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

**Name of Center:** Our Redeemer Preschool **Enrollment:** 25 **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:** 11-09-2023

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **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:** 11-20-2023

**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 on 11/9/2023. The center provides care for preschool aged children. The center is open from 7:30am to 12:45pm. The center has 25 children enrolled. The center is inside of Our Redeemer Church. They utilize a classroom with two restrooms adjoining. The center's fire inspection was completed on 7/6/23.

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.

This worker observed all programming space and reviewed the curriculum.

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

Health and safety practices were also reviewed. The center had medications stored appropriately. The center did practice appropriate hand washing procedures at required times. The center had a complete first aid kit.

The center does not offer field trips. They have visitors from: Children's Museum, Conservationist, Dentist, Iowa City Librarian, Lion's Club, First Responders, Hand Washing, and Special Readers.

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

**III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

-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 children have access to a wide variety of educational and engaging activities.
-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:**

The center was in 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. The center is directed to correct the items listed in Section IV. The director gave me a verbal commitment that the noted rule violations would be promptly corrected. 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://idph.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.