

— News Release —

For Immediate Release
For News and/or Community and/or Religion Editor(s)

Contact:

John Ross

(630) 879-8828 (office)

(630) 879-2583 (home)

06/10/11 Time: 4:30 p.m.

States and Cities Join in Proclaiming “Children’s Day”

- Wisconsin joins Illinois with a proclamation

Batavia, Ill., June 10, 2011 (*The Religion Wire™*) — The state of Wisconsin has joined with one of its border states, Illinois, to partner in proclaiming “**Children’s Day**” on Sunday June 12, 2011. Wisconsin Governor, Scott Walker, issued the proclamation on June 8. Also the cities of Aurora, Ill.; Fort Collins, Colo.; and Vancouver, Wash.; have issued 2011 proclamations.

Many individuals, groups, and churches are trying to bring attention to this special day for children, the second Sunday in June, which predates both Mother’s and Father’s Day.

John Ross, advocate for **Children’s Day** and part of a growing movement spearheaded by the website www.nationalchildrensday.us, expressed his delight with the state and city proclamations.

“I am so pleased with the grassroots effort in Vancouver, Fort Collins, and Wisconsin. It is great to see them join Illinois and Aurora. These proclamations and the ongoing work of individuals, churches, and organizations for this day speaks volumes. *Children’s Day* activities are also planned for many communities across the country, such as Clinton, La., and Peters burg, Va. Yes, **Children’s Day** is special in America.”

Children’s Day



Second Sunday in June

Add one — States and Cities Join in Proclaiming “Children’s Day”

Children’s Day observations in the United States predate both Mother’s and Father’s Day. The day to celebrate children dates from the 1860s and earlier. The Methodist Episcopal Church at the Methodist Conference of 1868 recommended that the second Sunday in June be observed annually as **Children’s Day**. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 1883 designated the “the second Sabbath in June as *Children’s Day*.”

Chase’s Calendar of Events cites Children’s Sunday and notes that The Commonwealth of Massachusetts issues an annual proclamation for *the second Sunday in June*.

Numerous churches and denominations currently observe *the second Sunday in June* including the African Methodist Episcopal Church, African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

The **Children’s Day** website also offers helps and challenges parents, individuals, churches/houses of worship, schools/places of education, government/community and businesses to sign commitment cards directed at affirming America’s children. They pledge to “commit myself (ourselves), in the coming year, to love, cherish, nurture (physical, mental, emotional, & spiritual needs), and affirm...” They can also make a commitment beyond America to the world’s children.