

## ON AN AUGUST AFTERNOON IN 1806...

five Williams College students met in a field, as was their habit, to talk and pray and, like so many young people, to dream of a better world. When a sudden thunderstorm interrupted, they sought shelter under a haystack—and there resolved to offer their lives, in the name of Jesus Christ, to carry their faith into service “into all the world.”

Within two years one of them, Samuel John Mills, had organized an alliance called “The Brethren” to bring the gospel to those around the world who had never heard it. By 1810 the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Mission, the first foreign missionary society in the U.S., had been formed; in 1812 Adoniram Judson and Luther Rice sailed to India as the first overseas missionaries. Later the American Board of Homeland Missions was formed to serve within our borders—evangelizing, establishing schools for Native and Black Americans, and playing a key role in the movement to abolish slavery.

So it was that the American foreign missions movement was born two centuries ago in a haystack during a summer storm. Since that August day, young people have followed their faith to meet physical and spiritual needs in every part of the world—establishing schools, equipping hospitals, founding churches. They have been supported by the prayers and offerings of generations of Christians. And countless people around the globe trace their Christian lineage through a hayfield in north-western Massachusetts.

The Haystack Movement has changed the shape of lives and communities, brought cultures into dialogue and, sometimes, into conflict, and inspired generations of Christians to engage the wounds, needs, and hopes of the world.

Now, as a new millennium begins, how will we live a third century of the Haystack legacy? What does Christian mission mean among us today?

We invite you to remember, to dream, to pray, to celebrate at the site of the haystack this September.

### *Why come to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Haystack prayer meeting?*

Because we live in an ever-shrinking global village... Because it matters more than ever how we reach out in faith to the physical and spiritual needs of the world... Because young people bursting with idealism and hope still want desperately to make a difference... Because the Spirit which moved those five students continues to break open our hearts and minds... Because the inscription on the Haystack monument in Williamstown still inspires and beckons: *the field is the world...*

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

HAYSTACK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION • September 22, 23, 24, 2006

### — Friday, September 22 —

#### **Registration 3:00–9:00 p.m.**

Fellowship Hall, First Congregational Church, UCC  
*Exhibits, SERRVice Mart, Bookstore, Hospitality*

#### **Fellowship buffet dinner 6:00–7:15 p.m.**

The Williams Inn

#### **“Singing and Praying Globally” 8:00–9:30 p.m.**

*Songs of faith and hope from around the world*  
*Worship Leader/Musician: C. Michael Hawn*

#### **After-hours activities 9:30 p.m.**

### — Saturday, September 23 —

#### **Sunrise Service 6:45 a.m.**

Haystack Monument, Mission Park, Williams College

#### **Continental breakfast 7:00–8:00 a.m.**

First United Methodist Church

#### **Registration 8:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**

Fellowship Hall, First Congregational Church, UCC

#### **“The Field is the World” 8:30 a.m.**

*Opening Devotions*  
*Film: Haystack and Its Legacy*  
*Keynote Address: Lamin Sanneh*

#### **Cookout lunch on Sawyer Lawn, Williams College**

#### **Workshops 1:15–2:30 p.m. and 2:45–4:00 p.m.**

#### **“What is Mission?” Panel and Discussion 4:15–5:45 p.m.**

#### **Vespers at Haystack Monument 6:00 p.m.**

#### **Mission dinner 7:00–8:30 p.m.**

Lasell Gymnasium

#### **After-hours activities 9:00 p.m.**

### — Sunday, September 24 —

#### **Continental breakfast 8:00–9:00 a.m.**

First United Methodist Church

#### **Morning worship**

Northern Berkshire Churches

#### **Celebration Worship Service 2:30 p.m.**

Thompson Memorial Chapel  
*Worship Leader: Bart Campolo*

## Keynote Speaker



**Lamin Sanneh** *Professor of Missions and World Christianity, Yale University*

Ph.D., University of London; Gambian-born author, teacher, and scholar specializing in religious history, mission, Christianity, and Islam, inter-religious dialogue; editor-at-large, *The Christian Century*; holder of *Commandeur de l'Ordre Nationale du Lion*, Senegal's highest national honor; has served on two Pontifical Commissions at the Vatican.

