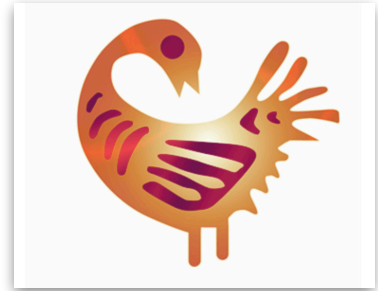




SANKOFA



CMCL FALL 2022

In April 2021, Pastor Susan and CMCL applied for a Renewal Grant from the Lilly Endowment, which provides funding for both a pastor AND congregation to participate in enrichment activities during a pastor's sabbatical, and provides funding for staffing in the pastor's absence. In September 2021, we were chosen as recipients for the grant. The theme of this renewal time is "**Sankofa,**" a Ghanaian proverb meaning "go back and get what you forgot," or "go back to the past and bring forward that which is useful." It is symbolized by a bird looking over its back.

From **October 10-January 10** Pastor Susan will be on sabbatical leave from CMCL, taking time to reach back into the resources that remind her of her calling and the creative practices that enliven her spirit, and for Susan, her family, and CMCL to "lean in" to the congregation's stated commitment to dismantling racism by looking at whiteness through the lens of Black witness. Susan and her family will "lean in" by traveling to Ghana for three weeks; CMCL will "lean in" by:

- a kick-off to the Sankofa theme at fall retreat at Camp Hebron (September 23-25)
- guest preachers in October
- a 6-week Christian Education series led by Naomi Washington Leapheart
- a subsidized bus trip to National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C. (**October 29!**)
- catered West African congregational meal in January when Susan returns
- sharing personal reflections in November's "This I Believe" worship series

We invite you to also consider the theme of Sankofa more broadly this fall, as we start off a new church year where we are resuming a more normalized church calendar of activities. We invite you to "come back" so that we can together "bring forward" all we've learned about ourselves and the world these many months since COVID changed our gathering patterns.

