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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carolina Girl Yacht Hosts Children from Epworth Home for an Afternoon Cruise in Charleston Harbor

CHARLESTON, SC (August 10, 2010) – On Sunday, August 8, 2010, the Carolina Girl luxury yacht hosted an afternoon cruise in Charleston Harbor for 80 plus children from the Epworth Children’s Home in Columbia, SC.

For the second year in a row, Captain Bob Murray invited kids to board his 100 foot yacht to enjoy Charleston from a truly unique venue. The children experienced firsthand the responsibilities of a captain including navigating with a GPS, keeping an eye on weather with the radar and overseeing his mates on board.

“Captain Bob let us drive the boat, and we saw dolphins, birds and other people sailing,” says Brett, a current resident at the Epworth Children’s Home. “It was fun to act like we were on the Titanic because the boat was so large and beautiful.”

On Sunday, the children traveled from Columbia and attended a local church service followed by lunch provided by members of the congregation. They then boarded the Carolina Girl for an afternoon on the waters of Charleston.

Reflecting on the children’s experience on the yacht, The Rev. John Holler, President of the Epworth Children’s Home, says “The trip broadened their horizons; it was a definite ‘wow’ experience because it was a first for so many of them. They literally jumped up and down with squeals of delight. I give thanks to Captain Bob and his crew for their gift to children who call Epworth home.”

About Carolina Girl:

Carolina Girl is a luxurious yacht that serves as a unique event venue in Charleston. Comfortably seating 150 people, Carolina Girl delivers the perfect pairing of a posh setting with unparalleled views of Charleston Harbor year-round. The yacht provides a distinctive location for an unforgettable event.

About Epworth Children's Home:

For more than 100 years, Epworth Children's Home has grown and adapted to the individual needs of children by providing quality care grounded in faith and responsibility for our neighbor. Established in 1895 by the South Carolina Annual Conference of what is now the United Methodist Church, Epworth Children's Home was originally named Epworth Orphanage. Situated in the heart of the state, the Home is located on 35 peaceful acres in Columbia, South Carolina.

Children come to Epworth through private and government placements. Each placement is the result of a fractured family system. Over 70 staff members surround each child with an array of comprehensive services that meet their emotional, physical and spiritual needs. Much CARE and expertise go into assessing the strengths and weaknesses of each child. Together with SCUM congregations and individual volunteer support, the staff of Epworth Children's Home "live CARE" so each child's hurts are healed, hopes are nurtured and faith in God, self and others is developed.

The generous financial support of those who have come before and those who partner with Epworth each day are combined to help provide the daily needs of a safe and nurturing environment for the children on campus. More than half of the budget each year comes from congregations, individuals and corporate support. When you make a gift to Epworth, you are insuring each child receives the basics of food and shelter, but more importantly, your gift serves to provide a campus pastor for spiritual direction, counseling staff, educational tutors and cottage staff who guide each child through their journey. Together we live CARE for God's children at Epworth Children's Home: **C**ompassion, **A**cceptance, **R**espect and **E**ncouragement.

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