## Sunday Celebration Worship Leader



**Bart Campolo** *Chaplain of Mission Year*

Founder of Mission Year, a national Christian service program recruiting young adults to work in inner-city neighborhoods in partnership with local churches; author; founder of Kingdom-works, a ministry of training and inspiration now part of Larry Acosta's Urban Youth Ministry Institute; leader in Christian social action.

## Worship Leader/Musician

**C. Michael Hawn** *Professor of Sacred Music, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University*

D.M.A., Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; author of numerous articles, curriculum materials, and resources of congregational singing; specialties include enlivening congregational singing, hymnology, global music, and cross-cultural worship; ordained Baptist minister.

## Panelists

**Dennis C. Dickerson** *Professor of History, Vanderbilt University*

Ph.D., Washington University; scholar and author specializing in labor, the civil rights movement, African-American religious history; historiographer of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

**Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz** *Professor of Christian Ethics and Theology, Drew University*

Ph.D., Union Theological Seminary (NYC); activist and theologian; Cuban-born, came to the U.S. as a political refugee in 1960; former parish pastor, high school teacher, missionary in Peru; author of several books, including *Mujerista Theology* (Orbis).

**Timothy Tennent** *Associate Professor of World Missions and Director of Missions Programs, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary*

Th.M., Princeton Theological Seminary; experience includes teaching and ministry in Scotland, India, China, Nigeria, and Eastern Europe.

**John Thomas** *General Minister and President, United Church of Christ*

M. Div., Yale University Divinity School; ecumenist, former parish pastor, author of numerous articles.

## Panel Moderator

**Denise Buell** *Associate Professor of Religion, Williams College*

Ph.D., Harvard University; author, historian, researcher, and teacher in the fields of early Christian movements, feminist biblical interpretation, religion and culture, ethnicity and critical race theory, religion and science.

## REGISTRATION FORM

HAYSTACK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION • September 22, 23, 24, 2006  
WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Please Print Clearly

Name (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

First & last name for name badge if different from above

Address

State Zip E-mail address

Daytime Telephone Evening Telephone

### WORKSHOP SELECTION

(please indicate first and second choice by workshop letter)

Sat. 1:15–2:30 p.m.:

First Second

Sat. 2:45–4:00 p.m.:

First Second

### REGISTRATION FEE

(non-refundable)

\$ 50.00 UNTIL August 22, 2006

\$ 55.00 August 23–September 18, 2006

### MEALS (Optional)

(Please indicate special dietary needs)

\$ 20.00\* – Fri. (Buffet), Williams Inn

\$ 5.00\* – Sat. Continental Breakfast

Complimentary: Sat. Lunch Cookout

\$ 15.00\* – Sat. Mission Dinner

\$ 5.00\* – Sun. Continental Breakfast

\*Price all inclusive

DONATION

TOTAL

Checks payable to: Williams College (memo: Haystack Bicentennial)

Send to: Susan Schneski, Registrar  
First Congregational Church, UCC  
906 Main Street, Williamstown, MA 01267  
(413) 458-8220

### SPECIAL NEEDS:

Assistance with wheelchairs

Visual (large print programs)

Saturday child care: number and ages of children

Note: Overnight accommodations are not a part of this registration.

For suggestions, see our website: <http://haystack.williams.edu>



## WORKSHOPS

### 1:15-A The Churches in Myanmar

Martha Hackett, member of a missionary family living in Burma  
*Proclaiming. Witnessing. Serving. Growing and Celebrating the Gospel: A story of hope in difficult circumstances.*

### 1:15-B Missions from the Methodist Perspective

Peter Weaver, Bishop, New England Conference, United Methodist Church  
*Explore how the spirit is working transformation as the word is boldly proclaimed through the United Methodist Church.*

### 1:15-C Connecting the Threads of Mission

Jan Aerie, Wider Church Ministries and Global Ministries, UCC  
*Experience the textures of mission around the world. Learn how mission mindedness of the past created ways we can be a global church today.*

### 1:15-D The Legacy of Adoniram Judson

John Douhan, Retired Associate Executive Minister, American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts  
*The legacy of Adoniram Judson as it has been lived out among American Baptists and their understanding and practice of Mission.*

### 1:15-E The New Great Awakening

Timothy Tennent, Associate Professor of World Missions and Director of Missions Programs, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary  
*Today's Great Awakening across New England among the immigrant population.*

