

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Soundboard



November 2023

SHARING ACOUSTIC MUSIC for 40 YEARS

Issue 463

<https://www.silverstrings.org/>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER ~ Terry Kozlowski

Spirit Jam is back on November 28th @ 7:00 pm, Marsha will be sending out a playlist soon.

Friendly reminder, Patricia Wolschon is collecting 2024 membership dues. You can pay by PayPal.

Don't forget to wear your name tags! If you need a name tag, contact Stephen Beck or Peggy Kustra.

Welcome new members:

- Daphne Driskill, Wilmington NC
- Nancy Gullett, Plymouth MI
- Debbie and Greg Guy WI
- Jennifer Mayer, Coleman MI
- Cheryl New, and Glenn Warners, Grand Rapids MI

Rumor has it that there might be a Variety Night on November 30th.

November is the month of Thanksgiving. Let us be thankful for all the great things we sometimes take for granted, especially for the health and welfare of family, friends, musical family, and our community. We are all blessed and a blessing to this great club-Silver Strings Dulcimer Society.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! On October 5, Silver Strings Dulcimer Society celebrated our 40th Anniversary. The banquet was held at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Livonia. Dinner was catered by Veronica Catering Service. The facilities, food, and price were perfect for this year's event. Dinner guests raved about the Polish cuisine served that evening. We were able to take leftover food home too! Approximately 65 members and guests attended the event. Special guests were invited to attend the banquet, original club members of 1983, Patricia and Jim Tate, Rose Hines, and Jane Stockton. Those attending received an SSDS Window sticker and luggage tag, highlighting SSDS 40th Anniversary.



2023 members who were unable to attend the banquet will receive their gifts by mail in a couple of weeks. Peggy, David, Theresa, Pat Tate, and Rose Hines did a timeline of our club going back to 1983. They provided a list of events, items, etc. that were common during that era. David Smith, club historian, put together a video covering the history of our club from 1983-2023. Chris and the committee did a marvelous job putting together the evening entertainment. On behalf of the club, thank you Chris, to you and your team. This year the board decided to give ten-dollar Biggby gift cards in appreciation to those members who did something special for the club during 2023. Hosting Popup jams, leading workshops, providing extra help with the campout, picnic, and banquet were some of the things that made the Board's job easier. After this presentation, Peggy Kustra made a special presentation to Marsha and Terry Kozlowski. Much to our surprise we were given a nice card and dinner for two at a very nice restaurant in Ann Arbor called the Gandy Dancer



After dinner, the club jammed for an hour and a half. The evening ended on a high note (excuse the pun) as usual with much laughter, conversation, and music.

Club elections will be on Thursday, November 2nd. Nominees for 2024 are:

Peggy Kustra-President, Cindy Semrau-VP of Business, Sue Tranquilla-Secretary. Continuing their tenures: Chris Wolschon-VP of Programs, Patty Wolschon-Treasurer. Appointees will continue with their positions: Marsha Kozlowski-music coordinator, Karen Turner-Webmaster, and Theresa and David Smith-Newsletter editors. Please express your gratitude for their hard work in keeping our club as one of the best in Michigan. See you at the club!

Terry... 734-560-8204 Silverstrings.President@gmail.com

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

02 - SSSS JAM & 'After Hours' - - - 7:00 pm

09 - Final Holiday Rehearsal - - - - - 6:30 pm

16 - SSSS JAM & 'After Hours' - - - 7:00 pm

30 - SSSS 'Variety Night'- - - - - 7:00 pm

For more information on all upcoming events, click on:
<https://www.silverstrings.org/sections/events/events.html>

VP - BUSINESS NOTES ~ Harold Crane

Hello and happy November!

Here are some SSSS happenings in November:

- Thursday, Nov. 2nd - SSSS jam and socializing
- Thursday, Nov. 9th - Final Holiday Music Practice (we have 12 play dates in December!)
- Wednesday, Nov. 15th - 12:00 noon playdate at WCCC, Taylor
- Wednesday, Nov. 15th - 7:15 pm playdate at Stoney Creek Village, Rochester Hills
- Thursday, Nov. 16th - SSSS jam and socializing
- Thursday, Nov. 23rd - HAPPY THANKSGIVING - let's be thankful for all our friends and family and our great country!
- Thursday, Nov. 30th - 7:00 pm - our "FAMOUS" Variety Night Show and dinner (What a wonderful way to end the month - hope you can make it!)

