

Children's Sabbaths

Who sponsors Children's Sabbaths?

The **Children's Defense Fund (CDF)**, a private, non-profit organization, sponsors the national observance of Children's Sabbath. CDF began in 1973 and is supported by foundations, corporate grants and individual donations. CDF works to ensure every child a healthy start, a head start, a fair start, a safe start, and a moral start in life. CDF provides worship, educational, community outreach and advocacy resources for Protestant, Catholic, Episcopal, Jewish, and other faith traditions. Over 200 denominations, faith groups, and religious organizations endorse this organization.

What is the National Observance of Children's Sabbaths?

The National Observance of Children's Sabbaths is an opportunity for people of all ages and all faiths to learn about the urgent needs of children and the mandate in every faith tradition to nurture and protect children, to seek justice on behalf of those most vulnerable. Through worship services, religious education classes, and congregational outreach and advocacy activities, people of faith learn more about the problems facing children (such as poverty, lack of health care, and violence) and commit to responding to them. **The United Methodist Church has designated the second Sunday in October, as the time for church's to observe Children's Sabbath.** Of course, if the church wishes to do an extensive educational curriculum utilizing **United Methodist Women (UMW) programming**, Sunday school classes, small groups, ecumenical groups, etc., the informative materials are certainly available. **Yes, it is UMW who generates the enthusiasm for this beneficial event because it partners with Spiritual Growth, Social Action, Education and Interpretation and Membership Nurture and Outreach.**

What is the 2012 Children's Sabbath theme?

Prior to the Children Sabbath Conference held July 22-25, 2012, in Cincinnati, the curriculum will be online at: www.childrensdefensefund.org/faith The theme is **PURSUING JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN AND THE POOR...WITH URGENCY AND PERSISTANCE.** Manuals from previous years are online.

Google search for Children's Sabbath accesses many ideas and free download of information.

What is the address of Children's Defense Fund?

Children's Defense Fund
25 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202-628-8787