

# — News Release —

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

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## Children's Day

### “Children’s Day” coming Sunday!

- National holiday in many countries of the world

Batavia, Ill., June 6, 2012 (*The Religion Wire™*) — In

numerous countries of the world “Children’s Day” is a national holiday, but not the United States. For some 150

years “Children’s Day” has been celebrated throughout

the country. It’s celebrated on *the second Sunday in June* — this year June 10. Many

individuals, groups, and churches, are trying to bring attention to this special day for

children that predates both Mother’s and Father’s Day.

John Ross, advocate for **Children’s Day** and part of a growing movement spear-headed by the website [www.nationalchildrensday.us](http://www.nationalchildrensday.us), bemoans the lack of a national observation.

“We have had **Children’s Day** on *the second Sunday in June* for some 150 years. This year it’s June 10. Looking at the Wikipedia website under **Children’s Day** you will note the numerous countries that celebrate this special day on a national level. America needs more awareness of this unique day to honor, support, and remember children. I am hopeful that in the coming years **Children’s Day** will become more of a part of our nation’s fabric.”



Second Sunday in June

## Add one — “Children’s Day” coming Sunday!

**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*.”

On April 17, 2012, **Illinois Governor Pat Quinn** proclaimed the day for 2012.

In 2011, **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.

*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.

Community groups, churches, and individuals are encouraged to challenge state governors and local governments to proclaim the day. The website [www.nationalchildrensday.us](http://www.nationalchildrensday.us) has instructions and contact information for all 50 states plus Puerto Rico.

The **Children’s Day** website also 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.

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