

— 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)

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Mark the Date June 10 as “Children’s Day”

- Celebrated in America for Over 150 Years

Batavia, Ill., April 11, 2012 (*The Religion Wire™*) —

Individuals, groups, and churches across America are being urged to mark their calendar and plan for **Sunday, June 10, 2012**, as “**Children’s Day**.”

Children’s Day



Second Sunday in June

The website www.nationalchildrensday.us brings attention to this special day for children, *the second Sunday in June*, which predates both Mother’s and Father’s Day.

In 2011, the state of **Illinois** was joined by one of its border states, **Wisconsin**, to partner in proclaiming “**Children’s Day**” on *the second Sunday in June*. Also the cities of Aurora, Ill.; Batavia, Ill.; Fort Collins, Colo.; and Vancouver, Wash.; issued 2011 proclamations.

John Ross, advocate for **Children’s Day** and part of a growing movement spear-headed by the website, expressed his hope for further expansion of the day.

“I am so pleased with the grassroots effort in 2011 for the day. The state and local proclamations and the ongoing work of individuals, churches, and organizations for the day speaks volumes to its potential in 2012 and beyond. So mark the date and set your plans for our children. **Children’s Day** is truly becoming a special day in America.”

Add one — Mark the Date June 10 as “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, www.nationalchildrensday.us, offers helps and also 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.