Everyone has been doing well playing music this year, doing great learning new tunes and playing and learning to play in other keys like G and Em. Here's a few points to playing in other keys.

✔ YES, we are primarily a dulcimer group and primarily play in D, but it is good for dulcimer players to expand, learn new songs and learn to play in other keys.
✔ The dulcimer sounds good in other keys and gives it a different nice sound
✔ Adds variety, different sound to the music and brings out the talent of each musician!
✔ Some songs are easier to sing and play in other keys.
✔ Allows players of other instruments to play something different other than D

Want to learn how to play in other keys and how to use a capo or have questions? I am offering a dulcimer capo workshop. There are also ways of playing in other keys without a capo. Its not hard once you learn. But it does take time and needs to be done outside of practice time to allow the player time to learn, understand and make their learning productive and fun! In addition, will help make practice productive for other musicians.

Dulcimer players needing help with Sloop John B (key of G) let me know so you can learn before the festival.

A Capo workshop or help can be given:

✔ At Trinity on Monday October 11th, early at 6 pm BEFORE practice time.
✔ At an arranged time/place during the week individually or a with a small group (before Oct 15).
✔ At Lake Stone Campground at an arranged time from Oct 17 – Oct 21 (call me @ 982-1997).

October meetings & other tidbits to know:

✔ Oct 4, Monday at Trinity – Eat n' jam party: Eat at 6 pm; Play at 7 pm. NO lessons but if time allows to answer some basic questions this will be done BEFORE or AFTER the jam session.
✔ Oct 11, Monday at Trinity – capo workshop 6pm if needed; Play at 7 pm. Plan for a full 1 ½ hr of playing music, no dessert break. Need time to practice for upcoming gigs.
✔ Oct 14, Thursday at Cottage Hill UMC – Play at 7 pm. Dulcimer help can be given during break.
✔ Oct 15 to Oct 25 – YES I will be camping at Lake Stone.
✔ Oct 18, Monday at Trinity – YES there WILL be a jam session at Trinity 7 – 8:15 pm. Break to celebrate October birthdays! A Cake will be provided.
✔ Oct 25, Monday at Trinity – Play at 7 pm. Plan for a full 1 ½ hr of playing music, no dessert break.

We want everyone to learn and will do what we can to help dulcimer players and will give anyone help or answer questions best we can, but our practice time is limited especially if we break early so any extra help needed or questions that will take time will need to be done outside of practice sessions.

Only simple quick questions can be answered at practice. Extra help can be given in the following ways: 1) going to another room, 2) if time allows help can be given after practice, 3) help will be given early before the next practice session, 4) a day and time on non-practice days can be arranged to get extra help. 5) Some help or questions can be done by phone or email

But all the dulcimer players and beginners are doing great and your enthusiasm to learn is great! Keep up the good work and keep 'yo strings warm and strummin'!

After our festival if other lessons or help of any kind are needed, some lessons or slow jam practices can be scheduled early at 6pm on Mondays at Trinity.