

# بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم 1517 Today

Volume III ssue II

A Publication of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee

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Muslims

### Doors Open Milwaukee 2017

On September 23 and 24, 2017, the Islamic Society of Milwaukee participated in a two-day open house event known as "Doors Open Milwaukee". This city-wide event provides the general public with the opportunity to explore different buildings, neighborhoods and communities throughout the City of Milwaukee. The ISM has been a participant in this program for the last four years, welcoming hundreds of visitors each year. This year, over 600 guests visited the ISM. For most of the guests, this was their first visit ever to an Islamic facility. [Do you want to know what the guests thought of the visit? See some of their comments on Page 5]. Over the past few years, the Islamic Center has welcomed thousands of first time visitors.





Salam School senior Aimen Mian giving a tour. This photo appeared in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel on Sunday, September 24, 2017. (Photo by Angela Peterson

Please see Page 5 for a selection of comments made by our "Doors Open" guests.

#### **Helping Houston**

Hurricane Harvey devastated many parts of Houston, Texas. The Muslim community of Houston was actively involved in providing shelter and support for the victims. A number of Houston masajid served as shelters for those who were displaced. The Islamic Society of Milwaukee raised funds to assist the victims. Alhamdulillah, we were able to raise and send over \$27,000 in cash donations

We would like to thank our community for their generosity and for helping all those in need, regardless of their faith or background.

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#### Airport Meditation Room

A private group of individuals is working to establish a prayer/meditation room at Mitchell International Airport. The Islamic Society of Milwaukee has been involved in this project and has served as a voice for the concerns of Muslims and people of other faiths and backgrounds.

The meditation room will be open to everyone who is interested in taking time to pray, meditate, or seek a moment of reflection.

Any individual who donates \$1,000 or more to this project will have their name appear on a donor board next to the meditation room. We encourage our community members to be a part of this project.

Photos by Lee Matz





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# Message from the President of the ISM

Assalamu Alaikum my very dear Brothers and Sisters.

A few weeks ago, I had the opportunity to visit the House of Allah and perform Hajj. Although I have performed Hajj before, my Hajj this year was on behalf of my late beloved mother.

While at Hajj, I made special prayers for our wonderful Milwaukee Muslim community. This has been my community for most of my life and I love this community. To express my love and dedication, I made prayers for all of the wonderful donors, volunteers and attendees. I made prayers for all those who work to improve our Muslim community and those who seek to educate others about our faith. I prayed that we will remain united as a community and that Allah (SWT) will continue to provide us with more people who will contribute to the success and growth of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee.



Alhamdulillah, we continue to grow and expand each year. We are expanding because that is the only way that we can meet the needs of our community. Last year, we added a large parking lot and entrance/exit to our main facility on 13th Street. This year, we completed major improvements at our facility at 8th and Layton. We have a number of other plans that are in the works. We must remain focused on meeting all the needs of our community, especially the youth.

I ask that you always keep our community in your prayers. Ask Allah (SWT) to always guide us to do what is right and best for ourselves, for our children and for our faith. Please remembers that I always welcome your thoughts and suggestions. May Allah (SWT) bless you all.

Dr. Iftekhar Khan



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# 801 W Layton - Parking Lot Construction

One of the ISM's major properties is the 11 acre property with a 107,000 square foot building located at 801 W. Layton Avenue. In addition to serving as the home of Salam Elementary School and the location for some of the ISM's community events, the building also serves as an investment property for the ISM. A commercial tenant occupies 53,000 square feet of space, the Muslim Community and Health Center occupies about 5,000 square feet of space and Crescent Daycare occupies about 7,500 square feet of space.

To maintain this property to professional standards, the ISM needed to reconstruct the entire west side of the parking lot. Alhamdulillah, the work went very smoothly and was completed before the beginning of the new school year.





DURING and AFTER





#### Doors Open - Guest Comments

The following are a small selection of comments from visitors:

"Very nice tour. People were very kind and friendly. I had been meaning to go on this tour, and finally had the opportunity to do so."

"Your young tour guides were gracious and well informed."

"This was the best tour we took. The guides were knowledgeable and the displays at the end were interactive. We enjoyed asking questions and learning more. The food was a nice touch."

"I was pleased to be able to visit the mosque and learn. I have passed it many times; so glad I stepped in!"

"I very much enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about a religion that is not spoken of more openly. It was truly an eye opening wonderful experience."

"I learned a great deal in a short period of time. Our guide was very friendly and personable. She was knowledgeable and an asset to her family and religion."

"I have never been inside a mosque before. I have driven past this mosque hundreds of times. The high school girls that led the tour were very informative and nice."

"Best visit thus far. Not only informative but able to experience culture (via food and various info tables). Tour guides were both young and we were impressed by their knowledge and ability to answer questions."

"We enjoyed our visit greatly! The information, tour/presentation were top notch.

The center was the highlight of our day! Thank you!"

"I really liked the tour that the boy guided. He is really knowledgeable and the content he presented was really clear and organized. I appreciate the opportunity to learn more about Islam and please keep doing it to make more people understand the culture and religion."

"Thanks for having copies of the Qur'an to take."

"Thank you for opening your doors and organizing such a welcoming atmosphere. I really enjoyed the tour led by the high school guide."

"A truly wonderful experience! What an admirable religion!"

"More people need to attend, especially those who are ignorant to the teachings of Islam. More Americans need to open their minds instead of listening to media."

"Loved it! Thank you for putting up with all of our guestions."

"Incredibly informational and very pleased to have increased my knowledge of Islam. Thank you!"