See ya all soon, Harold..... 810-356-2842
Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com

VP- PROGRAMS NOTES ~ Chris Wolschon

Wow...It's November already! It seems like it was last week that we were signing up for the campout.

We had a great 40th Anniversary Banquet in October with 61 people attending and a fun jam afterward. It is much easier to organize something like a banquet if you have a great team. A huge thank you to Peggy Kustra, Sally Kilcullen, Theresa Smith, Sally Niemczewski, Linda Osgood and Terry Koslowski for their hard work putting it all together.

We have a **Variety Night** coming up on **Thursday, November 30th**. Please sign up at all the jams in November, whether or not you are performing so we can get an accurate count for dinner. The last Variety Night in August had 47 people attending and 11 performers.

We also have a **Christmas Party and potluck** coming up on **December 21st**. There will be a sign-up sheet at the jams in December.

If you are unable to attend the jams, but wish to come to either of these events, please send me an email that you will be attending. *See you at the upcoming jams!*

Chris... 313-410-0143 Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com

MARSHA'S MUSINGS ~ Marsha Kozlowski

MUSIC CHANGES: I am in the midst of reviewing the club's music. Some of the After Hours tunes are being moved into the regular repertoire. Some of the tunes shared at After Hours have not yet been put into Dropbox. And there are a few tunes that need to be re-tagged. The Table of Contents and Music Revision list have been updated through October. Check Dropbox regularly to make sure you have the most recent version and all the music. Since the Spirit Jams, COVID and the active After Hours jams, the music has gotten ahead of me. If something appears to be missing, send me a note so I can follow up on it. While I am at it, if you notice something that needs "fixing" – like an incorrect chord, a missing or wrong note, etc., make a copy of the tune, circle the item and give it to me.

Practice Tune Videos– There are 90 practice videos in the "library." The latest one is Apples, Peaches, Pumpkin Pie. These are a learning tool to help new players become familiar with "official" SSSS tunes.

SSDS TOP TEN (actually 12 – there were ties) as per the recent survey. The difference between the tunes 8-11 and tunes 3-7 was only 2 votes. The second column reflects tunes that got the most votes in a particular position. The third column is the top twelve (also had some ties) of a survey done in 2016.

Top Tunes of 2023	2023 Top tunes based on most votes for position	Top Tunes of 2016
1. Ashokan Farewell	Tamlin/ Black Mtn Rag	Tamlin
2. Tamlin	Lover's Waltz	Amelia
3. Black Mtn Rag	March of St. Timothy	Festival Rag
4. Willafjord	Willafjord	Over the Waterfall
5. Whiskey Before Breakfast	Beaumont Rag	Road to Lisdoonvarna
6. Mr. Gubbin's Bicycle	Tick Tock Polka	Ashokan Farewell
7. Front Porch Waltz	Flight of the Haggis	Cold Frosty Morn
8. Beaumont Rag	Front Porch Waltz	Sandy Boys
9. Walkin' Branwyn	Hangman's Reel	Southwind
10. Tick Tock Polka	Pig Ankle Rag	Whiskey Before Breakfast
11. Lover's Waltz	Saro Waltz	Lover's Waltz
12. Hangman's Reel	Niskayuna Ramble	Red Apple Rag

Holiday Music Preparation. Thank you to everyone who came out on Oct. 26 for the second practice. It is great to see all the support for our performances. We focused on proposed new tunes and worked on starts.

Thank you for your patience with me while I try to juggle all the elements in building this year's program. Your comments and questions helped me finetune and work out details. O Holy Night is out. The consensus was to hold off on the other new tunes until the final rehearsal. There are 23 tunes left on the working playlist. The list has to be pared down to 20 or 21 tunes. It may be that we keep all the tunes and decide at a particular playdate which tunes to cut based on the mix and number of players and the

venue requirements (background music, full concert, hybrid, i.e., Advent programs which require a mix of background and performance). There will be two playlists. One is for the requested secular music program requested for Wayne County Community College. The other will be used at the rest of the programs.

