



DSL CONNECTION

JULY 2017

**Divine Savior
Lutheran Church**
405 Ingram Rd.
Devine, Texas
78016

www.divinesaviorlc.org

**9:00 AM
Sunday School
&
Bible Class**

**10:00 AM
Fellowship**

**10:30 AM
Divine Service**

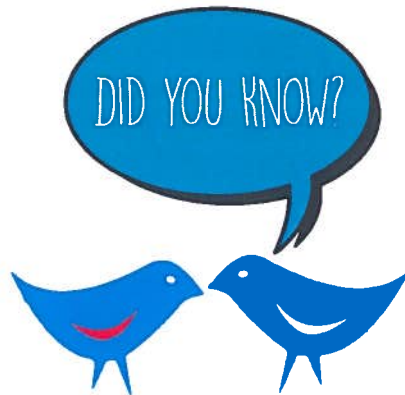
**7:00 PM
Wednesday
Bible Study**

**Pastor:
Randall
Wehmeyer**

**Email:
rcwehmeyer@yahoo.com**

**Office:
830-663-3735**

**Lutheran Church—
Missouri Synod**

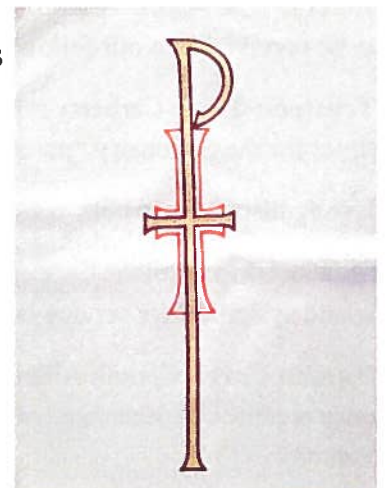


Did you know that Divine Savior has a Funeral Pall? From the Latin word for “covering”, this large cloth of white called a “pall” covers the entire casket. A large chi-rho cross (pictured below) is embroidered at the center of this pall, and there is also a cross at each end. While flowers, or a casket spray, are never placed on the funeral pall, this fine material is placed on the casket at the beginning of the service and it is removed before the casket is placed in the hearse.

It is very fitting that a funeral pall be used during a Christian funeral, as it is a statement of faith. The white confesses that the person was a sinner, but the individual was covered with the robe of Christ’s righteousness and is now a saint. The individual’s soul was made white (cleansed) through the Savior’s sacrifice on the cross, and that sainted loved one was washed clean in the waters of Holy Baptism. One might say that the pall preaches a sermon.

Besides the theological usage of the pall, there is also a practical use of the pall: it covers the casket. The price of funerals is extremely high, and some caskets cost what some cars do today. Rev. Ken Klaus, *Lutheran Hour* speaker emeritus, once wrote, “When you’re saying an earthly farewell to someone you love, you don’t necessarily want to look like you’ve gone with a bargain-basement kind of funeral. On the other hand, you may not be able to give your family member or friend the kind of funeral you would like. When a funeral pall is used, it makes everybody equal...The funeral pall says, ‘Everyone who is being buried from this church is equal. He or she was a sinner. He or she was covered by the blood of Jesus Christ, and as all forgiven sinners are, is saved and in heaven eternally with the Lord.’”

While Christians are not obligated to use a funeral pall, in Christian freedom we remember we have the great opportunity and privilege to use it, as the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is proclaimed with a pall in a simple way. May we always rejoice in the promise of the resurrection given in Holy Baptism and the direction this pall gives to place our hope in Christ alone.



God’s Blessings,
Pastor Wehmeyer