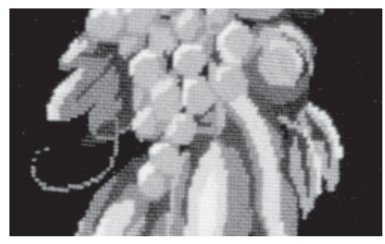


Editor's Note: Many pastors find a second calling. These United alums find expression through the visual arts of textiles, sculpting, and carving.



Rev. Marylyn Doyle
'86, '91, '97
Dayton, OH

The Rev. Marylyn Doyle started her journey as a textile artist many years ago in Farmington, MI, when she walked into her pastor's office to volunteer to help with the church's décor. "The banners that were displayed didn't speak to me at all," she said. When the pastor agreed, Doyle began learning everything she could about liturgical arts. She became a divinity student at United, earning two degrees, and also taught liturgical arts at the seminary for 23 years. Her paraments and vestments can be seen in many churches. Now retired from parish ministry, she is serving in an interim position and still teaches liturgical arts. She spoke recently at the National Convention of the Episcopal Altar Guild and the Embroiderer's Guild of America. "I focus on visual theology, or how we explain God with our eyes," she said.



Rev. Dr. Lois Fortson
'89, '97
Centerville, OH

The Rev. Dr. Lois Fortson started sculpting more than 30 years ago when the Dayton Art Institute still had an art school. Dr. Robert Koepnick was her first teacher. She has exhibited her work at the Ebonnia Gallery, Dayton; Black Creativity, Chicago; the Actors Theatre, Louisville; Sinclair Community College, Dayton; Springfield Art Gallery, Springfield, OH; Columbus Fine Arts Gallery and the Kiaca Gallery, both in Columbus, OH. She is currently showing pieces at Creative Soul, Dayton. Her works can also be found in numerous private collections around the country. "I live within a creative spirit that seeks expression through sculpting portraits of people," she said. Her work can be seen at www.fortsonsculptures.com.



Dr. Ivan Kurtz
'59
Penney Farms, FL

Dr. Ivan Kurtz began carving in 1999, the day after he retired from teaching at Owens Community College, Toledo, OH. Eleven years later, he is competing in national woodcarving shows, has received numerous awards, and is teaching a woodcarving class. Kurtz specializes in bird carvings. The eagle above was donated to United in 2006. His next project will be a replication of DaVinci's "Lord's Supper," which will be donated to his church, where he serves as senior pastor. All the proceeds from his work are donated to charity. "I have been doubly blessed with a second calling I never expected but am very pleased it came my way," said Kurtz.