Welcome Ramadan 1434

Ramadan will soon be upon us. Insha’Allah you will all have a blessed Ramadan. This year will definitely challenge our patience and perseverance. Seventeen hour days of fasting leaves only seven hours for Iftar, Suhoor, Taraweeh and sleeping. Hmm. That just doesn’t seem possible.

If you have a typical job (let’s say 8:00am to 5:00pm), you are going to have to schedule a lengthy nap during the day. Here’s why!

The first night of Taraweeh is scheduled for July 8th after Isha which is held at 10:30pm. If you pray eight Rakah, you should be done sometime around 11:30. If you pray 20, plan on being in the Masjid until after midnight. Either way, you will not sleep for more than two to three hours before you wake up for suhoor and Fajr. If you complete suhoor, fajr and maybe a little Qur’an reading, you may be able to go back to sleep by 4:30pm. This means you MAY have two to three more hours of sleep (assuming you can fall back asleep) before you get ready for work. You will then put in a long day at work before you return home, possibly exhausted.

So...what you need to do is pray ‘Asr and go to sleep until right before Iftar. That gives you another three hours or so of sleep. This will certainly be a challenging schedule, but who said Ramadan was going to be easy? Ramadan is a month of blessings, and the more challenges we face, the more blessings we earn.

You really need to keep that in mind ... especially this year!

Assalamu Alaikum to all.

As you read your first issue of ISM Today, please consider becoming a part of this publication. We want you to provide us with news, articles and other information that you would like to share with the community. Please share information regarding weddings, births, special events, celebrations, graduations and other community news. Your pictures are also important. Remember that this publication is from you and for you; without your involvement, this publication will suffer.

We have many items that we would like to include in this monthly publication, including information from the ISM Staff, Salam School activities, ISM West activities, a “Question of the Month” page, a “Du’a of the Month, Youth Corner, ISM monthly prayer calendar, a list of community educa-

(Continued on page 4)
Assalamu Alaikum Brothers & Sisters.

Welcome to the first issue of ISM Today! Over the years, the ISM has published a number of newsletters and magazines under a variety of different names. Some years ago, when I was in college (it’s not THAT long ago), I served as the publication chair of the ISM. During my tenure, we published a lengthy magazine under the name “Perspectives”. Unfortunately, this publication did not continue for long due to the lack of qualified volunteers who could publish original material each month.

Technology has changed tremendously since the time I served as publication chair. Computers were not nearly as accessible or as advanced as what we have available today. Most people still did not have PC’s! I recall spending hours of time working on an early generation Macintosh (MAC) at the print shop of the late Br. Zuberi who passed away last year (may Allah (swt) have mercy on his soul). Today, we have computers and software which make publication a snap. Of course, what continues to be a challenge is obtaining informative and interesting material for publication.

The purpose of ISM Today is to serve as a communication tool between the ISM and the Muslim community throughout Southeast Wisconsin. We would like to publish material about what we do as an organization and what you do as members of our community.

The person who is spearheading this new publication is Br. Ayman Alamy, who is a newly elected member of the ISM Executive Board. The other Board members who were elected in April (to three year terms) include Dr. Iftekhar Khan (Vice President), Br. Lateef Khan (Secretary) and Br. Adel Bekhiet (Board Member). May Allah (swt) guide all of them to successfully serve their faith and their community, including the ISM. A list of all the ISM Executive Board Members appears on the side of this page.

For this publication to be successful, we need your input. Please send your information to ismtoday@ismonline.org. Also remember to visit us at our website (www.ismonline.org), as well as on Facebook and twitter.

Jazakum Allah Khair and Ramadan Mubarak!
Atty. Othman M. Atta
Ramadan Calendar of Events

Sunday July 7  First Annual Pre-Ramadan Conference Special Program and Dinner – Prepare for Ramadan!! Begins after Asr Prayer (5:15pm)

Monday July 8  First night of Taraweeh Prayer. Isha Prayer at 10:30pm. (Starting July 15th, Isha is at 10:15pm. Starting July 29th, Isha is at 10:00pm)

Tuesday July 9  First day of fasting. Ramadan Mubarak!

Saturday July 13  ISM Fundraising Dinner – 801 W. Layton Avenue

Saturday July 20  ISM West Fundraising Dinner

Sunday July 28  Possible night of Lailatul Qadr

Tuesday July 30  Possible night of Lailatul Qadr

Thursday August 1  Possible night of Lailatul Qadr

Saturday August 3  27th Night of Ramadan - Possible night of Lailatul Qadr

Khatm Quran at ISM

Qiyam Program at ISM until Fajr. Suhoor provided courtesy of Muslim American Society (MAS)

Monday August 5  Possible night of Lailatul Qadr

Thursday August 8  Eid ul-Fitr at Humboldt Park - Band Shell – 3000 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee.

