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

Name of Center: Our Redeemer Preschool **Enrollment:** 22 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 25137

Street: 2301 E Court St **City:** Iowa City Iowa **Zip** 52245 **County:** Johnson

Mailing Address: 2301 E Court St, Iowa City, IA, 52245

Director's Name: Kaja Mueller **Phone Number:** 319-338-3949

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sara Cross **E-Mail:** preschool@ourredeemer.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-26-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-01-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-06-2023

Comments : Does Comply

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			25		25
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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: Heidi Brown **Date:** 10-07-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at OUR REDEEMER PRESCHOOL – 25137 for an annual visit on 9/26/2024. The center provides preschool with wrap-around care. They are open Monday-Friday 7:30am to 12:45pm. They have 22 children enrolled.

The center is located inside of Our Redeemer Church. There is one large classroom with two adjoining restrooms. They have access to a kitchen and an office.

The center is nonprofit. The center's fire inspection was completed on 7/6/2023.

All program space was observed on the date of my visit.

The director is Kaja Mueller. Kaja started in 7/2013. She has a Bachelor's Degree and Certification as Director of Christian Services.

The onsite supervisor is Sara Cross. Sara started in 8/2017. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism and Political Science.

Nutritional practices were checked. Parents provide snack on a rotating The kitchen was maintained in a clean/orderly fashion.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed. The center followed handwashing procedures. The center stored medications appropriately. The center had a fully stocked first aid kit.

The center's curriculum is a blend of: One in Christ.

The center's policies, licensing notebook, staff files and child files were reviewed. The center had all required postings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center has been in full compliance since 2017. This is a huge accomplishment.
-The center had full compliance during their annual immunization audit.
-Thrivent Choice Dollars helps support Preschool Scholarships. Church members also help support the Preschool Scholarships.
-The center offers two day preschool, three day preschool and five day preschool.
-The center has a wide variety of educational and engaging activities.
-Kaja has been with the center since 2013. Sara has been with the center since 2015. Christie has been with the center since 2017.
-The center is clean, well organized and nicely decorated.
-The center's hand washing is phenomenal.

-The center utilizes Class Dojo for active parent/teacher communication.
-The preschool has two locked doors leading outside and two locked doors leading into the church. Staff can visually see who is at the door before allowing them access.
-The center's philosophy is to provide a Christ-centered atmosphere that allows children to observe, make choices, be active, explore and experiment.

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

Full compliance on the date of my visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The following agencies are available to provide consultation, support, and educational opportunities:
CACFP: https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program
Child Care Resource and Referral: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/
Early Childhood Iowa: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/
First Children's Finance: https://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/
Healthy Child Care Nurse Consultants: https://hhs.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants
Iowa AEYC: http://www.iowaaeyc.org/
Iowa After School Alliance: https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org/
Iowa State University: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/early-childhood
4c's of Johnson County: https://www.iowa4cs.com/

*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.