Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: Van Meter United Methodist Kids Care

Provider No.: 25861

Address: 100 Hazel St, Van Meter, IA, 50261

County: Dallas

Director's Name: Jessica Jaspers

On-Site Supervisor: Shayna Smith and Sarah Wyckoff

Phone Number: 5159962572

E-Mail: kidscare@vmumc.com

HHS Visit Date: 07/24/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2025 to 09/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 09/22/2025

Comments: State Fire Marshal inspections are due every three years.

Report Visit Type:

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

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

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

Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	6:30 AM to 5:45 PM		
Tuesday	6:30 AM to 5:45 PM		
Wednesday	6:30 AM to 5:45 PM		
Thursday	6:30 AM to 5:45 PM		
Friday	6:30 AM to 5:45 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	17	69	86
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An off-year inspection was conducted on 7/24/26. The director was present throughout the inspection.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Van Meter United Methodist Kids Care is a childcare program for four year old and school age children and is located in the United Methodist Church. The center operates a preschool, a before and after school program during the school year, and all day programming during the summer using one large classroom and one smaller room down the hall. During the school year, school-age children can attend from 6:30am - 8:00am and again from 3:15pm - 5:45pm. Again, there is a preschool component as well. Summer programming is from 7:00am - 5:45pm. The center utilizes their own curriculum, which is Christian based. Total child enrollment on the day of the inspection was 112 children.

The program is non-profit and overseen by a Board. Jessica Jaspers is the director. Jessica has a BA degree and several years of experience working in child care, including past experience as a director at another program. Shayna Smith is one on-site supervisor as of 6/2022. Shayna has past experience working in child care and has completed a number of training hours to meet the requirements for on-site supervisor. Sarah Wyckoff is another on-site supervisor as of 7/2023. Sarah has an AA degree, her CDA, and past experience working in child care.

NUTRITION: The center serves an AM snack and a PM snack to children. Children/families are responsible for providing their own lunches. Children eat in the big classroom at the tables and chairs. The food menu was posted and all snack

items met CACFP requirements. The center has a kitchen area to prepare snacks. All refrigerated, frozen, and dry food was sufficiently stored.

TRANSPORTATION/FIELD TRIPS: The center has their own full-size school bus as well as a van that they use for transportation of children on field trips. Regular maintenance is performed on the vehicles. For all transportation needs, the center takes children's emergency contacts and a first-aid kit. The center is also a pick up/drop off site for children during the school year.

PLAYGROUND: The center has a large open space for outdoor play. There is a climbing structure area that has slides and swings. Mulch is used for surfacing as well as outdoor playground mats. There is a large grassy area for children to play. The center will also put out cones on the blacktop when using the blacktop area. There are ample trees that provide shade. Monthly playground inspections are being conducted.

During the inspection, all children were inside in the large classroom and playing at the different learning stations made available to them. Several groups of children were doing arts and crafts projects. Some children were also observed at the dramatic play area. Staff were spaced out among the different groups of children and interacting wit them. Toys, tables, and other equipment are being cleaned and sanitized daily. Children questioned gave specific answers as to where they relocate to for monthly fire and tornado drills.

For more challenging child behaviors, the director puts a great emphasis on teamwork and communication. Communication between staff, management, children and parents is stressed. Staff are taught when to know when they might need to take a step back or a short break. The director also makes it a points for she and her staff to really get to know their families they serve.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

The center has a good working relationship with the church they are located in as well as other businesses in the community. The center participates in several charity projects within the community over the summer months.

The center has a lot of storage space.

Additional information about the center can be found on the church website. The center also uses a private electronic app called Child Pilot to communicate with parents.

The center splits children into two different groups on Monday - Thursday which allows for better supervision and better transitions between activities, etc.

The director has past experience being a director and is organized.

The director believes she has a good staff working for her and that they have good relationships with the families they serve.

The center has a full-size school bus and a van they use for transportation needs.

The center is a pick up and drop off site for school-age children during the school year.

The center works with their CCR&R consultant and nurse consultant as needed.

The center purchased walkie talkies over the past year for increased communication between staff when they are spread out.

Good child -staff interactions were observed.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.9(1)c: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Several staff are past due for again needing Mandatory Reporter.

109.9(2)k: Any child with special health needs, a written emergency plan. Copy shall accompany child if they leave the premises.
A Food Allergy Action Plan was missing for one child with an epipen.

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

The two below standards should be corrected as soon as possible.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

Radon testing was conducted in both classrooms 5/3/25 - 5/5/25. Both classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual HVAC inspection was last completed on 7/18/26.

I-Power was again discussed at the visit. Staff will need to upload training certificates into I-Power if I - Power doesn't automatically do it. Mandatory Reporter as well as First-Aid/CPR will always need to be manually uploaded into profiles.

A Food Allergy Action Plan was emailed to the center after the inspection concluded.

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Date: 07/27/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper

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**.