Sunday August 11  Eid Celebration & Community Picnic – Wil-O-Way Grant Park, 207 Lake Drive, South Milwaukee.

Special Programs at ISM

⇒ Every Friday - ISM weekly Qiyam lead by Br. Ziad and Dr. Shah, with the support from religious committee members.

⇒ Thursday through Sunday after the 8th Raka’a- Br. Rami Bleibel will lead the youth education program
“ISM Today” (Continued from page 1)

National programs and activities, outreach activities, book reviews, community news and more.

Other items we would like to include are advertisements from our local business owners. There will be a small fee for advertisements, which will help us offset the cost of printing the publication. Please keep in mind that the Publication and Outreach Committee (like all ISM Committees) is composed of volunteers working for Islam and our community.

PLEASE SEND US YOUR FEEDBACK regarding what you like or do not like about this first issue. Also send us your articles, photos and comments. Please send all information to our email at ismtoday@ismonline.org.

Please remember that the deadline for each publication is the 22nd of each month for the following month’s publication.

Finally, I would like to wish all of you a very Happy Ramadan. May Allah bless you and your families. Please take care, and make sure you drink a lot of water at Suhoor time!!

Br. Ayman Alamy

ISM Featured in Milwaukee Magazine

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee was recently featured in the April 2013 edition of “Milwaukee Magazine”. The article, written by Matt Hrodey, discusses multiple faiths in the Greater Milwaukee area, what faiths are blossoming, what’s changing, and how religion is impacting the population. The article discusses Jum’ah prayer, the growth of the Muslim population over time, and other Islamic houses of worship in Milwaukee. “There are now more Muslims in the area than Jews, according to surveys released by the Association of Statisticians of American Religious Bodies,” Hrodey reported.

With the steady increase of the Muslim population in our city and throughout the United States, our community will continue to move forward and progress in a most positive way insha’allah.

This article, titled “The New Faith”, can be viewed on Milwaukee Magazine’s website at www.milwaukeemag.com.

ISM Today
Islamic Society of Milwaukee

Annual Fundraising Dinner
Saturday July 13, 2013
ISM Community Center – 8th & Layton
After Maghrib @8:33pm

Special Appeal from the ISM President

Assalaamu Alaikum, brothers and sisters:

I remember learning how to ride a bicycle as a young boy. It was somewhat scary. I didn't want to fall over and get hurt and I didn't want to risk falling even harder by moving forward at the same time. The lesson that the new bicycle rider learns, however, is that in order to keep one's balance and ride the bike, one must pedal and move forward.

Life is like riding a bicycle: one must move forward or risk falling over. Insha’Allah, on July 13, 2013, the Islamic Society of Milwaukee will hold its Annual Fundraising Dinner. Alhamdulillah, last year we raised approximately $650,000 in pledges. With the help of Allah (SWT) and your generosity, we were able to operate masajid where more than 100,000 salat were prayed, more than 1000 children received Islamic education, hundreds of classes were held for adults, thousands of fasts were broken and hundreds of needy families were fed, clothed and sheltered. As our community grows, so grow our needs. In the coming year, we will need to do more, including adding additional parking at the Islamic Center, finding additional space for educating our children and building a masjid in Brookfield.

Won't you help us keep moving forward and join us on July 13? May Allah (SWT) guide us and grant us and all of His righteous servants success in this world and in the hereafter.

Ahmed J. Quereshi,
President, Islamic Society of Milwaukee
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1. DUE TO SLIGHT VARIATION, 3 MINUTES WERE ADDED TO MAGHRIB/IFTAR TIMES

* ISM Fundraising Dinner
** ISM West Fundraising Dinner
C - Possible Laylat Al-Qadr
C - 27th Night of Ramadan

ISM TODAY
Ramadan Fundraising Schedule

Assalamu Alaikum Sisters and Brothers: As part of the ISM’s commitment to the Muslim community, both local, national and international, the ISM has provided reputable, registered 501(c)(3) organizations the opportunity to raise funds at the ISM during the Blessed Month of Ramadan.