The **last rehearsal is Thursday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m.** This is a “dress” rehearsal. Bring your “decorations” for your instrument or stand, your accessories that may be used in various pieces (hats, jingle bells, whistles, triangles, clackers, etc.) Make sure you have the most recent version of the music and playlist. We will set up as if we were at a performance and go through the entire list from top to bottom.

Spirit Jam #32 – November 28th at 7:00 on Facebook Live. Enjoy playing together in the comfort of your own home. The theme is in honor of the 40th anniversary of SSDS and is based on the recent SSDS favorite tune survey.

Permission to Play – Shout out to Scott Smetana for obtaining official permission to play “The French Girl’s Waltz” from his musical acquaintance, Randy Marchany. We were playing at a recent After-Hours Jam and Scott told us he is friends with Randy. One thing led to another. Voila! I will be transcribing this tune into SSDS format soon. The After Hours group likes this tune and it may eventually be added to our regular tune library. Look it up and try it out. Let me know what you think.

Marsha.... 734-239-4190

Silverstrings.Music.Coordinator@gmail.com

TREASURER ~ Patty Wolschon

Greetings everyone and happy fall! We had many expenses during the summer for our campout, picnic, banquet, and music festivals but we are still solvent due to the diligence of our Board and our volunteers.

We have begun to collect dues for 2024 in October. The 2024 year begins in January but many of our members prefer to renew early so they do not forget. Currently, we have 158 members, with one new member added in October. I will be culling the list for members who have not yet renewed for 2023, so if you are unsure if you are current on your dues, you may contact me at:

Patty.... Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com 248-417-2828

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY'S..LET'S CELEBRATE !

- 4...Scott Smetana
- 6...Bill Smith
- 10...Terry Treppa
- 28...Chris Hurt
- 28...Janice Johnson
- 30...Greg Kaiser



If you don't see your name here for your birthday please let me know. David Silverstrings.Newletter@gmail.com

HIGHLAND LIBRARY MUSIC JAM

Highland Township Library
444 Beach Farm Circle, Highland Charter Twp.

The following Mondays, from 11:00 to 1:00 pm:

November 13, 20 & 27 December 11

We'll be playing slower than at regular jams!

Denise Harris-Fiems deniseharrismiti@yahoo.com

The Nomination Committee has a current list of members willing to run for office for the year 2024.

- **President:** Peggy Kustra
- **Vice President Business:** Cindy Semrau
- **Vice President Programs:** Chris Wolschon
- **Treasurer:** Patty Wolschon
- **Secretary:** Sue Tranquilla

However, if any member wishes to add their name and run for any board member position, please contact the nomination committee members:

Peggy Kustra peggyakustra54@gmail.com

Theresa Smith tsmithuke@yahoo.com

Sally Niemczewski sjniemczewski@yahoo.com

Open Mic Night

at

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

THIRD FRIDAY OF THE MONTH

REFRESHMENTS - 6:30 PM

OPEN MIC FROM - 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Join us for our next Open Mic Night on

Friday November 17th

Come share your music, song, original poetry/spoken word, or just relax, listen and enjoy free refreshments and wifi! No admission charge.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
30650 Six Mile, Livonia, MI

Everyone is Welcome!

Check the Abbey Coffee House Facebook Page for updates and information.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100054339048511>

Mountain Dulcimer Players

Mark your calendars...our jams are returning...

Tuesdays, November 14 & 28

Patricia Wolschon will host a jam at her home in Redford. Myself and Carol Ann will be your moderators.

Meetings will take place on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month from 1 - 3pm.** Players of ALL levels are welcome as well as rhythm and back up players!



Contact Linda Osgood at:

losgood10424@comcast.net or text at 734-649-3843



NGFDA

NORTH GEORGIA FOOTHILLS
DULCIMER ASSOCIATION

Anne Lough	Elaine Conger	Nina Zanetti
Aubrey Atwater	Erin Mac Lewis	Pam Bowman
Bill Schilling	Geoff Black & Duncan Gibbs	Patty McCollom
Bing Futch	Guy George	Sam Edleston
Butch Ross	Heidi Muller	Sharric George
Carol Crocker	Jessica Comcat	Steve Eulberg
Carol Walker	Jody Marshall	Sue Carpenter
Charles Whitmer	Joe Collins	Susan Trump
Cristian Huet	Karen Mueller	Thomasina Levy
Dana Gruber	Larry Conger	Tull Glazener
Dave Haas	Lil' Rev	Wendy Songe
Dusty Thorburn	Lorinda Jones	

VIRTUAL FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 16-18, 2023

[ngfda.com](https://www.ngfda.com)

<https://www.ngfda.com/>



UKE JAM

Great Lakes Ukulele Gathering...

