Marie and roughly 50 miles north of St. Ignace, with just 4 miles to the shore of Lake Superior's Whitefish Bay. The camp sits on approximately 40 acres of forested and waterfront property, including a private lake with 150 feet of beachfront for swimming and waterfront activities. Facilities include a newly built "Ministry Center" featuring a chapel and dining hall, two multi-purpose buildings, a pavilion next to athletic fields, and four bunkhouse buildings which provide 96 bunks per bunkhouse.

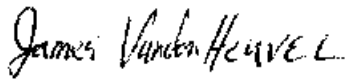
Outdoor amenities and natural features support a wide range of activities: lakeshore for swimming, fishing, and waterfront fellowship; open fields and courts for soccer, basketball, disc golf, volleyball, softball and a "gaga pit"; as well as trails and wooded areas for hiking. This campsite meets applicable rules and is suitable to host licensed children's camps.

B. RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS

The camp SITE were found to be in substantial compliance with statute and administrative rules.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend issuance of an original SITE license to this residential children's camp.

	James Vanden Heuvel	12/10/2025
Consultant's Signature	Printed Name/Licensing Consultant	Date
	Deondra S. Ramsey	12/17/2025
Approved By:	Printed Name/ Manager	Date

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