The following are the organizations and the tentative dates that they have been scheduled to raise funds at the ISM:

⇒ Friday, July 19th during Taraweeh Prayers: Milwaukee Muslim Women’s Coalition (MMWC)
⇒ Sunday, July 21st during Taraweeh Prayers: Muslim American Society (MAS)
⇒ Wednesday, July 24th during Taraweeh Prayers: Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)
⇒ Friday, July 26th at Friday Prayers: International Relief Organization (TBD)
⇒ Saturday July 27th during Taraweeh Prayers: Milwaukee Community & Health Center (formerly CHP)
⇒ Sunday, July 28th during Taraweeh Prayers: American Muslims for Palestine (AMP)
⇒ Tuesday, July 30th during Taraweeh Prayers: Mar’uf
⇒ Friday, August 2nd during Taraweeh Prayers: Clara Muhammad School
⇒ Saturday, August 3 during Taraweeh Prayers: Qur’an and Arabic Institute (QAI) and ISM Da’wa

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET THE ISM FUNDRAISING IFTARS!

⇒ Saturday, July 13th at Maghrib ISM Fundraising Iftar
⇒ Saturday, July 20th at Maghrib ISM West (Brookfield) Fundraising Iftar

Taraweeh Options in Milwaukee- Ramadan 1434/2013


ISM Musallah/UWM Area: Isha Prayer at 10:30 pm. Begins July 8th. Prayer shifts to 10:15pm on Monday, July 15 and 10:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2013.

ISM West/Brookfield (Elmbrook Hospital Auditorium): Isha Prayer at 10:30 pm. Begins July 8th. Prayer shifts to 10:15pm on Monday, July 15 and 10:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2013. (Please park in the back of the hospital campus and use the auditorium entrance in the back of the hospital).


Masjid Al Huda (43rd/Edgerton Ave): Begins following moon-sighting (July 8 or 9). Isha Prayer at 10:30 pm. Prayer shifts to 10:15pm on Monday, July 15 and 10:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2013.

Dawah Center (5135 N Teutonia): Isha Prayer at 10:30 pm. Begins July 8th. Prayer shifts to 10:15pm on Monday, July 15 and 10:00pm on Monday, July 29, 2013.
Asalamu Alaikum.

Exciting times are approaching in the ISM West masjid project. A construction permit is Insha’Allah expected by the 2\textsuperscript{nd} week of July followed by ground-breaking and beginning of work at the site! There has been a lot of work done over the past year by the ISM West Task Force to finally arrive at this point in the project.

Some of the key activities included selection of a contractor (Nabil Salous), masjid redesign and update to the site plan. Redesign was done both to the overall structure of the building as well as the internal layout. The former structure was a hybrid steel/wood design, and has been changed to an all steel design. Inside the masjid, changes were made to relocate the men’s wudu area to the lower level, allowing for additional space on the main level for meeting rooms and classrooms for Sunday school. The modifications required significant rework to the architectural drawings of the building layout, elevations and framing, all which have been completed.

In addition, the site plan was altered to relocate the masjid footprint from the northwest part of the lot to more in the center. This change allows for better traffic flow and parking proximity to the masjid. The updates required modifications to the site plan, storm water management plan, landscape plan, etc., all which have been completed.

The final package submission of all the changes was recently submitted to the state & city. State approval has been received and final city approval with a construction permit is expected in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} week of July as mentioned earlier. While the changes caused some delay to the overall timeline of the project, Insha’Allah they will provide improvements and benefit the Muslim community of Milwaukee for a long time.

Key next steps over the next month include lining up sub-contractors to clean up the site, begin digging, and preparation for laying the foundation. There is also a fundraiser planned on Saturday, July 20\textsuperscript{th}, at the Crown Plaza in Wauwatosa. We pray to Allah SWT to help us build this masjid for His worship, & we request your duas and support to make this dream a reality, Ameen.

Fundraising Iftar for Our New Masjid in Brookfield
Saturday, July 20, 2013
Crowne Plaza Hotel
10499 W. Innovation Drive, Wauwatosa
Help us build a new House of Allah in Waukesha County!
At Ahmad & Guerard, LLP, a respected law firm located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, our lawyers are ready to give your case the close, professional oversight it deserves. Our services include the following:

◊ Business Transactions & Advisory
◊ Business & Commercial Litigation
◊ Immigration law
◊ Appeals Litigation
◊ Personal injury law
◊ Criminal law/OWI law
◊ Real Estate Transactions

Contact: Attorney Munjed Ahmad
المحامي منجد أحمد

4915 S. Howell Ave., Suite 300; Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-455-7707-Phone; 414-755-6005-Fax
Email: info@law-ag.com
A major goal of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee is to reach out to the general public and to establish ties with other communities and faith groups.