...invites ukulele players to join us for monthly meetings where we will strum and sing. All music will be projected onto a screen so that we can all follow the lyrics and chords.

Gathering takes place **on the first Wednesday of each month from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Refreshments will be provided and you are welcome to bring snacks to share.

A donation of \$3.00 is requested. So bring your Ukulele and your Voice for a good time. All levels and ages welcome. Your first visit is FREE.

GOOD HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
28680 CHERRY HILL, GARDEN CITY
between Inkster and Middlebelt Roads



For further information contact :Bob: bsnemo@yahoo.com

Join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/glughead>

Check our website: <https://ukulelegathering.weebly.com/>

FOR SALE

"Masterworks Dulcimer" 16-15
with stand \$950 or best offer
Debbie Mayers 313-208-2099



Rick Thumb Traveler Dulcimer for Sale. 14/13. Plays like 15/14. Excellent condition, and will include stand and case. Please feel free to contact with any questions.

Debbie Mayers 313-208-2099



October-November 2023 Playlist

Key	Tune	Play
D	Whiskey Before Breakfast	4
D	Over the Waterfall	3
G	I'll Fly Away	4
G	Westphalia Waltz	2*
G	You Are My Sunshine	4
G	Red Apple Rag	3
D	Harvest Home	3
D	Turkey in the Straw	3
D	Flight of the Haggis	4
D	Black Mountain Rag	4
C	Tennessee Waltz	3*
Em	Tamlin <i>(start slow, each time a little faster)</i>	4
G	Muss I Denn	3
Am	Black Cat Schottische	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn/ Schottische du Stockfish	3/3
D	John Ryan's Polka	5*
D	Saro Waltz	3*
D	Young Roddy McCorley	3
D/G	Simple Gifts	2/2
A	Hangman's Reel	3
	Extras	
G	Amazing Grace	3
D	Hey (Boo) Polka	4
G	Grandfather's Clock	3
*2 nd time: HD's soft – feature other instruments		



2023 Secular Holiday Play list –Final

Key	Tune	Play
G	Jingle Bells	3 /12
G	Holly Berry	3
G	Deck the Halls	3
A	Hang the Stockings (Hangman's Reel)	3
D	Eggnog in the Morning (Whiskey Before Breakfast)	3
G	Grandfather's Clock	3
G	Tick Tock Polka	3
Am	Cold Frosty Morn	3
D	Saro Waltz	3*
C/G	Winter Wonderland/Let it Snow! Tag End by Starter	2/ 2
D	Silver & Gold Two-Step	3
C	Silver Bells Ritard End. HD – walk up C Chord, Glockenspiel echo	3
C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town –	2
C	Marvelous Toy	2
D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer – Santa Stick	2
D	Festival Rag	3
D	Painter's Party Polka	3
D	Christmas in Killarney	2
G	I Saw Three Ships/ Christmas is in the Air	as written
D/G	Simple Gifts Tag end by Starter	2/1***
G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas	
	Extras (Encore)	
Am	Tamlin	
D	Black Mountain Rag	

Tunes marked with * -HD/s soften up second time so other instruments can be featured (depending on who is there).

