Welcoming Ramadan!

Alhamdulillah (all thanks and praise is for Allah), we are approaching the beginning of the Blessed Month of Ramadan. We will begin fasting on Thursday, June 18, 2015. The first night of Taraweeh prayers will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2015. For those residing in Milwaukee and throughout the United States, the days of Ramadan this year will be the longest days of the year. The fast during Ramadan will be about seventeen hours a day throughout the entire month. Of course, the greater the challenge, the greater the reward, insha’Allah (God willing)!!

This year is special for our community. **The members of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee and those who financially support the Islamic Society of Milwaukee should feel pleased as they approach this blessed month.** Why? Well, this year, the ISM has grown from one Masjid to three Masajid by the Grace of Allah and the generosity of our community.

After years of planning and work, the Brookfield Masjid opened for prayers in January of this year. For the first time in their history, the community in Brookfield and the Western suburbs will be praying in a Masjid located in their neighborhood instead of in a hospital auditorium or some other rented space. Alhamdulillah! The Masjid in Brookfield would not have been built had it not been for the generosity of our entire community, including those in Brookfield, those in Milwaukee, and those throughout the entire Milwaukee area.

Although the ISM has owned a Musallah (place for prayer) in a duplex near UWM for many years, several months ago a former church building located across the street from the UWM Student Union was put up for sale. Again, by the Grace of Allah, the ISM was able to purchase this building which will be used by hundreds of Muslim students who attend UWM as well as by the Muslim community that resides on the East Side of Milwaukee. The first congregational prayers to be held at this new Masjid will be the Juma’ (Friday) prayers on Friday, June 12, 2015. This is exactly six days before the beginning of the blessed month of Ramadan.

Congratulations to all of our Graduates!

The months of May and June have been very busy in our community with many graduation ceremonies and graduation parties. Masha’Allah, our community continues to grow and mature. We have compiled a list of about 44 high school graduates from throughout the greater Milwaukee area and many college and post-baccalaureate graduates as well. Names and photos of graduates are featured inside this special edition of ISM Today!
Taraweeh Prayers will begin on Wednesday, June 17 at the following locations at 10:30pm:

ISM - Main Islamic Center
4707 S. 13th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53221
Primary Qari: Hafiz Ameer Hamza

ISM Brookfield
16670 Pheasant Drive
Brookfield, Wisconsin 53005
Primary Qari: Imam Noman Hussain

ISM University Student Center (UWM)
2223 E. Kenwood Boulevard
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211
Primary Qari will be announced

Masjid Al-Quran
11723 W. Brown Deer Road
Milwaukee, WI 53224
Primary Qari: Imam Hafiz Shafique

Milwaukee Islamic Da’wa Center
5135 N. Teutonia Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53209
Primary Qari will be announced

Masjid Al-Huda
Ramadan start date and Eid date may differ for this Masjid. Please contact them directly for actual dates.
5075 S. 43rd Street
Greenfield, WI 53220

Taraweeh Prayers in Milwaukee
## The Islamic Society of Milwaukee
### Ramadan 1436 - 2015

Wishing you and your families a blessed Ramadan

“For every day on which the sun rises, there is a reward from God for those who establish justice among people.” (Sahih Al-Bukhari)

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Insha’Allah Eid al-Fitr will be held at Humboldt Park (3000 S. Howell Ave) on July 17th, 2015 at 10:00 am SHARP.

Due to slight variations, 3 minutes were added to Maghrib/Iftar times. Possible Laylat Al-Qadr

27th Night of Ramadan
Preventing for the Best Month of the Year: How to Welcome the Month of Ramadan?

By Muzammil H. Siddiqui

God is giving us another opportunity in our life to witness the month of Ramadan. Ramadan is a great time of God’s blessings and His mercy.

God says in the Quran:

“O ye who believe! Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that ye may (learn) self-restraint.

(Fasting) for a fixed number of days; but if any of you is ill, or on a journey, the prescribed number (should be made up) from days later.

For those who can do it (with hardship), is a ransom, the feeding of one that is indigent but he that will give more, of his own free will, it is better for him. And it is better for you that ye fast, if ye only knew.” (2:183-84)

“Ramadan is the (month) in which was sent down the Quran, as a guide to mankind, also Clear (Signs) for guidance and judgment (between right and wrong). So every one of you who is present (at his home) during the month should spend it in fasting…” (2:185)

“When My servants ask you concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them): I listen to the prayer of every suppliant when he calls on Me: let them also, with a will, listen to My call, and believe in Me: that they may walk in the right way.” (2:186)

God is giving us another opportunity in our life to witness the month of Ramadan. Ramadan is a great time of God’s blessings and His mercy. Every Muslim should take full advantage of this time. We should get ready now to welcome this month and receive it with happiness.

