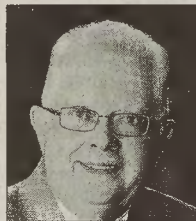


## FOCUS

### Contemporary music vs. hymns

#### MUSICALLY SPEAKING



**JOSEF WALKER**  
Guest Columnist

Recently a number of friends who are also musicians have commented on my column and have wanted to share some of their experiences with me. A dear friend of mine who is also a church organist, at the suggestion of her pastor, sent me the following. It's way too good not to share. I hope you enjoy it as much as I did.

The Difference between "contemporary music" and "hymns."

An old farmer went to the city one weekend and attended the big church in the center of town. He came home and his wife asked him how it was. "Well," said the farmer. "It was good. They did something different however. They sang praise choruses instead of regular songs, you know, hymns."

"Praise choruses," said his wife. "What are those?"

"Oh, they're okay," said the farmer, "they're kind of like hymns, only different."

"What's the difference?" asked his wife.

"Well," the farmer said, "it's like this. If I were to say to you, 'Martha, the cows are in the corn,' well, that would be a hymn. If on the other hand, I were to say

to you, 'Martha, Martha, Martha, Oh, Martha, Martha, Martha, the cows, the big cows, the brown cows, the black cows, the white cows, the cows, cows, cows are in the corn, in the corn, in the corn, in the corn, the corn, corn, corn,' Then if I were to repeat the whole thing three or four times, well, that would be a praise chorus."

As luck would have it, the exact same Sunday, a young man from the city attended the small town church. He came home and his wife asked him how it was.

"Well," said the young man, "it was pretty cool. They did something different, though. They sang hymns instead of regular songs."

"Hymns," said his wife. "What are those?"

"Oh, they're okay. They're sort of like regular songs, only different," said the young man.

"Well, what's the difference?" asked his wife.

"Well," the young man said, "it's like this. If I were to say to you, 'Martha, the cows are in the corn,' well, that would be a regular song. If, on the other hand, I were to say to you: 'Oh, Martha, dear Martha, hear thou my cry.

Inclined thine ear to the words of my mouth. Turn thou thy whole wondrous ear by and by to the righteous, inimitable, glorious truth.

For the way of the animals who can explain, There in their heads is no shadow of sense,

Hearkenest they in God's sun or his rain Unless from the mild, tempting corn they are fenced.

Yea those cows in glad bovine, rebellious delight Have torn free from their shackles, their warm pens eschewed,

They, goaded by minions of darkness and night,

They all of my sweet corn have happily chewed.

So look to that bright shinning day by and by

When no foul corruptions of earth are reborn,

Where no vicious animal makes my soul cry, And I no longer see those foul cows in the corn.'

Then, if I do a key change on the last verse, well, that would be a hymn."

Music is the universal language. It's also a great healer. What if not only in music, but more importantly, in our daily lives, rather than always pointing out what is different about us, we were to celebrate the ways in which we are alike; and try to be accepting of the fact that we are not all alike. We could put less importance on the differences that separate us. I think it might make us happier people and make it easier to keep a song in our hearts.

*Guest Columnist Josef Walker is organ master and choirmaster of Heidelberg United Church of Christ in Thomasville.*



COURTESY PHOTO

## HARVEST TIME

Children from the Child Development Center at Davidson County Community College recently helped pick vegetables from the school's community garden, along with Bill Keesler, executive director at the Pastor's Pantry in Lexington. The food will be donated to seniors who rely on the pantry for monthly food.

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### High Point Arts Council to hold 'Day in the Park'

#### TIMES STAFF REPORT

High Point Area Arts Council is inviting visual artists — fine arts and craft persons — to participate in the 40th annual Day in the Park festival scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18. Five awards in the amount of \$100 each will be selected from all participating artists. Judging will include only handcrafted items. Exhibit booth space is 15 ft. long by 10 ft. deep. The registration fee is \$65. Deadline for all entries is Aug. 31.

Held throughout High Point's City Lake Park, Day in the Park features live entertainment, Adventure Island activities for children, a Folk Life area, community friends and food, as well as fine arts and crafts booths. The one-day festival will begin at 11 a.m. and ends at 5 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

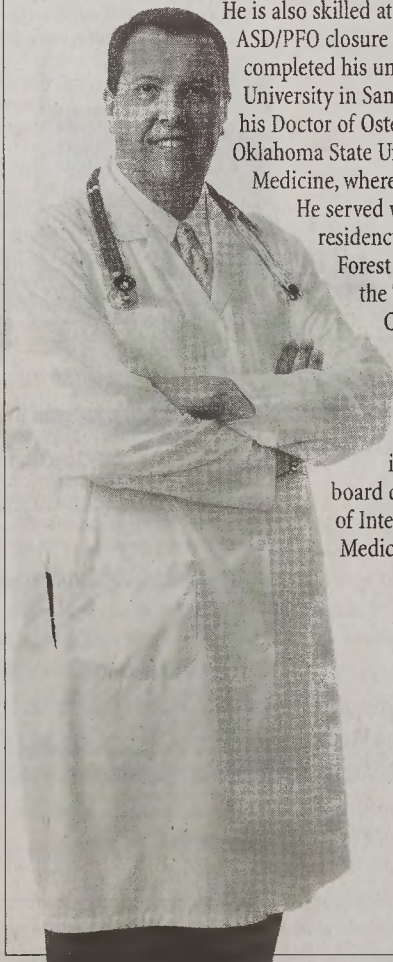
For more information or to receive an application, call Travis Compton, Community Outreach Coordinator at the High Point Area Arts Council, at (336) 889-2787 ext. 26 or at [rtcompton@highpointarts.org](mailto:rtcompton@highpointarts.org), or visit the website at [www.highpointarts.org/DIP.asp](http://www.highpointarts.org/DIP.asp).

## CORNERSTONE health care

YOUR MEDICAL HOME

Announces that  
**Kurt R. Daniel, DO**  
has joined Carolina Cardiology Cornerstone

Dr. Daniel is an interventional cardiologist who has special expertise in cardiac catheterization and stenting using the radial (wrist) artery.

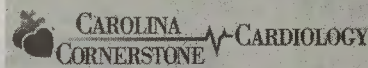


He is also skilled at peripheral artery interventions, ASD/PFO closure and aortic valvuloplasty. He completed his undergraduate studies at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX, and was awarded his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree by Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he graduated first in his class.

He served with distinction during his residency in internal medicine at Wake Forest University, where he was named the Top Senior Resident, served as Chief Resident, and won several medical student teaching awards. He then completed a four-year cardiology fellowship and a fellowship in advanced interventional cardiology. He is board certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine in Internal Medicine and Cardiovascular Disease.

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