



Pennsylvania
Historical & Museum
Commission

Ephrata Cloister

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Be A History Detective At The Ephrata Cloister

Help The Brothers and Sisters Solve A Mystery on Saturday, April 14, 2012 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

EPHRATA, PA. – The brothers and sisters at the Ephrata Cloister, a former celibate community founded in 1732 by German immigrant Conrad Beissel, are in quite a predicament. The baker, Brother Amos cannot find the bread in the bakery. The letters in the print shop are all mixed up and Brother Ezekial does not know how to set them straight again.

The brothers and sisters are hoping that you and your family can help them on Saturday, April 14 when the Ephrata Cloister, a historical site administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and supported by the Ephrata Cloister Associates, hosts a Spring Search from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

“Smaller children are not something we see a lot of here, because our story is very complex,” says Michael Showalter, Museum Educator, who started volunteering as a student in 1980.

With children’s programs like Spring Search and Family Days, and school programs like Community Days, Discovery Tours, and the high school-aged after-school program Student Historians, the Ephrata Cloister offers something for all ages to enjoy.

“We want something for a younger audience, and this is a fun way to get them involved with their heritage,” adds Elizabeth Bertheaud, Historic Site Administrator.

During the Spring Search, children 11 and under get a Heritage Passport, and as they follow the clues around the site, they can collect stickers in the passport. Collect them all, and trade them in for a prize.

The Ephrata Cloister will be open for guided tours of the Founder’s House, Sisters’ House and Meeting House throughout the day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A tour leaves from the Visitor Center at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m., and 4 p.m., and is included in the admission fee.

While at the Ephrata Cloister, make sure to stop by the Museum Store and purchase your ticket for the “Lancaster County’s Best Kept Secrets Tour,” which features 35 off-the-beaten path businesses each with their own unusual and unique atmosphere.

This afternoon full of family fun takes place at the Ephrata Cloister, 632 West Main Street, Ephrata, between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday, April 14. Children ages 11 and under are just \$1.00, adults are \$9.00 or \$8.00 if you are over the age of 65. Regular admission fees apply prior to noon. For more information call the Ephrata Cloister at (717) 733-6600, visit www.EphrataCloister.org or find them on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/HistoricEphrataCloister.

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Caption: Spring arrives at the Ephrata Cloister. (Photograph Courtesy of Elizabeth Bertheaud, PHMC)