Following are some ways to welcome this month:

1. Special Du’a

Pray to God that this month reaches you while you are in the best of health and safety so that you can fast and do all your acts of devotion with ease and enthusiasm.

It is reported by Anas ibn Malik that the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) used to say from the beginning of Rajab in his prayers:

"O Allah bless us in Rajab, bless us in Sha’ban and bless us in Ramadan." (Ahmad)

When he used to see Ramadan’s crescent, he used to pray:

"O Allah, make this crescent to shine on us with safety, faith, security, Islam and good fortune to do what is be-loved and pleasing to our Lord. Our and your Lord is Allah.” (At-Tirmidhi)

2. Thanks and Happiness

When the month comes, then you should be thankful to God and show happiness. The companions of the Prophet used to greet each other on the beginning of Ramadan.

The Prophet said giving the good news of the month to his companions:

(Continued on page 5)
"The month of Ramadan has come to you. It is a blessed month. Allah has made obligatory on you to fast during this month. The gates of heaven are opened in this month and the gates of hell are closed and the devils are chained. In this month there is a night that is better than one thousand months. Whosoever is deprived of its blessings is indeed deprived." (An-Nasa'i, 2106)

3. Planning and Determination
You should make a good plan for the whole month about how you are going to organize your days and evenings during Ramadan. Plan special schedules for your work so that you can pray on time, read the Quran and take Sahur (the meal consumed early in early morning before fajr prayer) and Iftar (breaking the fast at sunset, Maghreb prayer) on time.

Have sincere intention and determination to take full advantage of this time. Also have a full determination and commitment that you will not do any sin or anything wrong during this time. Make sincere repentance and seek the forgiveness of those whom you might have offended. In this way you can benefit much more from your fasting and prayers.

4. Learn about the Rules of Fasting
Fiqh of fasting is very important so that you do not do anything that will spoil your fasts. Learn the way of Prophet Muhammad in fasting. That is the best way. Fast is not spoiled only by eating and drinking during the fast, but also by speaking bad words and doing wrong things.

The Prophet Muhammad said:
"Whosoever does not give up bad words and bad deeds, Allah has no need in that he leaves his food and his drink." (Al-Bukhari, 1903)

5. Charity, Generosity and Kindness
The month of Ramadan is the month of kindness, charity and generosity. Plan to invite your neighbors, co-workers, friends, Muslims and non-Muslims to have Iftar meal with you. Let your non-Muslims friends and neighbors know about this month and its blessings. Be more generous and help the poor and needy. Plan to give your alms and charity at this time and help others as much as you can.

It is reported in a hadith:
"The Prophet – peace be upon him - was the most generous person, but in Ramadan he used to be more generous when Gabriel used to meet him. Gabriel used to see him during Ramadan every night and he used to read the Quran with him. The Prophet –peace be upon him - was then more generous with goodness than the blowing wind." (Al-Bukhari, 3220)

**Zakat ul-Fitr**

**Zakat ul-Fitr is $10 per person**

Zakat ul-Fitr is to be paid on behalf of every member of your household unless you are unable to afford it.

**PLEASE PAY ZAKAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT IT CAN BE DISTRIBUTED BEFORE EID TO THOSE WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE IT.**

**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH TO PAY ZAKAT!**
Things to Practice before and during Ramadan

1. Work to Improve Your Characters and Your Manners.
2. Control your tongue and your anger.
3. Treat others with kindness and sincerity
5. Make Repentance - Ask Allah for forgiveness.
8. Help your parents. Treat them well.
9. Be humble, especially during prayers.
10. Don't miss an opportunity for Da'wa.
11. Have sincere intentions.
12. Don't become lazy.
13. Organize your time. Plan your day.
15. Commit to completing all prayers on time.
16. Commit to performing all Sunnah prayers.
17. Commit to performing Dhikr after every Salat.
18. Avoid gossiping and useless talk about others.
19. Limit your time on social media and electronic devices.
20. Avoid spending excessive time on making food and eating.
21. Avoid overeating and wasting food.
33rd Annual Fundraising Dinner/Iftar

Saturday, June 20, 2015 - Ramadan 3, 1436
Wisconsin Center - Ballroom
400 W. Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53203

For tickets or more information, call the ISM at 414-282-1812

Taraweeh prayers will be held at the Wisconsin Center and will be led by Hafiz Ameer Hamza and Qari Noman Hussain

One Community  One Organization  One Mission
Community News

Congratulations On Your Engagement!