The ISM is actively involved with a number of interfaith organizations throughout the metropolitan area, including the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Employees and Board members of the ISM also speak to public groups on a weekly basis. Some talks are held at the ISM and other talks take place at churches, universities, before business groups and at a variety of other locations. Alhamdulillah, since the establishment of the ISM, we have reached tens of thousands of people. We continue to plan future activities where we can reach a wider segment of the community.

The following are a sample of talks that have been given by the ISM’s Executive Director over the past weeks:

- A group of about 35 teachers who were taking continuing education classes with a local college visited the Islamic Center for a talk about the Muslim community, the immigration of Muslims to the United States and general Islamic beliefs. None of the teachers had ever visited a masjid before coming to the ISM. The teachers were present during Thuur prayer at the ISM and they were able to ask many questions about Islam and Muslims. As they were leaving, the teachers and their college instructor expressed appreciation for all that they learned and for being able to ask questions in a very open and welcoming environment.

- A group of about thirty adults associated with a local adult education program attended the ISM for a discussion about Islam. A few of the attendees had previously visited the ISM and were happy with the opportunity to visit again. Most of the attendees, who were a diverse group from various faith traditions, had never attended a masjid. This group of highly educated individuals were able to ask many questions about Islam, women in Islam, extremism and many other topics.

- The ISM Executive Director visited a church in Mukwonago. The visit was arranged by a member of the church who grew up in the home located on land purchased by the ISM for its new Masjid in Brookfield. During the summer months, the church holds additional services on Wednesday night to accommodate those who travel during weekends. The church attendees were able to listen to a short presentation about Islam followed by many questions covering a wide variety of topics.

- A group of about 45 adults from a UW-Madison class on Leadership visited the ISM for a talk about Islam and Muslims. Many in this group wrote to the ISM expressing their appreciation.

**Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers needed to make dessert items to be sold after 8 Rakaat in Ramadan.

Please contact Sr. Inshirah for more details inshirahft@aol.com or 414-313-1595
ISM Community Outreach Activities

What do visitors say about our Outreach efforts?

(A sample of letters received by the ISM following presentations by the ISM Executive Director):

- “The experience was enlightening… I’ve studied the basics of world religions, but hearing your own beliefs and experiences was a fresh perspective. I appreciated your open, candid approach. I will certainly be sharing this experience with my friends, family and colleagues.” (Heather)

- “The thoughtfulness and candor you portrayed when speaking about ISM, its role within the community and Islam was both refreshing and powerful. As you spoke, and throughout my reflections since, I continue to think about how our country needs more folks like you who are trying to tear down assumptions, misguided perceptions, and prejudices. Your down to earth terminology, comparisons, and analogies truly hit home. I will do my best to pass them on. I am looking forward to my next visit to ISM.” (Jacob).

- “Your talk was really interesting and I enjoyed learning more about your faith.” (Kristine).

- “I especially appreciated the opportunity to see and learn more about the prayer traditions…” (Michael).

- “Your explanations were beautifully articulated and your insights on your community were interesting. Speaking for our group, I feel that many, if not all, came away with a wealth of new knowledge about Islam, Muslims and an appreciation of the dynamics of our current cultural situation. I heard many, many nice things about your presentation and insights.” (Jennifer)

ISM Today

A Visitor’s Gift to the ISM

During a group visit to the ISM, a visitor, Ms. Susan Sweeney, informed the ISM Executive Director that she had several prints of Islamic calligraphy that she would like to donate to the ISM. She also indicated that she would donate $500 to have the prints framed. The following is a portion of the correspondence that took place between the ISM Executive Director, Othman Atta, and Ms. Sweeney:

From Othman Atta:

Ms. Sweeney: Both prints are verses from the Qur’an. The more elaborate print is a part of Chapter 58 Verse 11 and the translation means: "Allah (God) will exalt by many degrees those who have attained to faith and those who were given [true] knowledge." The shorter one is a selection from Chapter 18 Verse 58 and means "Thy Lord is the truly forgiving one, limitless in His Grace/Mercy."

Both prints appear to have a date on them. The more elaborate one has the year 1401 H. (Muslims are in year 1434 Hegira). The other print has the year 1400. So the prints appear to be about 33 to 34 years old.

I will have both prints framed and placed in the Islamic Center. On the side, I would like to include the fact that they were donated by you and I would also like to include information about the origins of the prints. Can I get that information from you?

Response from Ms. Sweeney:

My uncle obtained the prints while visiting friends in Iran or Egypt. My Uncle was a Middle School Teacher for dependents of Members of the American Armed Forces stationed in Spain and Italy. He worked for them for 35 years.