2023 Holiday Play list w/10/26/2023 Revisions

Starter	Key	Tune	Play
	G	Jingle Bells - start with chorus . Santa Stick tag if available. Jingle bells during each chorus	3 1/2
MK	G	Deck the Halls Start -Holly & Ivy 2x by starter while everyone decorates instruments/stands. Tag End by Starter	3***
MK	G	Holly Berry sound effect in the “knock-knock” notes	2
MK	G/C	Let It Snow/Winter Wonderland Chimes at the end.	2/2
CAM	C	Silver Bells . glockenspiel in chorus as echo. Ritard last 4 measures HD – walk up C Chord,	3
Dan/MK	C	Parade of the Wooden Soldiers - Snare start.	2
MK/Ed	D	Christmas in Killarney – Bohran, if available	2
MK and accessory players	C	Santa Claus is Coming to Town - end of first measure/ triangles, end of 2 nd measure/jingle bells, end of 3 rd measure/ clackers/woods; end of 4 th measure/ slide whistle. 4 beats and everyone come in. Second time through – play from 1 st measure.	2
MK	C	Marvelous Toy – last 4 measures are tag ending – toys do their thing.	2
PK	D	Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer - Santa Stick?	2
MK/Whistle	Em	Heigh Ho/Patapan Whistles/Marsha start, everyone else come in at 3 rd measure but start with 1 st measure and play with repeats After playing as written, go to Heigh Ho and play 1 time.	
MK	Am	Cold Frosty Morn bohran	2
MK/Ed	G	I Saw Three Ships/Christmas is in the Air - Bohran	As written
	G	Oh Come All Ye Faithful at chorus, start soft, increase volume every 2 measures. End loud. Ritard starts 4 measure to End	3
	G	Hark! The Herald Angels ritard last 4 measures to end	3
	G	Angels We Have Heard on High Second time HDs soft. Ritard last 3 measures of 3 rd time.	3***
LO	Am	What Child is This - ritard last 4 measures	3***
MDs	D/G	Still, Still, Still/O Christmas Tree. MDs play once in D, then 2 nd /3 rd time everyone playing in G	
MK/CAM	G	Joy to the World 4 measure start, listen for 3 bongs between each verse before starting next verse Tag end by Bass	3
Guitar	Em	God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen –. guitar start play <u>upbeat tempo</u> ; all <u>end abruptly on last note and let sound ring</u>	4
Ed/ Laurie	D/G	Simple Gifts -4 measure intro. 4 measure tag at end.	2/2***
Fiddle	D/G	Silent Night - fiddle start, MK will do transition from D to G. Everyone plays G two times. The 3 rd time in G, only harmonicas and guitar. Harmonicas repeat last line as a tag ending.	2/3***
	G	We Wish You a Merry Christmas – all sing the last chorus	1 1/2

Tunes marked with *** -HD/s soften up second time so other instruments can be featured (depending on who is there).
Note – arrangements may be changed to accommodate the mix of instruments.



SILVER STRINGS DULCIMER SOCIETY 2023 Public Holiday Performances

Date	Time	Place
Wednesday, Nov. 15	Noon	Wayne Cty Community College 21000 Northline Rd. Taylor
Sunday, Dec. 3	12:30-1:30	Padzieski Gallery/Ford Arts Ctr 15801 Michigan Ave. Dearborn
Wednesday, Dec. 6	6:30 P.M.	Highland Library 444 Beach Farm Circle Highland Township
Friday, December 8	7:00 P.M.	Newburg UM Church 36500 Ann Arbor Trail Livonia
Sunday, Dec. 10	2:00 P.M.	St. Richards Catholic Church 35851 Cherry Hill Rd. Westland
Thursday, Dec. 21	Noon	Livonia Public Library 32777 Five Mile Rd. Livonia



Significant Dates in Silver Strings 40 YEAR HISTORY

- 860... Twice Monthly Meeting/Jams
- 70... Variety Nights
- 462... Monthly Soundboard Newsletters
- 38... Annual Banquets
- 177... Current SSDS members
- 89... YouTube Practice Music Videos
- 33... Live Jams missed during Pandemic April 2020 - August 2021
- 31... "Spirit Jams" on Facebook & YouTube
- 11... Pop-Up Jams
- 5... "Library Outreach" Programs

SSDS Membership: 1986 - **36** 1989 - **66** 1993 - **106** 2014 - **115** 2018 - **120** 2023 - **158**

