

Celebrating God's Faithfulness
Rissers Mennonite Church
250th Anniversary
June 14-15, 2025

We invite you, your family, and others to come join us in this celebration!

Rissers Mennonite Church was started by Peter Risser, along with his family and others, who settled in America in 1739. The church first met in homes. The first deed was delivered to the church in 1775. God has been faithful in sustaining the church all these years and we celebrate His goodness. Families have come and gone over the years, but the congregation is still here, vibrant and alive, and continues to love and serve God.

Keynote speakers

Lloyd M. Weiler is director of Muddy Run Library in Ephrata. This is a Mennonite Research Library and Archives. Lloyd's main interest is in researching local Lancaster County history. He also enjoys helping other people with their research projects.

Steven M. Nolt is a professor of history at Elizabethtown College and Senior Scholar at the college's Young Center for Anabaptist and Pietist Studies. He is the author or co-author of fifteen books on Mennonite, Amish, and Pennsylvania German history.

Saturday, June 14

12:30 PM **Bus Tour** of local historical sites with stories and facts along the way by Lloyd Weiler

Starts with a walking tour through Rissers Mennonite Cemetery

Pre-registration is required

Deadline to register is May 15, 2025

First come, until the bus is full

For adults and children ages 10 and up

Cost = \$35 per person

Childcare available for parents going on bus trip

To register for bus tour or for more information, contact:

Arlene Heistand

Cell 717-507-3510

arleneheistand@embarqmail.com

Linda Umbrell

Cell 717-669-3417

5:00 PM Light meal at the church - time for fellowship, displays of photos and artifacts

7:00 PM **Session 1**

Each session will have special music and a family who was involved at Rissers will be highlighted

Song Leader Merle Ressler & special music by German Singers around the Singers Table

Speaker Steve Nolt

Topic **Lillian Risser, the Pennsylvania Garb Law, and the Free Exercise of Anabaptist Religion 1908-1910**

Sunday, June 15

9:00 AM Sunday School - classes for children and adults

9:50 AM Piano prelude music

10:00 AM **Session 2**

Song Leaders Brad & Mary Barrows & special music by the Barrows

Speakers Daryl Heistand-Pastor of Rissers, and Lloyd Weiler

Topic **1525-1775 - 250 years of stories leading up to Rissers Mennonite Church**

12 NOON Fellowship Meal at the church

7:00 PM **Session 3**

Song Leader James Zimmerman & special music by the Zimmerman family

Speaker Lloyd Weiler

Topic **1775-2025 - 250 years of stories from Rissers Mennonite Church**

Church location - 8360 Elizabethtown Road, Elizabethtown PA 17022