### 1:15-F Liberation Theology Comes Home

Newell Hendricks, U.S. staff member of Kairos Association for Formation  
*Learn how partnerships between U.S. churches and base Christian communities with Nicaraguan campesinos can transform not only the meaning of "mission" but the very nature of Christian community.*

### 1:15-G The Gospel as a Way of Life: A Model for Urban Ministry

Shane Claiborne, The Simple Way Community  
*Learn from the experiences of a radical faith community that lives among and serves the poor.*

### 1:15-H Think Globally—Work Locally: Local Congregations Engaged in Homeland Mission

The Berkshire Food Project & The Take and Eat project in North Adams, MA  
*Explore the struggles and the impact on lives of congregations engaged in local missions.*

### 1:15-I Go Into All the World: Local Congregations Engaged in World Missions

The Sudan Task Force of Williamstown; North Adams's Haiti Plunge  
*From firsthand experiences hear how "people in the pew" were inspired to reach out into the world and how it has shaped the lives of those involved.*

### 2:45-J Pilgrimage to South Africa: Inhabiting the Tension between Despair and Hope

Emily Martin, M.Div. student at Columbia Presbyterian Seminary, Decatur, GA  
*In the Haystack spirit, Emily embarked on a Watson Fellowship year to learn from the experiences of churches struggling to cope and to hope in the midst of the HIV/AIDS catastrophe. Her story inspires pilgrimages of all sorts.*

### 2:45-K Lessons We Are Learning from Hawaii

Aletha Kaohi and other members of the Hawaii Conference, UCC  
*The American Board considered Hawaii a great achievement; since then, questions have been raised about its impact. Learn about the ongoing dialogue among those who have inherited the legacy of the mission to Hawaii.*

### 2:45-L A Storm, a Haystack, and 'A Still, Small Voice'

Douglas Showalter, Sr. Minister, First Congregational Church of Falmouth  
*A look at the fascinating history of the 1806 Haystack Prayer Meeting and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which grew out of it.*

### 2:45-M Singing the World's Song

Patrick Evans, Yale Divinity School  
*Experience firsthand how global music can connect us as one community of faith.*

### 2:45-N Cross-Cultural Missions: Wonder of the Past, Excitement of the Future

Marian Boehr, ABC Medical Missionary to India  
*A physician looks back at her 38 wonderful years of medical ministry in India, and then looks ahead to the new non-Western chapter in Christian mission, relating her experiences in Brazil last year.*

### 2:45-O The Role of College Students in the Mission Movement Today

Jim Tebbe, Dir, Urbana '06  
*A discussion on the continuing legacy of student involvement in missions.*

### 2:45-P Mission and Life Direction

James Cox Chapman  
*A "modern Haystacker" shares his experience of how working in the mission field impacted and continues to shape his life and work.*

### 2:45-Q How Cross-Cultural Mission Experiences Enrich Contemporary Christian Faith

Barbara Brown Zikmund, Professor, Doshisha University, Japan  
*BBZ (as she is called) will share her insights on contemporary Christianity and mission in Japan and how living in a non-Christian culture stretches and reshapes Christian understandings and commitments.*

### 2:45-R Youth In Mission

Local churches' youth programs  
*The nuts and bolts as well as value and impact of youth national and international mission trips.*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

HAYSTACK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION • September 22, 23, 24, 2006

**Registration: Friday, 3:00 p.m. – Saturday, 1:00 p.m.**

**First Congregational Church, UCC, 906 Main Street (Rt. 2), Williamstown, MA (413-458-4273). For information and accommodations, visit our website: <http://haystack.williams.edu>**

During registration hours you will also find:

- Water Street Books: Missions-related books will be available, including publications by speakers, panelists, and workshop leaders.
- SERRVice Mission Mart: a not-for-profit mart with handcrafted items from the developing world.
- Hospitality and Exhibits

### Special Offering/Donation

Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC), a response by Church World Service providing assistance to 11 million African children orphaned by the HIV-AIDS pandemic, and child-headed households.

### Chapin Library Exhibit, Williams College Campus

One of the nation's finest collections of printed material sources from and of American missionary activity in the 17–19th centuries

Logo design donated by John MacDonald  
Brochure design donated by Diane Gottardi Graphic Design, Williamstown, MA

Haystack Bicentennial Celebration  
First Congregational Church, UCC  
906 Main Street  
Williamstown, MA 01267



# HAYSTACK BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

September 22, 23, 24, 2006

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Williamstown, MA  
Permit No. 11