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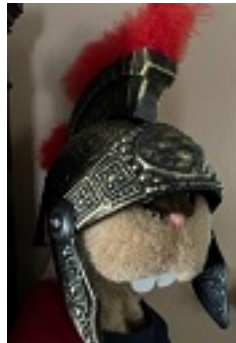
YouTube Channel [for dramas, sermons, & puppet shows for kids]: Michael Robert Guertin

Website: [www.cabooseministries.org](http://www.cabooseministries.org)  
Guertin”

Caboose! Facebook Site: “Michael ‘Guerty’

May 2022

“UNSEEN IN THE SCENE”



Dear *Friends & Family*,

[4/2] Yesterday I needed to go outside to film a *Chip Sunday Show* scene for his “Pont-Chip’ Pilate” show which airs this Sunday. The theme of this particular show was my portraying **Pontius Pilate** again in our seasonal “Villains of Via” production. Chip is confused as to what a “Pilate” is, though he desperately wants to be Guerty’s understudy. He learns that our neighbor across the street has a “Pilate”, only to learn it’s a Honda “Pilot”. There was a serious challenge in filming this scene. The little boy next door, a.k.a., “Griffin”, is a “believer” in Chip. Hence, it was of the utmost importance not to blow Chip’s cover & shatter this little boy’s childhood 😊 [Few things are more distressing to me in life than when a puppeteer blows his cover & allows children to see his/her puppet “dead”, i.e., not alive!] In order to remain a clandestine puppeteer, I first backed up my truck in the street & pulled it in front of my neighbor’s Pilot. Mission accomplished! “THAT’S A STRETCH!” Speaking of this particular puppet show, I had filmed, produced, & posted the original footage for it two years ago last month. It was two years ago that I first started filming & producing *Caboose!* ministry videos. Since that time I have learned so much re: graphics & editing that I have spent the last year taking down those videos & redoing & upgrading them significantly. Well, the original “**Pont-Chip Pilate**” show was 1:15 long! A few minutes ago I just about completed the upgraded version to post tomorrow a.m. & it is now over 10 minutes in length! How so? I inserted count-less graphics & videos into it. Hence, so very much of my time the past year has been spent in video ministry post-production work. I’ve recently come to the realization that I will not be able to keep up with the *Chip Sunday Show* Covid-season schedule as *Villains of Via* & 3+? Summer camps will just be too

time consuming. As much as I loathed the confinement of Covid season, our Lord did use it, as I've said before, to produce new ministry fruit in me. Here is the "Pont-Chip Pilate" show mentioned above: <https://youtu.be/HPfNEBJeW3U>

### "THE JIGSAW PUZZLE MASTER"



[4/20] Another season of *Via Dolorosa* has come to an end-its 18<sup>th</sup> season to be exact, & season 2 of Via Dolorosa's offshoot, vis, "*Villains of Via*". We took a big hit this year with Villains, as I wrote about in an earlier newsletter, vis, losing approximately one-half of our veteran Via staff. You may recollect I wrote earlier how much time I spent in prayer-it was months, both night & day, re: striving to discern if it was our Lord's will to continue this dramatic ministry that has touched the lives of literally thousands since 2004 in bringing the gospel "to life" via the dramatized Word. After procuring **Jon Rigby** again, a.k.a., his lord **Caiaphas**, & **Julia Capaldi**, who doubled up on roles [**Herodias & Claudia**], I felt this confirmed what I felt in my spirit that same day re: doing it again this year. "However", as we often say at camp, when our rehearsals began, it looked anything but certain I had heard from the Lord! There was miscommunication. Many of the cast didn't even show up for them! It has been said for many years that most churches have "demons in the sound system", & that adage was confirmed in our microphones we used for Villains. There was hissing, bles, silence, etc. as we tried to rehearse our scenes. On our final rehearsal the night before opening night, I was fighting serious fears I had not heard from the Lord & I had merely pursued my own will! I saw in my mind that night Via as a giant jigsaw puzzle whose pieces were all over the table & unconnected! I entreated the Lord, the Divine Master at solving human jigsaw puzzles, to put it all together-for His glory-not mine. I marveled how on opening night, He did exactly that! How in the world did we get from the unglued disorganization of the night before to a seamless production on opening night?! HIM. Yes-I admit it-we did have a few sound & theatrical glitches, but nothing too serious. Nothing like the pre-opening night rehearsal! I love Via. Via every Spring is my "Oz", my "Disney World" [though I've never been & certainly NOT the Disney "world" of today!]. I've entered into my Via Dolorosa "zone" every Spring now since 2004. I get lost in it. To be honest, I don't want to come out of it. I feel like I could do Via every week for the rest of my life. I love the biblical epics of the 1950's & Via is the outlet for me to live in them. "**CAMP CRAMP**" Every year, the Lord uses the pressures of my 3 & ½ summer camps to help extract me from my annual Via mode & zone. Camps are always on the heels of Via every year. In fact, it is impossible not to do camp work while I'm immersed in Via. They dovetail. Hence, I'm slowly weaning off of Via but I'm not there yet. As of this writing I still have many costumes lying out

that have been washed & are ready to be stored again. By the way, here is the **YouTube** link of Good Friday Night's performance which I edited & tweaked for my YouTube channel. I hope it blesses: <https://youtu.be/mD7GIEN19VM>

