

# Cullowhee Baptist children, youth raise money to sail 'Heifer Ark'

Cullowhee Baptist Church children, youth, and college students have met their three-year goal of raising \$5,000 to sail a Heifer Ark, which is a donation through Heifer International that involves gifts of 15 pairs or groups of animals worldwide to families who will be trained to use the animals and their offspring to become self-sustaining.

Each family who receives an animal will pass on one or more of the animal's offspring to other families in their community who are

in need, a practice known as "Passing on the Gift."

Heifer's unique community development model assisted more than 191,000 families last year with gifts of animals, training and sharing offspring. Another 280,000 families received special training that included sustainable farming techniques. Animals included in the "ark" are cows, sheep, oxen, pigs, honeybees, goats, llamas and poultry.

Fund-raising for the Heifer Ark project has been an

ecumenical, community-wide effort.

In addition to the projects sponsored by Cullowhee Baptist children – which included dinners, cake auctions, raffling a hand-carved "Ark Angel," and selling hand-crafted hats and scarves – other Cullowhee churches contributed to the effort through community Vacation Bible Schools. Churches that assisted include Cullowhee United Methodist, The Summit, El Centro del Senor, and St. David's Episcopal.



The children, youth and college students at Cullowhee Baptist Church combined efforts to raise \$5,000 to provide farm animals to families in need around the world. Celebrating the reaching of their goal are, from left, (front row) Alyssa Collins, Martha Willard, Ally Vickery, Britteny Collins, Rebecca Fox, (center row) Dianne Yount, the Rev. Tonya Vickery, Ron Yount, Paula Fox, Evey Mumm, (back row) Beth Baxley, the Rev. Jeffrey Vickery, Tessa Davis and Amy Garza.