May Allah bless your engagement and grant you a beautiful and happy marriage.
♦ Firas Hamid & Tasneem Kassem
♦ Bilal Hamid & Yasmeen Dahsheh
♦ Ramez Shahin & Aya Hassan

Congratulations On Your Marriage!

May Allah grant you a beautiful marriage!
♦ Eman Imseitf & Salah Khalaf
♦ Mohammad Abdelnaser Asad and Areej Rajeh Assad
♦ Omar Farooq Arain and Sophia Nausheen Akbar

Congratulations On Your Newborn!

The ISM would like to congratulate:
♦ Mohammad & Nour Alayya on the birth of their baby daughter, Dareen.

Our Deepest Condolences

INNA LILAIHI WA INA ILAIHI RAJO'UN. TO ALLAH WE BELONG AND TO HIM WE SHALL RETURN.
The ISM would like to extend its condolences to the families who lost someone dear to their hearts. We ask Allah (swt) to forgive their sins and bless them with a home in Jannah.

♦ ‘Eda Ismail Abed, who is the mother of Br. Wajdi Ismail and the mother in law of Sr. Alia Ismail
♦ Raed Sarsour, who is the son of Br. Abdellatif Sarsour and the brother Rafat and Raeda Sarsour
♦ Akhlaqunnisa Begum, who is the sister of Br. Sadiq Husain.
♦ Abubakar Yusuf Garba, who is the husband of Sr. Sonya Yusuf and the father of Ameena, Yusuf, Jamila, Sakinah and Maryam Yusuf.
Thinking Of Making a Move This Year?
Buying or Selling in 2015?

Let me answer all your questions and guide you through the process.

Ahmed Abubaker
Realtor - Broker - Owner

414-737-3661
E-Mail: info@aabaker.com
Web Site: www.aabaker.com

The Key to Your Next Move
Our Community High School Graduates 2015

Obada Abdelsamad, Oak Creek High
Belal Abuasi, Forward High
Reem Abulughood, Salam High
Ameerah Ahmad, DSHA
Noor Ahmad, Oak Creek High
Sareyah Ahmed, Salam High
Haneen Ali, Oak Creek High
Fatima Amin, Salam High
Eilaf Amro, Salam High
Areej Assad, Salam High
Osayd Assad, Franklin High
Razan Assad, Salam High
Shatha Assad, Salam High
Sarah Atshan, Salam High
Nisreen Atta, Salam High
Manar Baker, Salam High
Mohamad Dahir, Franklin High
Faezh Dalieh, Salam High
Ziyad Elewa, Marquette University High
Ahmad Elwis, Salam High
Layan Elqaq, Franklin High
Hadeel Fares, Oak Creek High
Saad Fleifel, Greendale High
Dana Hamed, Salam High
Hamzah Hamdan, Salam High
Fatheya Hamdy, Salam High
Fares Hasan, Marquette University High
Mohammad Imseitif, Franklin High
Khalid Ismail, Salam High
Hadeel Jaber, Franklin High
Aroub Jamal, Salam High
Judy Kattan, Salam High
Ali Mian, Salam High
Momin Mohis, New Berlin Eisenhower High
Saeed Mustafa, Salam High
Nayfa Naji, Oak Creek High
Malik Omar, Salam High
Baraa Oweisi, Salam High
Aliyah Quershi, Brookfield Academy
Fathi Saed, Oak Creek High
Maher Shahin, Salam High
Samer Suleiman, Grandview High
Lamia Tabara, Salam High
Sayed Zori, Salam High
On an annual basis, the Islamic Society of Milwaukee holds a community-wide high school graduation dinner and celebration. The purpose of the program is to recognize and celebrate all of the high school graduates in our community, no matter where they attended high school. This year, thirty graduates from seven area high schools participated (see photos).

The ISM is committed to this program because it encourages graduating Muslim students to get to know one another, it allows the students to establish contacts with other graduates who will be attending the same universities and it brings together all segments of our community. Alhamdulillah, our community is a very diverse community in terms of ethnicity, race, culture, area of residence (both urban and suburban), and other factors, and it is important for all of our community members to know and interact with one another.

