

Marquetry With Spirit

Divinely Inspired By Jim Bell

What is Marquetry?

Marquetry is the art and craft of applying pieces of wood veneer in a pattern to decorate an object. The art of creating mosaics has been around from the 1st century and pieces have been found in sites such as Pompeii and Herculaneum.

In the 11th century, an inlay technique incorporating pictorial designs of contrasting veneers emerged in the Italian city of Sienna to decorate church furniture and panels.

The art of wood marquetry grew popular in the 16th century beginning in Belgium with cabinet making, and later migrating to France where the technique was used to decorate elaborate pieces for King Louis XVI which he placed in his Palace of Versailles.

Different types of wood are used to provide different textures and colors. Some of the pieces of the veneer are stained to provide colors not found in nature.

Patterns are designed, cut out and glued upon some form of background, then sanded, polished or varnished to a gleaming shine. The work is painstakingly detailed and requires a steady hand and a sharp eye.

Jim Bell has such a gift and The First United Methodist Church of Dunnellon is proud to display his divinely inspired work in the sanctuary.



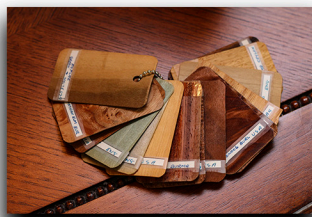


The Artist - Jim Bell

One might wonder why an artist would spend their time in the painstaking work of Marquetry. For some, it is the love of the craft, but for Jim, it is his love for the Lord. Jim began working in marquetry at the age of twelve. The first piece he created was a depiction of The Santa Maria.

He took a break from marquetry for a time to marry his wife, Win, and create a beautiful family. In fact, one piece, The Indian Chief, remained partially done for 20 years

He spent a great deal of time with another passion, collecting geodes and he credits that pastime to bringing him to God.





Jim Bell Ministries

We are so blessed to have these beautiful unique works of art to adorn our church worship center. Jim and Win Bell have been active members of our congregation for many years.

The different scenes on display in the sanctuary and narthex are often used in my sermon illustrations. These crafts will continue to touch and teach lives in our church for many years to come.

What a blessing.

Pastor Eddie Fulford



The Cross

Although the cross is not created utilizing Marquetry, this is the first wood project Jim undertook for the church.

The Cross is made of 3/4" thick mahogany and is fabricated so you can fit a fluorescent light behind it. The exterior was given a special treatment with a curved chisel Jim made to make it more rustic.

This beautiful cross is placed in the Narthex welcoming parishioners to worship in the Sanctuary each Sunday. It illuminates the beautiful Symbol of Christ for all who enter our church.



The Life Of Our Lord And Savior

*And suddenly a voice came from heaven,
saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."
Matthew 3: 7*



Elijah & Elisha

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the Lord has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!"
2 Kings 2:6



David & Goliath

*And Saul said to him, "Whose son are you, young man?" So David answered,
"I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite"
1 Samuel 17: 58*



Exodus

*Great and marvelous are Your works,
Lord God Almighty!
Just and true are Your ways,
O King of the saints!*

Revelation 15:3

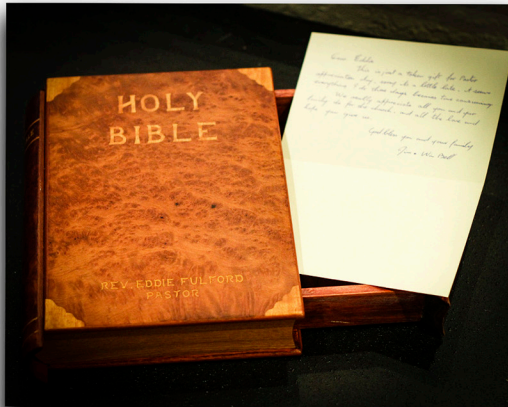
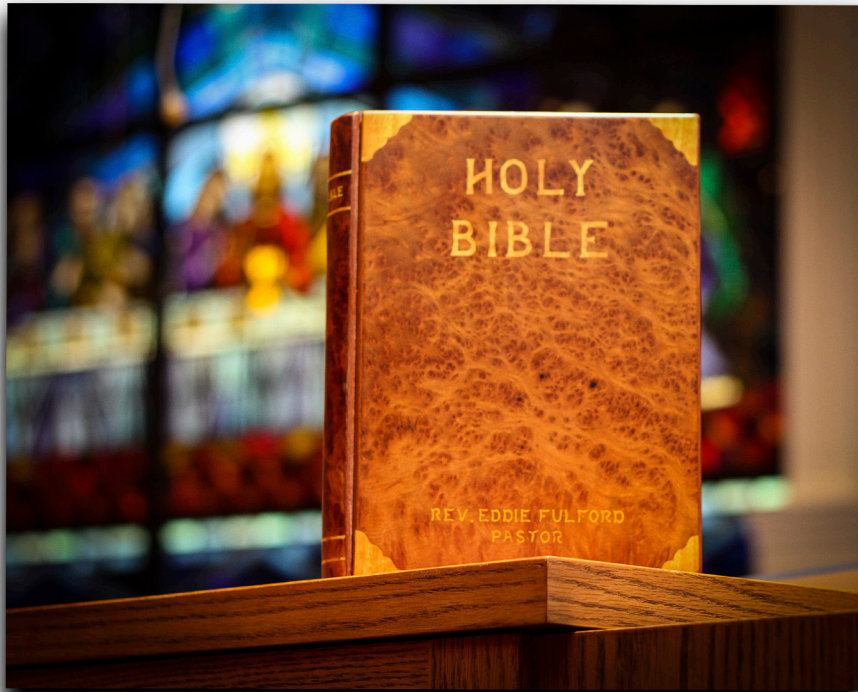




Bridge Of Hope (Noah's Ark)

*I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant
between Me and the earth .*

Genesis 9: 13



The Bible Box

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12

The Prayer Box



*Blessed are the Peacemakers for they are the Children of God.
Matthew 5:9*





The Last Supper

*And as they were eating, Jesus took bread,
blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."
Mark 14: 22*



Sermon On The Mount

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
Matthew 5:3*



The Ultimate Conversion

*He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him,
"Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?"*

Acts of the Apostles 9:4

The Beauty of Marquetry





The Artist at Work



*A Beautiful Fireplace
Screen*











*Thank you for sharing
your beautiful gift!*

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*First United Methodist Church
Dunnellon*