

Come join the celebration of Heritage Sunday, May 21

All are invited to 'Come Home' to Heritage Sunday.

*Whether a long time Amherst resident or relative newcomer; member of the church, active, inactive or friend, or future friend/member. Come As You Are, 'Come Home to Church' for Heritage Sunday celebrating 275 years of history of "The Church in Amherst."**

Heritage Sunday is the finale of the year-long celebration of the Amherst Congregational Church of Amherst's 275th Anniversary of its founding on Sept 22, 1741.

The three-part program begins with Worship Service at 10:00 AM that will focus on how our church heritage endures and impacts our church today. After church, join the special reception to welcome and greet guests, and old friends. Finally, a 2nd Hour presentation will provide a unique opportunity to learn more about our historic building.

During the service, our long-time members, former members and old friends will be honored. Invitations will be sent to our Old Guard members, and folks formerly affiliated to our church. Sally Bowkett and Judi Dunbar are working on invitation lists to send and they welcome suggestions or help addressing them. Contact them directly: Sally – 673-7409, Judi – 673 2823.

Director of Music Sara Phelps has invited singers to join the Chancel Choir in singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* from Messiah as part of the celebration. Handel's Messiah was completed in 1741, so this musical tribute is the perfect addition to Heritage Sunday. Michael Havay will accompany the choir on the organ.

Second Hour Program – We are privileged to have former NH Historical Society architectural historian Jim Garvin present a program about our 1774 meetinghouse structure. Go to: <http://www.james-garvin.com/resume.html> to learn more about his distinguished career, specializing in: *History of American architecture; history of engineering; geographical history; building investigation; traditional methods and materials of construction.*

This will be a unique opportunity to learn more about how our massive building with its very tall steeple were built. We will do a walk-about after the presentation to actually look at the queens-truss framing in the attic. Additionally, Steve Fifield, who did the structural restoration work to the meetinghouse in 1999 – 2000, will be on hand to explain the work his firm did to repair and reinforce the frame. And our town clock-winder will also be present to tell about the 1815 original clock that he keeps working 'like clock-work.'

Please register for the 2nd hour program by calling Anne Krantz at 673-9684

- Words from the Covenant signed September 22, 1741