Congratulations to all the graduates and thank you and your families for participating in this community-wide celebration. May Allah (SWT) give you great success in college and beyond!
The Islamic Society of Milwaukee would like to extend its heartfelt condolences to the family of Abdellatif Alayya who passed away on May 8th, 2015. Abdellatif Alayya, who was 12 years old, is the son of Mohammad (Abu Khalil At-Tarifi) and Nour Alayya, and the brother of Khalil, Yazan and Amer and the grandson of Abu Khalil Abdulrahman Abu Ein. We ask Allah (SWT) to provide his family members with strength, patience and perseverance in dealing with their loss. The family has demonstrated tremendous faith over the past years in dealing with their son’s illness and now with his passing.
Congratulations College Graduates of 2015!

Congratulations to all of the college graduates of 2015! The ISM wishes you the best in all your future endeavors. We ask Allah (SWT) to provide you with the skills and knowledge needed to achieve success in your future careers. You are the bright future for your country and the Muslim Ummah.

Anise Abdallah, UW-Milwaukee
Sarah Abdallah, Alverno College
Alla Ahmad, UW-Milwaukee
Amani Asad, Mount Mary (Masters)
Ayesha Ali, UW-Milwaukee
Abed Ali, Concordia University
Duaa Ali, Concordia University (Pharmacy)
Mariam Ali, Concordia University
Rawan Atari, Marquette University
Amal Azzam, UW-Milwaukee
Zeinab Azzam, MATC
Ayia Daher, Marquette University
Mahin Kahin, UW-Madison
Besma Jaber, University of Minnesota (MD)
Jamal Jaber, UW-Milwaukee
Mohammad Jaber, UW-Milwaukee
Sehar Javed, UW-Milwaukee
Mahmmod Muhamad, UW-Milwaukee
Ahmad Murrar, Marquette University
Sanah Nazar, Alverno College
Mariam Nur, Alverno College
Leean Othman, Marquette University
Faiqa Oweisi, UW-Madison
Seema Oweisi, Alverno College
Hanan Ramahi, UW-Madison
Tamam Sarsour, Cardinal Stritch

Congrats to Dr. Besma Jaber

Special congratulations to Dr. Besma Jaber, the daughter of Ibrahim and Sandy Jaber. Besma, who attended Salam School through 8th grade (there was no Salam High School at the time) just graduated with her “Doctor of Medicine” (MD) degree from the University of Minnesota. What is even more pleasing to us is that for her residency match (the document she is holding), she got her first choice: the Medical College of Wisconsin! Her specialty will be in Medicine and Pediatrics! We are very proud of Besma and we are happy she will be back in Milwaukee. May Allah (SWT) bless her and her family.
College Graduates 2015
The Islamic Society of Milwaukee congratulates all of our graduates and we wish them the best in their future endeavors!

May Allah (SWT) always guide and bless you!
Eid Prayer at 10:00am - NO DELAY

In past years, Eid prayer was advertised to begin at 9:30 but was often delayed until 10:00am or even 10:15am because people were running late. For Eid ul-Fitr this year, a decision was made to hold the prayer at 10:00am SHARP. There will be no delay.

To make the prayer, please plan on arriving between 9:00am and 9:15am to find parking. If you arrive late, you will miss the Eid prayer.
Sunday School
End of Year Program and Award Ceremony

The following photos were taken on Sunday, May 24, 2015, during the ISM Sunday School program.
For a number of years, members of the Muslim and Catholic communities of Milwaukee have been engaged in a monthly dialogue. The group has discussed the many similarities and the differences in their faith traditions, have explored a wide variety of religious topics and have developed bonds of friendship. In order to widen the circle of people who can benefit from this very meaningful and productive dialogue, the group decided to issue a statement signed by all members of the group. This statement is being reproduced below and will also be reproduced in the July 23 edition of the Catholic Herald, a weekly publication of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Muslims and Catholics Together Bear Witness to Truth

As Muslims and Catholics engaged for a number of years in rich and meaningful dialogue, we have learned much about one another. We have studied, challenged one another, developed bonds of friendship, and cherished our time together. We have come to realize that the core values of our faith traditions, derived from our belief in the one God, call us to love one another and to use the talents that we have been given to affirm and ensure the dignity of every person and of all creation. As people of faith we are called to work together to build peace, justice and harmony in our communities and in our world.

