

Topic: 2500 Place Building in North Newton, Kansas

For Table Discussion at WDC Delegate Assembly, July 2022

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION

What dreams do you have for exciting, *missional* uses for the 2500 Place building, owned by WDC and used for our offices? Located at 24th and Main streets in North Newton, Kansas, the building could be used in new ways that represent WDC's vision/ministry. Think outside the box. Be creative. What can you imagine would be one or more ways to use the space we currently own? Do not consider cost. Just dream.

At the Annual Assembly, delegates will be invited to discuss and list ideas to submit by email to wdc@mennowdc.org or on the sheet of paper on your table.

BACKGROUND

Last year WDC's Business Manager, volunteer Building Manager and Trustees talked about selling the 2500 Place building (because of ongoing maintenance and management needs) and leasing back space for WDC. But before considering a sale, the Stewardship Commission asked Executive Board to assess WDC's needs and vision and to consider how the building meets those needs and focuses on our vision. WDC uses less than half of the space (for offices, Resource Library, conference rooms, workroom and storage) and rents out office space to other tenants.

The Executive Board appointed a Facilities Assessment Team, which began meeting in March 2022. After discussions with Staff and Building Manager, the Team is considering a missional approach to how the building is used. Rather than just renting out office space for profit, WDC could use this space in new ways that fits with WDC's mission and serves the local or wider community, perhaps including institutional partners and other nonprofit organizations. The Team has asked for time during Assembly to ask Delegates for ideas.

FACTS — 2500 Place

Built in 1948 by Bethel College to provide a place for student work programs, it was named the *Grattan Building*. Later it became home to Mennonite Press and many other businesses. In 1988 it was purchased from Bethel College and renovated and, in 1989, renamed *2500 Place*.

Current WDC space:	4,600 sq. ft.
Tenants, common space:	5,880 sq. ft.
Total space:	10,480 sq. ft.

WDC FACILITIES ASSESSMENT TEAM

Delon Martens, chair (Executive Board representative), *First/Hutchinson, Kan.*

Willmar Harder (Executive Board representative), *Buhler/Buhler, Kan.*

June Krehbiel (Executive Board representative), *Eden/Moundridge, Kan.*

Cleo Koop (Stewardship Commission representative), *Tabor/Newton, Kan.*

Heidi Regier Kreider (WDC Conference Minister)

Beth Yoder (WDC Business Manager)

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List your ideas and submit them by email to wdc@mennowdc.org, or use this sheet of paper. Include names of delegates at your table.

IDEAS

TABLE NUMBER _____

DELEGATE NAMES