His name is Irving Royal Sweeney, otherwise known as "Mike" Sweeney. Let me tell you an interesting story about Uncle Mike. Just before my Uncle died in September, my sister Mary Ellen asked him why he used the name Mike. She asked if it was a nickname and who gave it to him. Well, when he enlisted in the Navy during WWII the Enlisting Officer asked for his full name. When my Uncle said "Irving Royal Sweeney" the Officer jumped up and said: "you can’t use that name, the guys will pick on you till you die". You're going to be called "Mike".

My uncle was a devout Catholic. The verses that you have translated to me describe his devotion to his faith. He was raised in the Boston, MA area of the country and he and my father have always exposed us to many cultures and religions through extensive travel and books. They both have always encouraged, shared and practiced inclusion of all in our upbringing. My Uncle would have been very pleased that we have given the prints to a proper home.

Enjoy them.

Sincerely,
Susan Sweeney and Mary Ellen Sweeney
The ISM would like to congratulate:

Tariq and Eman Amin on the birth of their son, Rayan Amin.

Wesam and Fedaa Yaghnam on the birth of their daughter, Ella Yaghnam.

We wish them a life full of joy and a heart full of Iman.

Congratulations on Your Newborn!

His faith in Islam encourages him to commit himself to others, and he has done so not only through his leadership and involvement, but also through his career aspirations. Siddique plans on becoming a doctor as a means of helping others. After graduation, he will be interning at the Cardiopulmonary Research and Science Technology Institute (CRSTI) in Dallas, Texas where he will be doing research and shadowing physicians as he applies to medical school.

We wish you the best in your future endeavors!

Awards

This Islamic Society of Milwaukee is proud of Siddique Akram for receiving this year’s Multicultural Student Center Meyerhoff Award at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Recipients are awarded for their strong academic performance, exceptional leadership, and service to the university and larger community. As a student at UW, he has served as the President of the Muslim Students Association (MSA), volunteered at Meriter Hospital, tutored fellow undergrads in biology, and conducted laboratory research with the UW-Madison School of Medicine’s —Department of Surgery and Medicine, as well as with Northwestern University’s summer CURE program Department of Surgery and Medicine, as well as with Northwestern University’s summer CURE program.

Condolences

إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

Inna Lilahi wa Ina Ilaihi raji’oun. To Him we belong and to Him we shall return. The ISM would like to extend our condolences to the families who lost someone dear to their hearts.

- Br. Hamdi Suleiman El-Mabruk from Derna, Libya
- Rayyan Nazar, Son of Raza Nazar and Guria Nazar
- Imam Hafiz Shafeeq on the passing of his father
Alhamdullilah, as the 2013 academic school year comes to an end, our youth continue to make our community proud. With over 50 students graduating from high school this year, we would like to convey our warm congratulations and our best wishes of success with all their future endeavors. They are our bold future and with the guidance of Allah (SWT), Inshallah they will accomplish all their goals and follow all their dreams and become the strong leaders of tomorrow.

The graduates are listed in alphabetical order:

Mohamed Abdelrahim
Hasan Abuasi
Hadi Abulughood
Deena Ahmad
Summer Aldebbah
Ayah Ali
Hamza Ali
Nur Ali
Moawiya Aljamrah
Amal Assad
Malak Assad
Obayd Assad
Rowan Assad
Amal Ayesh
Ola Azzam
Murad Dahche
Aseel Dahir
Nadeen Dais
Aseel Farhoud
Tasneem Hamdan
Firas Hamid

Khalil Hammouda
Nesrin Hanichet
Afnan Ismail
Mariam Jaber
Sundus Jaber
Amany Kaloti
Shania Khaled
Nora Katib
Myra Khan
Aneeda Mehar
Nadia Mian
Muhammad Muhammad
Rayan Najji
Rawan Oudeh
Mohammad Oweisi
Layth Sadeq
Omar Saleh
Israh Sarsour
Alaa Shanaa
Ali Vazerabad

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee would like to congratulate the young adults who have successfully completed their undergraduate college careers in 2013. The first word of the Qur’an that was revealed was “Iqraa’” meaning “read”. The dedication and the hard work of these students should be recognized and celebrated. We wish you the best of luck in your future career plans.

