

— News Release —

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

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Churches and Denominations Support “Children’s Day” • Second Sunday in June set as date

Batavia, Ill., June 8, 2016 (*The Religion Wire™*) —

Public officials have joined in proclaiming **Sunday, June 12, 2016**, as “**Children’s Day**.” Since 2007, the governor of the state of **Illinois** has proclaimed “**Children’s Day**” on *the second Sunday in June*. But, churches in America have historically supported the date for some 150 years.

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

John Ross, advocate for **Children’s Day** and part of a growing movement spear-headed by the website, www.nationalchildrensday.us, notes that “churches throughout America both in urban and rural settings continue to support this 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*.”

Children’s Day



Second Sunday in June

Add one — Churches and Denominations Support “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*.

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.