

Audio Sermons: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/caboose-ministries/audiopodcast/id506049887mt=2>

YouTube Channel [for dramas, sermons, & puppet shows for kids]: Michael Robert Guertin
Website: www.cabooseministries.org **Caboose!** Facebook Site: "Michael 'Guerty' Guertin"

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"VIA DOLOROSA-THE WAY OF SORROWS-LITERALLY!"



Dear **Friends & Family**,

[1/3] This month marks **21 years** of our **itinerant live-by-faith ministry**. Those 21 years have encompassed several thousand miles of travel to numerous & sundry states & involved a plethora of various expressions, denominations, fellowships, etc. of **the Body of Christ**. I couldn't be more grateful. I have done in these past 21 years what I feel I was made for. I pray it is our Lord's heart that this season & type of ministry for us continues for years to come. And yet, another "love of my life" re: ministry for the past **16 years** has come to an end, i.e., "**Via Dolorosa**". Via was another of many **Covid-19** casualties last year. And due to many other factors at **Immanuel Church**, where it was birthed in **2004**, the leadership there decided in the Lord Via's "season" at Immanuel was over. I'm sure it was not an easy decision for them. I would dare say it surely was one of Immanuel's highlights in its **160 year** or so history, both for the church family & community outreach. Well, in the light of that, yesterday for **Kim** & me was an historical day; & a very sad one at that. [Yes, "Via Dolorosa" in Latin does mean "The Way of Sorrows"]. We began to pack up & load the first of many truckloads [4 as of this writing] of Via D props, costumes, etc. for its exodus-16 years' worth-16 years of finding, buying, building, amassing, etc. said props, costumes, & scenery. We spent over 6 hours doing so & this a.m. I'm definitely feeling the pangs of all of the hard labor done yesterday! ☹ After bringing home the 1st load, we proceeded to "re-bin" everything! We condensed large heavy bins that had dozens of boots, sandals, leather military tunics, breastplates, etc. into smaller ones, *without holes*, so

as to prevent little fuzzy critters in our backyard shed from ruining them! As I've written many times in the past, **Summer Camps** & **Via Dolorosa** have been my two biggest "outlets" for who I am in God. Hence, this is huge.

"DOES GOD RAISE THE DEAD? YES-& NO."



Yet-there are few things more grievous, distressing, & embarrassing in life than when men try to keep something alive that God wants to lay to rest. I have seen this too many times & don't want to be guilty of it! I have prayed much since receiving the news of Immanuel no longer being able to host the event to see if our Father would want to resurrect it somewhere else-on a much smaller scale, of course-but maybe He doesn't. No matter how much Via & the love of it runs in my blood, it would not be best to try to perpetuate it if it is not our Father's pleasure. That is our ultimate goal & end! In the meantime, Kim & I are scrambling & strategizing re: what to do with all of the stuff-& where to put it!

“FROM THE COUCH TO THE FLOOR-IN SECONDS”



Pastor Peter Miller of *Friends of the Cross Church* in Corning, N.Y. was my best man in our wedding. Peter & I met & became very close at *Elim Bible Institute*. From **2011-2018** he gave me the huge honor & blessing of being the guest minister at a community day camp his church hosted called *Camp Victory*. It saw very rapid growth over those 8 years & it was another delight of my life to not only be involved its inaugural year but for 7 more years after that! It was my “4th camp” each summer for 8 years! Yes-it meant a whirlwind summer doing **CV** plus my 3 camps for the *Hopewell Network* every year but I loved every minute of it! Well, I tuned in to Peter’s live-stream this a.m. for the first time. I was so very glad I did. He preached re: the Body of Christ: its diversity, its universality, its global character. He said so many in our day are bemoaning man’s rapid-paced veer towards globalism-but he reminded us that God’s Church is “global”! He declared the biblical truth that Jesus’ Headship extends over the Church-& the world! It was so refreshing in the midst of daily downers re: the state of the U.S. & the Church! His words so pierced, fed, stirred, blessed, etc. my heart that I got up off the couch where I was lying [still sore & tired from our Via D “U-Haul” service yesterday] & laid on my face in the corner of the living room while my “Christmas Organ” music played.