The graduates, and the university they graduated from, are listed in alphabetical order:

- Fadwa Abulughod, MIAD
- Umber Chaudry, Marquette University
- Bilal Chohan, UW-Milwaukee
- Brittney Khatib, UW-Milwaukee
- Abed Khatib, UW-Milwaukee
- Rayyan Najeeb, Northwestern University
- Maram Omari – UW- Milwaukee

Marriage is completing half of faith. The ISM wants to wish a long, happy married life to the newlyweds in the community. Insha’Allah the best of luck to all!

- Montaser & Amal Assad
- Yousef Mansour & Nesrine Hanichet
- Amir Jaber & Dewaa Ali
- Zakriyah & Ola Azzam
- Ahmad Mahmoud & Sarah Mustafa
- Hikmat Hamed & Dana Awwad
Community Outreach Activities by Sr. Inshirah Farhoud

Sr. Stephanie took Shahada on Sunday June 23-2013. Congratulations and welcome! Stephanie is 31 years old. She has been married for 11 years to Gregorio (who is incredibly supportive). Stephanie holds an undergraduate degree in English from Alverno College. Stephanie said: “I’ve worked at Kohl’s Corporate for 5 years. I’ve lived in Milwaukee (or a suburb of Milwaukee) all my life. I currently live on the North side of Milwaukee. I have an older sister, and my parents are deceased. After nearly two decades of searching, I have finally found my path!

*   *   *   *   *

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES:

- Every Sunday: Open discussion for new Muslims from 11 am to 1 pm.
- June 5th: Volunteered at MCHC clinic.
- Volunteered at Open Door Free Clinic.
- June 17th: Participated in the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) monthly board meeting.
- June 13th: Council Member: Minority Health Leadership council, Department of Health and Human Services
- June 12th: Spoke at class at Medical College of Wisconsin, Biomedical ethics class.
- Participated in the Amazing Faiths Dinner Programs (See below)

The Amazing Faith Dinner Projects

I would like to invite our community members to participate in The Amazing Faith Dinner Projects.

The Amazing Faith Dinner Project is a program that is sponsored by the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. This program brings people of various faiths together so that all may learn about the beliefs and faith traditions of others through exploration and dialogue. These events take place in an atmosphere of mutual respect and enable all involved to stand as witness for tolerance and understanding.

The format: a group of about 8 - 10 people gather in one of the participants’ homes over a very light meal, One of the participants is a moderator who will facilitate the discussion. Please contact Inshirah Farhoud if you are interested in participating.

Needed
Big Sisters and Big Brothers for NEW Muslims
Please contact Sister Inshirah for more details:
Inshirahf@aol.com or 414-313-1595
800 Patients Say “Thank You”
Another Successful Blood Drive at the ISM

Alhamdulillah, the Islamic Center of Milwaukee hosted another successful blood drive on June 10, 2013. Donating blood is an important way to give back to the community. It is also one of the easiest ways to “save a life”.

Our community has partnered with the Blood Center of Wisconsin for 9 years in saving lives in the greater Milwaukee area. OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 23, 2013. Mark your calendars for this important date. We would like to see more members in our community participate in this rewarding partnership! Below is a letter to our community from the Blood Center of Wisconsin following the latest blood drive:

Dear Islamic Society of Milwaukee:

Thanks for your help in coordinating the blood drive yesterday.

What is amazing is that the ISM started its partnership with the Blood Center of Wisconsin back in September of 2004. Since then ... the ISM has been responsible for extending the lives over 800 patients in our community. On behalf of those patients please accept our sincere thanks!

Your partner in saving lives in our community,

Jeffrey Jeanpierre
Blood Center of WI

Salat Eid-ul-Fitr 2013

EID PRAYER WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

Early Morning Eid Prayers (for those who work on Eid day):
7:30 am SHARP at the Islamic Center
4707 S. 13th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Community Eid Prayers
9:30 am at Humboldt Park (Howell and Oklahoma)
3000 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Eid Al-Fitr Celebration will be on Sunday August 11
11:00 AM until 5:30 PM
Willow-O-Way Grant Park, 207 Lake Drive, South Milwaukee
“Every Ramadan I create a plan for the entire month for Ibadah, including Quran recitation, reading, salat, and charity. I found that it has been very hard to stick to the set plan. This Ramadan, I am planning to discipline myself and be more consistent in following the plan. Insha’Allah I will be able to better myself as a Muslim in the eyes of Allah (SWT).”

Imam Ziad Hamdan

“During the entire month of Ramadan, we read Quran more and become steadfast in implementing the teachings of the Prophet PBUH in comparison to the remainder of the year. My goal is to maintain these positive changes following Ramadan.”

– Wala Kheirieh

“I have made a resolution to give more time to my family. I have always given a great deal of time to work, so Insha'Allah, this Ramadan, I plan to change.”

