Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Good Shepherd Christian Preschool

Provider No.: 6912

Address: 501 Elliott St, Stanton, IA, 51573

County: Montgomery

Director's Name: Marcia Lantz

On-Site Supervisor:

Phone Number: 7128292421

E-Mail: gscpstanton@gmail.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/30/2026

Licensing Period: 10/01/2026 to 10/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 08/10/2026

Comments:

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday			
Tuesday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Wednesday		8.00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Thursday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Friday		8:00 AM to 3:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [ ] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			20		20
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Good Shepherd Christian Preschool on 9/30/26. The preschool is under the ownership of the Mamreland Lutheran Church in Stanton, Iowa and the preschool works in conjunction with the Stanton Elementary School. The preschool moved into the community center called the Viking Center on June 18, 2014. The Viking Center is connected to the school. Marcia Lantz became the director in August 2022. Emily Pierson is the assistant teacher. Marcia has her master's degree in elementary education and completed her early childhood endorsement. Marcia has been teaching for over 40 years. Preschool is offered to four- and five-year old children either morning or afternoon. School is Tuesday through Friday. Morning sessions are from 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM and the afternoon session is from 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM. There is no preschool programming on Mondays. The program participates in the voluntary grant program for four-year-olds There are 18 children enrolled. I met with Marcia during my licensing visit.

Observation of room:
The preschool looks great. It is bright, cheerful, and has a wonderful variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. The children's fun artwork was displayed on the wall as well as photographs of the children's families. There were 10 children and two staff present. The children were having fun playing at centers. There are a variety of centers including kitchen, library, trucks and tractors, science, writing and art, quiet area, and puzzles. Marcia said they rotate the centers with the curriculum which varies. Staff had excellent interactions with the children. They were positive and attentive to the children's needs. Marcia develops excellent lesson plans and activities which are posted. There are daily and weekly lesson plans. Marcia uses Creative Curriculum and modifies it as needed. The children have a question of the day and then they discuss it. The preschool provides a weekly newsletter that is sent to parents, posted in the programming room, and is on the parent bulletin board.

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Nutrition:
The preschool provides a snack, but sometimes parents donate the snack. Menus were posted. Proper food storage was observed. Breakfast is offered at the child care center. A majority of the children are fed at the Stanton Child Resource Center as the preschool only provides a snack. Normally, the elementary school will offer breakfast; however, there is construction at this time so it is not being offered. It will resume once construction is done. The preschool is not on the federal food program.

Health and safety:
The monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented. The also do a "get help" drill and active shooter drill. Radon testing was done in August 2024 and the test score was 4.2 pCi/L. Marcia reported the last two years that she would do retesting since the results were over 4.0 pCi/L, but it has not yet been done. Marcia again said she would retest. Please let me know what the results are after you retest. Refer to your Child Care Policies and Procedures handbook for information regarding radon testing as the rules have been updated. Marcia reported they have all electrical appliances. The preschool uses Sanibet for sanitizing and Clorox disinfecting wipes. One child has an EpiPen. It is kept in the preschool's backpack where it is easily accessible to staff but inaccessible to the children.

Playground:
The preschool has a fenced playground that is located down the hill from the preschool. They have a shed for their outdoor toys and equipment. Mulch is used for surfacing. They have scooters, tricycles, and helmets. There is a concrete slab for basketball. Along the walk to the playground is a Story Walk. A member of the community changes the Story Walk on a monthly basis. Monthly playground inspections are completed. There is also an indoor track and basketball court located inside the Viking Center.

Transportation:
The program doesn't provide daily transportation services. Parents provide transportation and many children receive transportation services to and from the Stanton Child Resource Center. The school provides the van for transportation to and from the child care center to the preschool and one staff rides the van with them.

Administrative records:
Four children's files were reviewed and were in excellent order. Marcia and Emily's staff files were reviewed. One staff was missing mandatory reporter training and Universal Precautions. The teachers visit the children's home before the start of the school year. Marcia has the newsletter, school calendar, and menu posted.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Good Shepherd Christian Preschool is a wonderful resource for the community. The preschool has provided a quality program for over twenty years and has positively impacted the lives of hundreds of children and families. That is a wonderful accomplishment. The preschool collaborates with the school to provide the four-year-old grant preschool services. Marcia and Emily are enthusiastic and proud of the preschool; they are always very helpful during my visits. Marcia is very organized. Marcia's goals are to grow, but not too big. She feels there is a lot of 1:1 time with the smaller groups which allows a variety of hands-on and lots of ways for the children to learn. The preschool does activities to involve the families. The preschool has a family night in the spring, mom's day, dad's day, grandparent's day, and a Thanksgiving meal. Marcia identified their strengths as they individualize the education due to the small class sizes and community participation such as the fire department and police department visit. They also have free dental and eye examinations. The conservation specialist comes in three times a year. A pastor from different churches comes in weekly. The preschool takes field trips to the pumpkin patch and apple orchard and to a family farm in the spring.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.7(2): Center directors and all staff have the required contact hours of training. Marcia and Emily's staff files were reviewed. One staff was missing mandatory reporter training and Universal Precautions.

109.11(8)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted. Radon testing was done in August 2024 and the test score was 4.2 pCi/L. Marcia reported the last two years that she would do retesting since the results were over 4.0 pCi/L, but it has not yet

been done. Marcia again said she would retest. Please let me know what the results are after you retest.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended for 10/1/26 to 10/1/28.

Targeted Assessment Behavior Management
I discussed with Marcia her oversight of behavior management related to helping childcare staff: 1. Understand expectations, 2. Managing frustrations, 3. Monitor performance. Staff take behavior management training and classes. The teachers are able to teach each other. They have discussions about the children. The teachers communicate if they need a break by stating “red card” which means they need a break and/or switch which children they are working with.

Please complete the radon testing and let me know what the results are. Please have this completed by Monday, 11/2/26.

Date: 10/06/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Tausha Bottorff

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.