"WITH GOD-IN AN MRI TUBE"



I returned home just a bit ago from an **MRI** on my lower spine whose issues has been causing incessant pain in my foot. For any of you who have not had such a medical procedure, you lay on a plastic table that rolls you into a tube completely surrounding your body. You only have a few inches between your face & the top of the tube. For anyone who suffers from claustrophobia, this is not the medical procedure for you! For patients who do suffer from this malady, they administer what is called "conscious sedation". The secret for those who choose not to go the sedative route for the **20+ minutes** you're in the tube is to *keep your eyes closed*. Before inserting you into the tube, the technician offers you headphones with music. I always decline the music as I know it will pump into my head the din/revelry/party spirit of the world. As I was waiting for the scan to begin, I asked the Lord, "Lord, what text shall I think about during this?". I chose **Isaiah 42:1**. "Behold, My Servant, Whom, I uphold, My Chosen One, in Whom My soul delights." This is the prophet Isaiah speaking under the inspiration & unction of the Holy Spirit. By **the Holy Spirit, God the Father** is speaking through the prophet **700 years** before the Christ appeared on Earth-about **the Christ!** While magnetic & radio waves were swirling all around & through me, my mind & heart were swirling pondering what was "swirling", so to speak, in the heart of God the Father as He beheld His Son. To ponder the **love** between the **3 Members of the Trinity** is beyond comprehension & description. I have written of this more than once. Is there a higher theme for one's thoughts?? "In Whom My soul delights". Oh God. Oh God. The "soul" of God the Father. O, the depths of the essence of the Godhead!! And what swirls around inside of Him, so to speak? Delight in His Son! I wanted at that moment as I pondered these things to get out of the tube, up off the table, & onto the floor! Needless to say, this was not why I came to the imaging center nor would it please the technician if I did so! May God's Spirit help us to more often & consistently ponder this glorious truth.

***Kim & I want to thank those of you who have felt led by our Lord to help support His work through us, especially in this season when virtually all of our ministry is "virtual". May face-to-face personal ministry recommence as soon as possible!**



***Caboose! Commentary Corner:** [Our daughter Laura once said she'd love to have my old Bibles when I passed for all of the notes I have written in them over the decades. This was quite humbling to say the least, especially coming from one of your own children. Hence, I've decided to post each month random notes/comments from Bibles I have studied from: "Beware of sermon illustrations & personal stories that obscure & overshadow the glory & power of the inspired text itself." [M.R.G. 1/26/2021]



Caboose! On the Loose!

Looking Out for the Little Ones

Ministry/Events for FEBRUARY & those not listed in last month's newsletter:

Jan. 24: Immanuel Church, Wilmington, DE: worship team drummer

Feb.2: Petra Church, New Holland, PA: **hsc** board mtg./Network pastors' mtg.

Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24: Weekly **CAB!Talk** video taping, post-production, & posting

Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28: Weekly **Chip Sunday Show** production posting



*Michael is an ordained *Elim Fellowship* itinerant Stateside missionary & is also licensed to preach the gospel by *Immanuel Church*, Wilmington, DE. *Caboose!* is also an affiliate ministry of *The Hopewell Network of Churches*. For 14 years he served on various local church staffs as their children's pastor. Since 2000 Kim & he have lived by faith, having no set salary, retirement, etc. to speak of. Yet-this is their calling at this season of their lives. Michael preaches God's Word & systematic theology, using both drama & visual aids, to all age groups, from children to senior citizens, either separately or combined. To help support this work [any amount no matter how small is greatly appreciated!], please make all tax-deductible gifts payable to: Elim Fellowship, c/o 1703 Dalton Rd., Lima, NY 14485, marking it "Preferred-Michael Robert Guertin" or you may click on the link below to give directly. Any gift no matter how small would be greatly appreciated! Thank you! [click here](#)

Michael Robert "Guerty" Guertin

3 Windsor Road

Wilmington, DE 19809-2144

(302) 764-0490

www.cabooseministries.org

YouTube: Michael Robert Guertin

FaceBook: Michael Robert Guertin

www.hopewellsummercamps.org