– Wanis Shalaby

“I plan to make the most of Ramadan this year, insha'Allah :) I want to read the Quran cover to cover (with translation), participate in taraweeh and qiyam prayers and make a list of special duas to recite each night during the last ten nights of Ramadan”

– Yasmeen Ali

My Ramadan resolution is to memorize a Surah of my choice, understand the tafseer and implement it in my life insha’Allah.”

– Ala Ismail

“My Ramadan resolution this year is to start my day after Fajr, insha’Allah. My goal is to read the entire Quran and understand its meaning. I want to take time to reflect upon the verses so that I can practically apply them to my life while raising my children in an Islamic manner.” – Laila Azam
I am currently offering a course on the “Evolution of Islamic Fiqh and the Four Schools of Thought”. The course is taught at the ISM on Wednesdays between Maghrib and Isha. Wednesday, June 26 will be the last session prior to Ramadan. The sessions will resume in August, insha’Allah. Following is a very brief summary of what has been discussed.

There are eight schools of legal thought among Muslims. The most renowned among the Sunnites are the four schools namely the Hanafi, Maliki, Shafai’ and Hanbali. The Zahiri School is also one of the Sunni legal schools, though its followers are very few in number. There are two main schools of Fiqh among the Shia, the Ja’afari and Zaidi schools of thought. The eighth school of Islamic Fiqh is called “Ibadhi” and is solely practiced by the Khawarij.

The Hanafi School is one of the oldest and, by far, the most populous in parts of the world. As the predominant school in South Asia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Balkans and Turkey, the Hanafi school has the most adherents in the Muslim world. There was a time when the Hanafis comprised almost half of the worldwide Muslim population. This was due to the fact that it was adopted as the official madhab of the Abbasid Caliphate, the Ottoman Empire and the Mughal Empire. As such, the influence of the Hanafi school is still widespread in the former lands of these empires. The Hanafi school also has many followers among the four major Sunni schools. The followers of other madhahib were required to study the Hanafi Fiqh to be able to practice law during the above mentioned three Muslim empires. In the process many Malikis, Shafais and Hanbalis were attracted to the Hanafi Fiqh or at least were familiar with it. Currently the Ahnaaf are one third of the world Muslim population and are concentrated in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Turkey, Central Asian countries, the Balkans, the Caucasus, China, upper Egypt, parts of Syria and Russia.

The second largest is the Maliki school of thought. It is concentrated mostly on the African continent. Starting from Sudan all the way to Morocco in the north and Senegal in the west, the Maliki school is predominantly the madhab of the Muslim masses. The Shafai’ school is most prevalent in Kurdistan, Egypt, parts of Yemen, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Palestine and Syria. It is also the school of thought officially followed by the government of Brunei, Darussalam and Malaysia. It is followed by approximately 15% of Muslims world-wide. The Hanbali madhab is the official school in Saudi Arabia and Qatar, with many adherents in Palestine, Syria, and Iraq. The Ja’afari school is followed mostly in Iran and parts of Iraq, Lebanon, Bahrain and some Central Asian countries. The Zaidi School is predominant in Yemen and the Ibadhis are found mostly in Oman.

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah
ISM Religious Director
Visit the Islamic Society of Milwaukee Web Site

www.ismonline.org

Read the “ISM Today” on the web in PDF


Read on your smart phone, Tablet PC or PC; Save, Download, Print or eMail
Milwaukee Solidarity with the Syrian People

Milwaukee Solidarity with the Syrian People (MSSP) is an organization that was established due to the horrific incidents taking place in Syria. Milwaukee Solidarity with the Syrian People has a mission to spread peace and equality regardless of religious or cultural background to all Syrians. This organization wishes to implement this mission by hosting social and cultural events to raise awareness and funds for Syrian civilians. This group has made it clear that they do not belong to any particular political party; their major concerns are the innocent lives being affected by the ongoing conflict, and spreading awareness of the injustices taking place on the ground. Members of our own Milwaukee community travelled to Jordan to visit and assist the refugees who recently moved from Syria. They met with injured Syrians in hospitals, as well as other patients still recovering from their injuries, many of these patients included young children. The horrible situation taking place in Syria is real and we as a Muslim community cannot stay silent any longer. Help spread the word and join in freeing our suffering brothers and sisters. If you would like to learn more and stay updated, please visit MSSP’S Facebook page “Milwaukee Solidarity with the Syrian People.”
AA, Dear Brothers and Sisters:

It is truly difficult to believe that another school year has come to an end. During the 2012—2013 school year, Salam Elementary, Middle and High students continued to flourish academically, spiritually, and socially, as well as in leadership and in sports.

