



MAINE CONFERENCE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

American Foreign Mission Movement

1984

OCTOBER 1984
175 ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN FOREIGN MISSION MOVEMENT

WHEREAS, the Haystack Prayer meeting in 1806 began a series of events that created the American foreign mission movement and changed the world, and

WHEREAS, on June 29, 1810, formal action of the General Association of Massachusetts Proper elected the founding members of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, one of the predecessors of the United Church Board for World Ministries, and

WHEREAS, that act came in response to appeals by Adoniram Judson, Jr., Samuel Nott, Jr., Samuel J. Mills, and Samuel Newell (three of whom were among America's first missionaries) for "support from a missionary society in this country," and

WHEREAS, our church has been privileged to play a unique role of leadership in the American foreign mission movement that has seen tens of thousands called to proclaim the Gospel to all the world, and

WHEREAS, in our new world neighborhood the needs of all people everywhere are on our doorstep, needs for

knowledge of the love of God through Jesus Christ
health and food
justice and peace
education and skills
adequate livelihood and personal dignity, and

WHEREAS, we are privileged to participate in God's mission around the world and at home, and

WHEREAS, "Mission is to the church as fire is to burning,"

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the congregations of the Maine Conference are urged to set aside Sunday, June 30, 1985, as a time to celebrate our mission heritage and to recommit ourselves to the wider mission of the United Church of Christ.