



Experience the history of the Amish & Mennonites

# Behalt

A 10-ft x 265-ft cyclorama (circular mural)

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Make this your first stop in Amish County!



## Amish & Mennonite Heritage Center

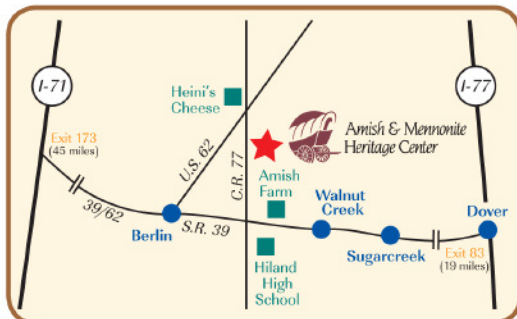
*On the journey*

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[www.behalt.com](http://www.behalt.com)



Hours:

Open 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Monday through Saturday  
Closed Sunday

**June – October:**

Friday & Saturday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.



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# A History Tested by Time and Tried by Fire ...

Since the beginning of the Anabaptist movement in the early 1500s, the people who later came to be known as Amish and Mennonites have been a puzzle to the rest of the world.

Who were these people who upset the European religious community, both Catholic and Protestant, by teaching about adult baptism? Why, in the face of trials and persecution, did they choose non-violence as a response?

A unique educational experience awaits you at the Amish & Mennonite Heritage Center. Witness the history of the Amish, Mennonites and Hutterites on *Behalt*—one of only four cycloramas in North America.

*Behalt* is a 10-ft by 265-ft circular mural. The painted oil-on-canvas cyclorama uses unique artistic techniques of line and color to illustrate multiple stories within a vast timeline. The name *Behalt* means “to keep, hold, remember.”

**Experience the martyrs' final moments.** It is astonishing to find that the history of the Amish and Mennonites – known as “the gentle people” and “the quiet in the land” – is laced with persecution and martyrdom. Struggling to live out their beliefs in a peaceful manner, they were forced to migrate across Europe, some into Russia, and across the Atlantic to North

America. Through the mural you will come to a deeper understanding of the precepts that formed their beliefs and led to their quest for a simple, peaceful lifestyle.

**A different kind of attraction.** The Heritage Center also offers a 15-minute video on the local Amish and Mennonite community. In addition, our bookstore offers a wide selection of books by or about the Amish and Mennonites. The gift shop presents local crafts, souvenirs and fairly traded handicrafts from around the world.

You will find literature, maps and brochures to help you plan your visit in Holmes County. The center is easily accessible from US Rte. 62 and SR 39. It provides ample parking, clean restrooms, drinking fountains and a unique gift shop. Motor coach tours are welcome.



## Guided Tours



A 30-minute tour of *Behalt* illustrates the history of the Anabaptist movement from its origins to the present day. Woven into the mural is the stirring history of the early church and the Reformation. Knowledgeable and friendly guides will answer your questions.



## Pioneer Barn & One-Room School House

Discover Amish education and its connection to one-room public schools in our pre-Civil War schoolhouse. The Pioneer Barn houses a restored Conestoga Wagon that brought early settlers from Pennsylvania to our region and farther west.