Salam School students persisted in successfully completing their coursework, competing in co-curricular contests and in representing Salam School in regional competitions. Further, Salam Elementary School established its Junior National Honor Society (JNHS) chapter this year and created joint-venture programs with Salam High School. Our high school Ansar students mentor our elementary pre-Ansar students. This is a great opportunity for the students to acquire and develop leadership skills.

The greatest academic highlight of this school year was placing Salam School’s entire third graduating class into institutes of higher education. Among the colleges and universities to which our graduates have been admitted are UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, Marquette University, and Alverno College—to mention a few. It is also worth recognizing that our thirty-four graduates secured more than $1,000,000 in scholarships and financial packages. This is, without a doubt, a monumental achievement.

As for other spiritual, social, athletic, and leadership achievements, Salam High School students continue to serve as volunteers with a wide variety of community organizations. Salam school students serve as important volunteers for various Muslim organizations, including the Muslim American Society (MAS), the Milwaukee Muslim Women’s Coalition (MMWC), Mar‘uf and others. Our students’ strong presence displays both a sense of dedication and a high level of leadership. One cannot help feeling proud of these young men and women.

As our athletic teams swell in number, their achievements soar. Salam School’s basketball teams had the opportunity to play at the Bradley Center this winter. Further, a Salam School Varsity Basketball athlete, Firas Hamid, duly became Milwaukee’s All-Star Champion for the season.

Our elementary school is also thriving. This past school year, Salam Elementary served 480 students through 45 highly qualified faculty members and a very dedicated administrator. Salam Elementary School continues to align its curriculum to the students’ achievements and to the current state mandates. It is also worth mentioning that the Elementary School facility continues to receive ISM’s due attention. The ES parking lot was reconfigured to facilitate traffic at the elementary campus. Also, the soccer field was completely redone.

Please continue to beseech the Almighty to forever destine us for success. Our children are truly amazing.

Wanis Shalaby
Principal, Salam school

Ramadan: The Month of the Qur’an

Many Muslims try their best to read the entire Qur’an during the blessed month of Ramadan. If you read one Juzu’ each day, you will accomplish this goal. Are you not able to read the entire Qur’an? Then try to commit yourself to read a set amount of the Qur’an each day. Can you set aside five or ten or fifteen minutes each day of Ramadan?

Of course you can!
الأذكار بعد الصلاة المفروضة

- أستغفر الله: 3 مرات
- اللهم أنت السلام ومنك السلام تبارك يا ذا الجلال والكرام
- لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، لله الملك وله الحمد، وهو على كل شيء قدير
- لا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله، لا إله إلا الله لا نعبد إلا إياه، لله النعمة وله الفضل وله
- الثناء الحسن.
- لا إله إلا الله مختصين له الدين وله كرمه الكافرون
- اللهم لا منع لما أعطيت ولا معطي لما منعت ولا ينفع ذا الجد منك الجد
- سبحان الله: 33 مرة، الحمد لله: 33 مرة، الله أكبر: 33 مرة
- ثم يتم المائة بقوله: لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، لله الملك وله الحمد، وهو على
- كل شيء قادر.
- لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، لله الملك وله الحمد، يحيي ويميت وهو على كل شيء
- قادر. [يجب صلاة الفجر والمغرب: 10 مرات]
- قراءة آية الكرسي: (الله لا إله إلا هو الحكيم الديني) الآية 255 من سورة البقرة
- قراءة كل من السور التالية مرة واحدة بعد كل صلاة ماعدا الفجر والمغرب: 3 مرات
- سورة الإخلاص (قل هو الله أحد...)
- سورة الفلق (قل أعوذ برب الفلق...)
- سورة الناس (قل أعوذ برب الناس...)
SALOUS CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

♦ Construction Expediting
♦ Planning
♦ Contracting & Supervision
♦ Project Management
♦ Land Development

Contact: Nabil Salous
3861 South 60th Street; Milwaukee, WI 53220
Phone: 414.460.6185
Fax: 414.831.1066
eMail: nabilsalous@hotmail.com
Prayer Calendar - JULY 2013

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ISM Today is a non-profit organization working to help it’s members as well as the community as a whole. Any content in this newsletter is used for informative or educational purposes only.

All articles, news, events, seminars, pictures, etc.. Must be submitted by the 22nd of every month to be published the following month.

Any questions or concerns regarding ISM Today can be forwarded to ISMToday@ismonline.org