



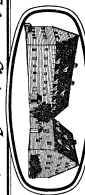
Saron (Sisters' House) and Saal (Meetinghouse)

THE EPHRATA CLOISTER was founded in 1732 by Conrad Beissel, a German immigrant seeking the freedom of religion offered in Pennsylvania. At Ephrata, celibate Brothers and Sisters were supported by a married congregation of families called Householders. The life of the celibate members was characterized by strict discipline and self-denial of comfort. At the zenith of the community in the 1740s and 1750s, about 300 members worked and worshiped at the Cloister.

Following the death of the last celibate member in 1813 the married congregation formed the German Seventh Day Baptist Church. Members continued to live and worship at the Cloister until 1934. In 1941 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania acquired the historic site and began a program of restoration and interpretation. Today, nine original buildings are part of a 28 acre complex.

WHEN BROTHER OBED opened a school for local children in the 1740s at the Ephrata Cloister he began a tradition of education which has continued to the present day. During the hectic days of the 21st century, a visit to colonial America and the special community of the Ephrata Cloister can be a great addition to your lessons in history, language and mathematics.

Ephrata Cloister Associates
632 West Main Street
Ephrata, PA 17522



SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT THE HISTORIC EPHRATA CLOISTER 2011-2012

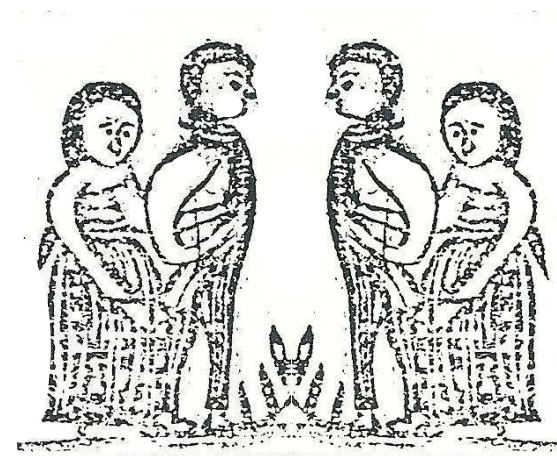


Illustration of children adapted from woodcut published by Householder John Bauman in 1807.

632 West Main Street
Ephrata, Pennsylvania 17522
(717) 733-6600

www.ephratacloister.org

www.facebook.com/HistoricEphrataCloister

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Ephrata Cloister is administered by the
Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission

Tom Corbett, Governor * Wayne Spilove, Chairman
Barbara Franco, Executive Director

Ephrata Cloister School Tour Options

AT HISTORIC EPHRATA CLOISTER you and your students will explore a community like no other in colonial America. The Ephrata Cloister began the same year George Washington was born, and in 30 years the residents had built impressive buildings, created scores of artwork and musical compositions, and published the largest book printed in the colonies before the Revolution. Now your class can learn about the Ephrata Cloister through these hands-on programs.

Discovery Tours

YOUR VISIT WILL START with an introduction and special role-playing activity as one student becomes the “Little Sister” and demonstrates daily life at the Cloister for her classmates. A visit to the Meeting-house and Sisters’ House follows this portion of the program.

Following this introduction teachers choose **TWO** of the following programs when making their reservations.

Quill Pens, Ink and Sealing Wax

Using the tools of the 1700s, write a letter and send it through our version of the early postal system.

Dressed for the Part

Clothing looked very different 250 years ago, and now a classmate can become a model and show you how people dressed in

The Bloody Theater:

A Printing Office Visit

Discover the history of the largest book printed in America before the Revolutionary War—*The Martyrs Mirror*.

The Doctor Is In

Brother Gideon says he is a doctor, but you might think differently when you hear his idea of a cure for your disease.

Runaway, An Apprentice Baker

Have you seen Thomas Edwards? He was learning to be a baker in Philadelphia, but he has run away and now his master needs your help with the work of baking bread.

Packing for America

When early residents came to Pennsylvania they had to prepare for a long trip to a new and unknown home. What kind of things would you bring with you if you were going to move to this colony in the 1700s?

Going to School in 1842

The Ephrata Academy provided a special education for students in grades 1 through 8—all in the same room at the same time! Examine the books from Mr. Wiggans’ classroom and try your hand at doing arithmetic on slates.

Availability: Discovery Tours are available Tuesdays through Fridays

Length of Tour: Approximately 2 1/2 hours.

Community Days

Explore the many activities of the Brothers and Sisters as the Ephrata Cloister comes to life. During this program an “open house” format will allow many students from different schools and home-school students to investigate a range of learning stations located throughout the Cloister grounds. Each station will consist of a 12-15 minute presentation. Travel at your own pace from station to station in any order. On these days you might:

- ♦ Visit the doctor
- ♦ Write with a quill pen
- ♦ Try-on colonial clothing
- ♦ Explore a one-room school

Three days each school year are set aside for this program. 2010-2011 dates are:

October 21, 2011

April 27, 2012 and May 18, 2012

Time: 9:30 am until 1:00 pm

Duration: You may stay on the grounds as long as you wish. The learning stations will close at 1:00 p.m.

Group Size: Bring as many or as few students as you wish but please plan a minimum of 1 chaperone for every 10

Advance Reservations Required: Please call **(717) 733-6600** to schedule your tour today.

Tuition: \$6.00 per student, One adult is admitted free with every 10 students. Additional adults above the 1 to 10 student ration will be admitted at a rate of \$8.00 per person.

Other Amenities include: The Museum Store, picnic tables, snacks and beverages available in Museum Store. Restrooms and ample parking for buses, vans and cars.