As Catholics and Muslims we share a common concern to speak the truth about each other. When we fail to do so, whether through our words, actions, failure to act or failure to speak, we ought to seek forgiveness from one another.

We understand that within both of our traditions there are individuals and groups who profess to be Christian or Muslim but whose interpretations of their respective faiths rely on erroneous interpretations of Scripture or doctrine. We acknowledge that these extreme and unorthodox interpretations have been used throughout our shared history to sow mistrust and defend horrific acts of terror and murder. At this moment, throughout the world, innocent people are suffering at the hands of governments and movements who justify their deeds in the name of their particular religion.

Throughout history portions of scripture in both of our traditions have been misused to encourage and even exalt violence, terrorism, and subjugating behavior. However we believe that our texts must be understood in the context in which they were written and cannot be used to justify violence or oppression. We also recognize that underlying the perverse use of religion, there are often social, economic and political factors at play.

Violence and terrorism are universal issues, not peculiar to one religion, government, or culture, time or place. We believe that terrorism by anyone, at any time and in any place, must be condemned. Responding to the conditions that lead to the despair that often fuels terrorism and violence is a common responsibility.

In this country and at this time, we are very concerned about certain persistent misconceptions regarding Islam, often intentionally promoted, that impede our ability to work toward peace in our world and in our own communities. In spite of repeated denunciations from Muslim leaders and scholars, the behavior of radicals and fringe elements continues to be portrayed as normative for all of Islam. To spread and give credence to such a view is, in our judgment, an offense against the truth. We believe that it is our duty to serve as ambassadors for one another, speaking the truth, so that we might work together with all people of good will for peace and the common good.

Together, we share a common concern for the future of our society. Together we must seek out the causes of dysfunctional behavior in our homes, our communities and our world and act to bring about change. To do so, we must identify and overcome all barriers that prevent us from building a better future for everyone.

We share a particular concern for our young people. We are well aware that some young people are disaffected and drawn to radical organizations, drugs, cults, gangs and other alternative cultures. Together with other people of faith and all people of good will, we must continue to probe the factors that draw our young people into groups where violence to self and others is falsely glorified. We need to work with one another and our public officials to discern and provide the tools that are necessary for our youth to envision and enact a productive future.

We are committed to teaching our children the core values of our respective faiths, to affirming the importance of education and interfaith relations, and to continuing to create and promote opportunities for our youth and adults to engage with and encounter one another honestly so that we may speak the truth about one another and act for justice and peace as our faiths require.

Signed by: Bishop Richard Sklba, Archdiocese of Milwaukee, Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah, Religious Director, Islamic Society of Milwaukee, Judith Longdin, Director of Ecumenical and Interfaith Office of the Archdiocese, Janan Najeeb, Milwaukee Muslim Women’s Coalition, Ahmed Quereshi, ISM President, Othman M. Atta, ISM Executive Director, Father Phil Reifenberg, Dr. Waled S. Najeeb, Dr. Barbara Freres.
The Marymystics

Some Visitors to the Islamic Society of Milwaukee (May-June)

- Students from Marquette University
- Students from Cardinal Stritch
- Students from Bryant & Stratton
- Students from Concordia University
- Marymystics Group
- Adventures in Lifelong Learning: UW Parkside

If you know of any group that would like to visit the ISM, please contact the ISM at (414) 282-1812

Group from Adventures in Lifelong Learning
A Program of the UW-Parkside Center for Community Partnerships

Iqama Jama’ah Prayer Times at ISM

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<th>Fajr</th>
<th>Dhuhur</th>
<th>Asr</th>
<th>Maghrib</th>
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ISM Today is a publication of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee, a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit religious organization. All articles, news, events, pictures, and other content should be submitted to ISMToday@ismanline.org
سلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Assalamu Aleikum Brothers and Sisters,

Midwest Senior Select, Inc. is an independent insurance agency that has provided insurance services to the Muslim community for over 20 years. We understand the insurance needs of our Muslim brothers and sisters, and take great pride in providing an array of valued insurance services to the community.

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President: Naji Abu-Lughod

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- Medicare Part D (Rx Plans)
- Long Term Care
- Dental Insurance
- Individual or Group Health Coverage

- Disability insurance
- Temporary Health Insurance
- International Travel Insurance
- Final Expense Life Insurance
- Life Insurance (Term, Whole Life & Universal) Plans & Annuities