### "TOO MUCH 'DRAMA'?"



Speaking of camps, almost every summer camp season I come up with a new **Time Machine** drama to precede my sermon which follows it. The Time Machine drama is a springboard, a leading-into the text of the Word. Given the horrendous lack of the fear of the Lord in the world [to be expected-it is the world's *default position*] & sadly, too often The Church, I've felt for months to re-preach a message I gave at camp in 2008 entitled "**2 Tabernacles**". It elaborates on the high degree of danger & death that surrounded the **Tabernacle in the Wilderness** for anyone who violated its sanctity. One could die easily & immediately if they violated its various & sundry restrictions laid down for those who got anywhere near it. I then contrast this earthly Tabernacle with the one in Heaven. If the **shadow & copy** of the Tabernacle in Heaven was so dangerous to be around, what must Heaven's be like?! I then elaborate on the High Priesthood of Jesus & His sacrifice of Himself that enables His people to come near without dying. The challenge? What drama from Scripture do I portray to lead into this message? The one most vivid in my mind is "**Nadab & Abihu**", taken from Leviticus chapter 10. I've only portrayed Nadab once out of the Time Machine & it was 25 years ago this year at **Wilmington Christian School**. Here is the link: <https://youtu.be/G9pS2zKFt6Y>



Challenge? I prefer & love to use a team of brothers & sisters to help me in camp Time Machine dramas, versus doing one-man dramas from years ago. Hence, in the middle of Via season I

have often pondered how to redo this biblical event including my friends. IF I do choose to do this particular drama, I hope to have **Moses, Aaron, & Miriam** involved in it. At this point, I hope to portray "**Mishael**", a cousin of Nadab & Abihu, versus depicting Nadab. The challenge is to incorporate said cast without going too far out of scriptural bounds with "theatrical license". May He help me.

### "RAILROAD TRACKS OVER THE MUD"



**[4/28]** Not having preached since December 5<sup>th</sup> of last year, I feel as if I'm in a "slough of despond" as **John Bunyan** described it in his classic work, "**Pilgrim's Progress**". This is the longest preaching hiatus I have ever experienced since entering full-time ministry in **1986**. While at camp praying with two of my assistant directors the other day, I told them about this. I told them all I've wanted to do lately is go to a nursing home & sleep all day. One of them, significantly younger than me, said, "Yes, I've been feeling the same", et al. Wow. That surprised & comforted me. Despite the hiatus from preaching, I've been busy day & night with other ministry activities. Yet-when you're called to preach, you feel like you're not doing anything unless you are doing just that. Feelings & emotions-wise, I have likened myself to the Psalmist in Psalm 40, I've been stuck in "the miry clay". In my mind's eye, it is a brown, goopy, dark slough. Yet-I also saw on top of this muddy pit a set of railroad tracks that didn't sink into it. I've been praying for the Lord to please put me back up on the tracks again. I want "**Caboose!**" to roll down the tracks again. And, roll, it will! A week from today I head out on the tracks, er, I mean, road again, to preach at a Christian school in PA. This chapel will be comprised of kindergarteners through 12<sup>th</sup> graders! Interestingly enough-my next to last preaching event last year was one such setting at a Christian school in N.Y. Then, two weeks after that I'm back at the same school to do it again. Shortly after that, I must return to PA to film a video for a friend's ministry re: "**Vision For The Young**". [Here is that message that I must condense & have re-recorded into a 30-minute version for said friend's seminar]: <https://youtu.be/pDTUT0znDsc> I'm hoping on that same ministry trip to lead worship at a worship-only event per another friend's request. A children's pastor friend, also in PA, has had an open door for me for months to minister to his children in kids church. I hope also to conduct that as well. I have no idea why our Lord appointed me such a long hiatus. But-I do know our Lord did squeeze other ministry out of me in the meantime, vis, video & counseling ministry, etc.

### "KEEP ON TRUCKING?"



**[4/28]** I absolutely love my new, used **2009 Chevy Silverado**. I have dreamed of owning a Chevy pickup truck since 1973 when my maternal grandfather bought a brand new one. Just today, I was notified about a considerably newer truck with much lower mileage on it for what seemed like a decent price. At first, it was tempting, as I've run into a number of unforeseen issues & mishaps [not accidents!] with the Silverado. I was tempted to sell it. However, after owning a mid-sized pickup for 15 years [my 2000 Nissan Frontier that I donated to [Tel Hai Camp](#)], I've truly gotten spoiled with the full-sized Silverado. I plan to work with it. I pray so much our Father will use it to send me to many new mission fields I have not yet ministered in. May it be so. May Jesus' Name & fame spread through me. Amen.



**\*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]: "If you soften the sin, you cheapen the grace." [M.R.G. 3/5/2007]



***Caboose! On The Loose!***

**Ministry/Events for [MAY](#) & those not listed in last month's newsletter:**

**May 8 & ??: Chip Sunday Show Mother's Day video production & posting**

May 3: Petra Church, New Holland, PA: hsc board mtg.//Network pastors mtg.//hsc directors' mtg.

May 4: Crossroads Christian School, Ephrata, PA: K-12 school chapel

May 4, 11, 18, 25: **Cab!Talk** productions' postings

May 14: Kaminsky's, Cherry Hill, NJ: St. Peter Celestine School's class of 1970 52nd reunion

May 18: Crossroads Christian School, Ephrata, PA: K-12 school chapel



\*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. Thank you! [click here](#)**

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