1983	July 27	First Meeting at Bishop Park in Wyandotte
1984		Meetings begin at Fisher School in Dearborn Heights
1985	April	First Soundboard Newsletter
1986	July	First meeting at Good Hope Church in Garden City
1997		Beginnings of a Silver Strings website
1997	October	First "Fifth Thursday Variety Night"
1998	March- May	Three Recording Sessions at HFCC
1999	February	First CD and Cassette Recording Released
1999		Performance at Dearborn Cable show "For Arts Sake"
1997, 1998 2000	May	Three 1st Place "Club Contest" wins at Roscoe Village, Ohio
2001	June	First Campout at Myers Lake
2008	September	First performance at Greenfield Village (2008 - 2012)
2009	October	"Holiday Tradition" CD released
2011	March	Performance at Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor
2016	September	First "Library Outreach" program at Plymouth Public Library
2017	May	Lansing bus trip and performance at the State Capitol in Lansing
2018	June	Meetings moved to Holy Cross Church in Livonia
2019	June	Campout moved to Groveland Oaks
2019	July	Live radio performance on WHFR 91.7FM
2020	April	"#1 Spirit Jam" on Facebook and Youtube
2020	August	Dulcimer Player News - SSDS Spirit Jam article
2023	February	"#31 Spirit Jam" on Facebook and YouTube
2023	October	462 nd issue of the Soundboard Newsletter

Silver Strings 40th Anniversary Banquet Photos

all photos courtesy of Bob Niemczewski and David & Theresa Smith



65 members and guests enjoyed a wonderful meal catered by Veronica's Catering.

Silver Strings 40th Anniversary Banquet Photos



After our meal, presentations and socializing, a lively Jam brought the evening to a close.

Silver Strings 40th Anniversary Banquet Photos



Silver Strings 40th History Display
by David Smith - Historian



Your 2023 SSDS Board Members

Harold Crane	Terry Kozlowski	Chris Wolschon
V.P. Business	President	V.P. Programs
Sally Kilcullen	Patty Wolschon	
Secretary	Treasurer	

Position	Name	Contact Information
President	Terry Kozlowski	Silverstrings.President@gmail.com 734-560-8204
V.P. Business Manager (Contact for booking performances)	Harold Crane	Silverstrings.Business.Manager@gmail.com 810-356-2842
V.P. Programs	Chris Wolschon	Silverstrings.Programs@gmail.com 313-410-0143
Secretary	Sally Kilcullen	Silverstrings.Secretary@gmail.com 313-689-4893
Treasurer	Patty Wolschon	Silverstrings.Treasurer@gmail.com 248-417-2828
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Historian	David Smith	Silverstrings.Historian@gmail.com 313-802-6001
Website & Dropbox Coordinator	Karen Turner	Silverstrings.Webmaster@gmail.com 734-678-7405

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society

Meetings on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month
7:00 - 9:00 pm.... with after-hour's jamming till ...?

Meeting at **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**
30650 Six Mile, Livonia, Michigan

Featuring the hammered dulcimer,
and other acoustic instruments :
mountain dulcimer, banjo, guitar, autoharp, fiddle,
string bass, washtub bass, mandolin, folk harp,
recorder, tin penny whistle, ukulele and harmonica.

Learn new tunes and techniques, jam together
with other players, receive new music
and a monthly newsletter.

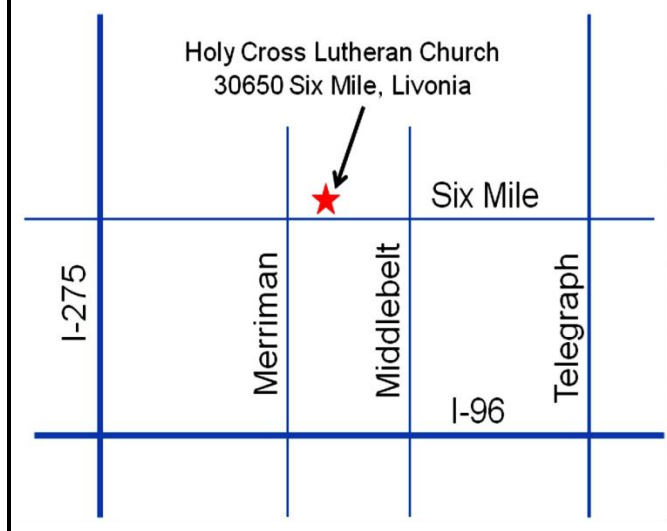
Participate in workshops, festivals, performances,
picnics, fun and fellowship.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

<https://www.silverstrings.org/>

Everyone is welcome!

Come to listen or come to play.



Start thinking about getting articles for the newsletter to me by the 25th.

Articles or pictures from any member are always welcome, contact David at silverstrings.newletter@gmail.com

Silver Strings Dulcimer Society
P.O. Box 51446
Livonia, MI 48151

