Welcome to Historic Ephrata Cloister!

Founded in 1732 by Johann Conrad Beissel, Ephrata Cloister was home to 80 celibate members and nearly 250 married Householder congregants, all preparing for the Second Coming of Christ. They built Germanic-style buildings, created artistic works such as Frakturschriften script, published the *Martyrs Mirror* - one of the largest books in Colonial America, and composed unique original music.

After the last celibate member died in 1813, the remaining Householder congregation formed the German Seventh Day Baptist Church, which lasted until 1934. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania purchased and began restoring the site in 1941. Today, Historic Ephrata Cloister is part of the Pennsylvania Trails of History.

Upcoming Events in 2024:

Christmas at the Cloister

December 9th & 10th, 6:30 and 8:00 pm each night

Lantern Tours by the Student Historians

December 27th - 30th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Winter History Class

January 9 - February 27, 2025 See website for registration details!

See our website or scan the QR code below for more details on tickets for these events!

Website: www.ephratacloister.org/events







632 West Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522 717-733-6600 www.ephratacloister.org

Historic Ephrata Cloister is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in partnership with the Ephrata Cloister Associates. Josh Shapiro, Governor Hayley Haldeman Chair Andrea Lowery, Executive Director



Welcome to Candlelight Open House!

Experience Historic Ephrata Cloister by Candlelight



Step back in time tonight as you explore the illuminated grounds of Historic Ephrata Cloister. This evening, local craftspeople are here to share their stories and showcase their handcrafted wares—perfect for unique holiday gifts available in our Museum Store

Join the Ephrata Cloister Chorus for performances in the 1741 Saal at 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30 PM. Wristbands are required for entry to these FREE performances and can be picked up at a table just past the entrance gate. Please note that seating is limited and operates on a first-come, first-served basis.

Throughout the evening, enjoy additional performances in the Saal from Randy Kochel and Amanda Wells on the hammered dulcimer and guitar.

Throughout the evening, costumed guides and historical demonstrators will welcome you into our historic spaces, offering a glimpse of life in the 18th century. Historic interpreters, along with members of Clotz's Battalion of the Flying Camp, will be onsite to bring Revolutionary War-era stories to life.

After your tour through the grounds, stop by W Donuts and Strada Cafe's food trucks and visit the exhibit in the Visitor Center. Enjoy the evening!

COURTESIES & REMINDERS

- Please, do not touch any of the historical artifacts and items on display
- Please, no flash photography inside
- Please, silence cell phones
- Please, do not climb trees, fences, or go in the drainage culvert
- Please, do not litter



You'll find books, colonial toys, and great hand-made items for your home, your friends, and yourself!

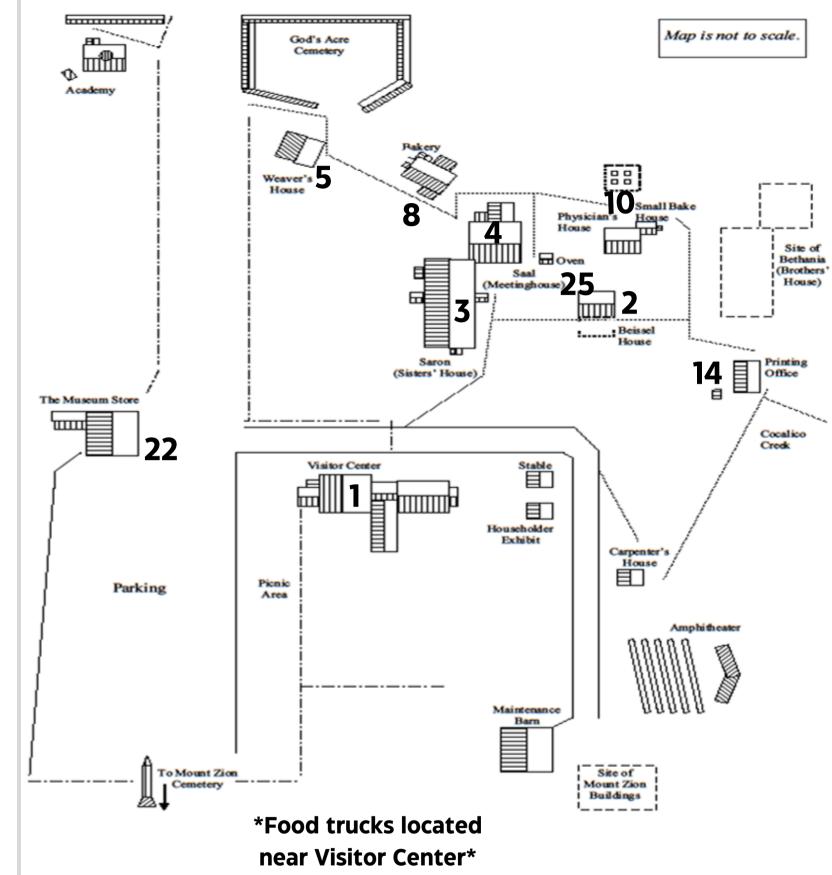
Activities and Open Buildings

- Tours of the Sisters' House (Saron) Building #3
- PA German Paper Folk Art with Matthew & Elaine Vardjan Beissel House, **Building #2**
- Gift Box Make-and-Take Activity Auditorium in Visitor Center, Building #1
- Vendors (including Paul Lutrell & Jim King) Auditorium in Visitor Center, Building #1
- Printing Demonstrations Print Shop, Building #14
- Colonial Medicine Physician's House, **Building #10**
- Baking in the 18th Century Building #8
- Lancaster Spinners and Weavers Guild Weaver's House, Building #5
- Clotz's Flying Camp of Lancaster, Civilian 18th Century Interpreters #25 on map
- The Museum Store OPEN, #22 on map
- Performances by the Ephrata Cloister Chorus FREE 5:30, 6:30, and 7:30 (Pick up wristband ticket just past entrance gate) Meetinghouse (Saal) Building #4
- Performances by Randy Kochel & Amanda Wells (Hammered Dulcimer and Guitar) –
 FREE throughout the evening Meetinghouse (Saal) Building #4
 Restrooms are located in the Visitor Center.

Keep Ephrata Cloister's History Alive as a Member!

Members of the **Ephrata Cloister Associates** play a vital role in preserving, exploring, and sharing this National Historic Landmark. Your support helps ensure the Ephrata Cloister remains an inspiring part of our past and future.

Learn more about membership at the Visitor Center, the Museum Store, or online at www.ephratacloister.org.



Wherever you see a red *Dial & Discover* sign, dial **717-260-5669** on your phone and enter the stop number on the sign to learn more!