

## 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:**

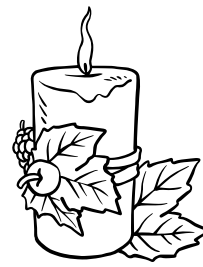
**[www.ephratacloister.org/events](http://www.ephratacloister.org/events)**



632 West Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522  
717-733-6600 [www.ephratacloister.org](http://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!

