



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Amherst College and Emily Dickinson Museum Announce Lecture on Role of Religion in Poet's Life Oct. 22**

AMHERST, Mass.—Jane D. Eberwein of Oakland University will speak on “Household of Faith: The Religious Climate of Emily Dickinson’s World” at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 22, at First Congregational Church, 165 Main St., Amherst. Co-sponsored by the Amherst College Department of English, the talk will focus on the religious environment which shaped and informed Dickinson’s work, even as she refused to join the church. This lecture is free and open to the public.

Eberwein is Distinguished Professor of English at Oakland University in Rochester, Mich., where she specializes in American authors with roots in New England Puritanism. She is editor of *An Emily Dickinson Encyclopedia* (1998) and *Early American Poetry: Selections from Anne Bradstreet, Edward Taylor, Timothy Dwight, Philip Freneau, and William Cullen Bryant* (1978) and author of *Dickinson: Strategies of Limitation* (1985) as well as various essays on the role of religion in Dickinson’s life and work. She will speak at First Congregational Church, which Dickinson’s brother helped to build and where the poet’s family regularly worshiped.

The Emily Dickinson Museum, comprising the Dickinson Homestead and The Evergreens, two historic houses in Amherst, is devoted to the story and legacy of poet Emily Dickinson and her family. The Dickinson Homestead was the birthplace and residence of the poet (1830-1886). The Evergreens was the 1856 home of the poet’s brother and sister-in-law, Austin and Susan Dickinson. Merged into a single museum in 2003, both properties are owned by the Trustees of Amherst College. For more information, please visit the Emily Dickinson Museum’s website.

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