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

Name of Center: Church Of The Cross Preschool **Enrollment:** 65 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28301

Street: 1975 8th St SW **City:** Altoona Iowa **Zip** 50009 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1701 8th St SW , Altoona, IA, 50009

Director's Name: Tammie Dixon **Phone Number:** 515-967-0138

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** ccp@lccaltoona.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-13-2025

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:** 08-29-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-13-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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*
Sunday			
Monday		9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	
Tuesday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Wednesday		9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	
Thursday		9:00 AM to 11:30 AM	
Friday		9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			46		46
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2025 to 05-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 05-15-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Church of the Cross Preschool has been in operation since 2005. This program provides preschool for children ages three through five years of age. The preschool uses three rooms within a building of Church of the Cross for programming. The center also uses a playground and a larger classroom for large motor play on inclement weather days. Tammie Dixon is the director. Tammie started as director in August 2023. Tammie has Bachelors degree in Elementary Education. Tammie has experience working at Head Start and in a daycare prior to employment at the preschool.

An unannounced visit was completed today. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules and standards were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the entrance. Schedules and lesson plans are posted. Classrooms are well supplied with labeled interest centers, age appropriate learning supplies, toys and furnishings. Children's belongings and coats are kept in cubbies in the classrooms and hooks in the hallway. Children's artwork is displayed in classrooms.

Tammie assisted with today's visit. The were three classes in session during today's visit. The Dolphins (4/5's) had seven children present. Tammie was teaching this class. The Ducks (3/4's) had fourteen children in attendance. There were two staff working with this group. The Goldfish (3/4's) had thirteen children present. There were two staff working in this classroom. Children were observed in classrooms and on the playground. While in classrooms, children were involved in large group learning time, child directed activities and snack time. Staff read books and were discussing animals during circle time. Staff were actively engaged with the children throughout the visit.

The center has a fenced in playground. There are two climbing structures. There is rubber mulch for surfacing material. There are concrete areas on the playground. The center completes monthly playground checks.

The center provides snack. Menus were reviewed. A recommendation was made to take vanilla wafers off the menu or to serve only if there are two credible food groups being served.

The center doesn't provide transportation.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center's classrooms are well supplied with many learning and play supplies and centers for children's use. The preschool has a playground for outdoor play activities.

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

109.9(2)g: Any child with allergies, a written emergency plan. Copy shall accompany child if they leave the premises.
Two children had emergency medications and there weren't action plans/emergency plans available with the medication or in the children's files.
Tammie was going to look for the emergency plans or request the plans from the parents if she couldn't locate the plans.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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