

# — News Release —

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

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05/18/15 Time: 1:30 p.m.

## **With Mother's Day now past... Why not "Children's Day"?** • Petition at [WhiteHouse.Gov](http://WhiteHouse.Gov) for the President to Proclaim the Day

**Batavia, Ill., May 18, 2015** (*The Religion Wire™*) — Will

the President, governors and mayors join in proclaiming

**Sunday, June 14, 2015**, as "Children's Day"?

Since 2007, the governor of the state of **Illinois** has

proclaimed "**Children's Day**" on *the second Sunday in*

*June*. Also such cities as Aurora, Ill.; Batavia, Ill.; Fort Collins, Colo.; Vancouver, Wash.;

to name a few, have issued past proclamations.

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), expressed his hope for further expansion of the day.

"I am so pleased with the past responses from Illinois governors in issuing proclamations. The ongoing work of individuals, churches, and organizations for the day speaks volumes to its potential in 2015 for state and local proclamations and beyond.

"This year we are petitioning President Obama at the White House website (visit [www.nationalchildrensday.us](http://www.nationalchildrensday.us) to learn the 2015 link) to proclaim **Children's Day**. The petition needs to get 100,000 signatures by May 21, 2015; the White House will then review it and respond. Those 13 and older can participate in the petition drive.

This national petition drive is a difficult task and we are trying to spread the word. Still, I am hopeful for more proclamations this year and even from the President."

## Children's Day



Second Sunday in June

## **Add one — With Mother’s Day now past... Why not “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](http://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.