"Great site. I grew up near here and have always been curious and wanted to see inside. The high school tour guides were great. Knowledgeable, friendly, and personable. Thank you for your hospitality!"

"Although I live near this facility, it has always seemed a little mysterious and intimidating. It was nice to be invited in and offered so many opportunities to get to know my neighbors better."

"This is a lovely location. I appreciated the opportunity to meet some high school students and tour this lovely facility. I even purchased a book on experiences of American Muslims who convert to Islam. Thank you for opening your doors."

"This was really wonderful. Thank you for sharing your beautiful faith & hospitality. You clearly invested a great deal of thought and time into this event. And delicious food! Thank you!"

We want to thank all of our youth volunteers for the wonderful job they did representing the their faith and the Muslim community.



# Hajj Mabrook to the following community members who performed Hajjj this year...

Farah Ahmed Jamal & Amal Amro Mahmoud Alsharkawi Iqbal Ashraf Khitam Atshan Nisreen Khleifat Ebrahim, Amal, & Sajid Jaber Hashim & Najah Jaber Mazen & Rania Jaber Mohammed Jaber Dr. Iftikhar Khan Nael & Fatima Mseitif Ali Pamidi Abdul Hafeez Qureishi Ishrat Siddiqi Sajjad & Tehmeena Siddiqi & Imtiaz Begum Suhail Shelleh Sufian Shelleh

Hasan, Mahmoud & Um Hamzeh Snoubar

## Welcome Back Hujjaj Program









The Islamic Society of Milwaukee held its annual "Welcome Back Hujjaj" program honoring all those who were able to make this once in a lifetime pilgrimage.

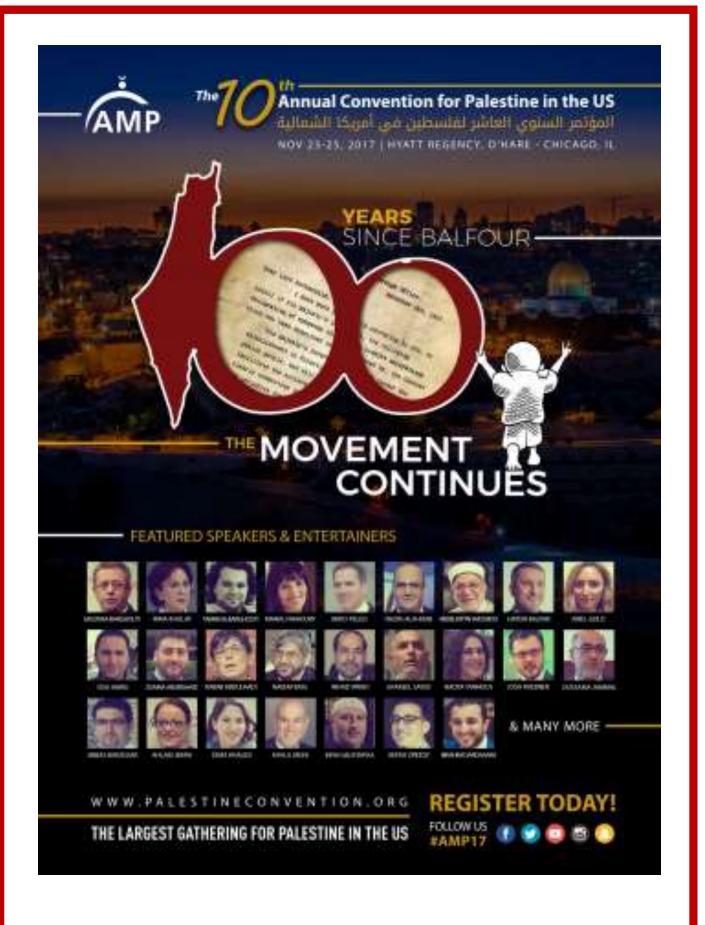
The event was held in the ISM gym on Sunday, September 17.

Those who attended were able to listen to some of the hujjaj speak about their experiences. A dinner sponsored by a number of community members was provided to the hujjaj and all the guest.

We would like to especially thank sisters Inshirah Farhoud and Shahida Munem for helping to organize this annual event. We would like to acknowledge the participation of the Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition.

Inshallah each and everyone of our community members will be able to make this very blessed journey.





## The Burmese Genocide

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee organized a program at our main facility (13th and Layton) to educate the community about the genocide that is being perpetrated against the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar (Burma).

The event included video clips of the atrocities that are being inflicted on the Rohingya people as well as personal testimonials of some of our community members.

A special guest who appeared at the program was Umut Acar, the Consul General of Turkey to the Midwest. Mr. Acar spoke about the efforts that his country (Turkey) and its people are making to try to assist and provide relief to the victims of the ongoing genocide.

We would like to thank Masjid Mubarak, Masjid Al-Qur'an, the Rohingya American Friendship Society, the Milwaukee Islamic Da'wa Center, the Burma Task Force, MAR'UF and many others.









#### Our Two Eids

The Milwaukee Muslim community celebrated their two Eids in downtown Milwaukee in 2017. The first Eid was held on Sunday, June 25th, at the UW-Milwaukee Panther Arena. It was held at this location due to the unavailability of the Wisconsin Center. Imam Ziad Hamdan delivered the khutbah (sermon) to the community.

On Friday, September 1st, the Muslim community held their Eid ul-Adha prayer at the Wisconsin Center. Alhamdulillah, the hall was filled to capacity, even though early Eid prayers were held at ALL the ISM masajid. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Shah delivered the khutbah (sermon) at the main prayer service.









#### Our Two Eids

Photos on this page are from Eid ul-Adha.

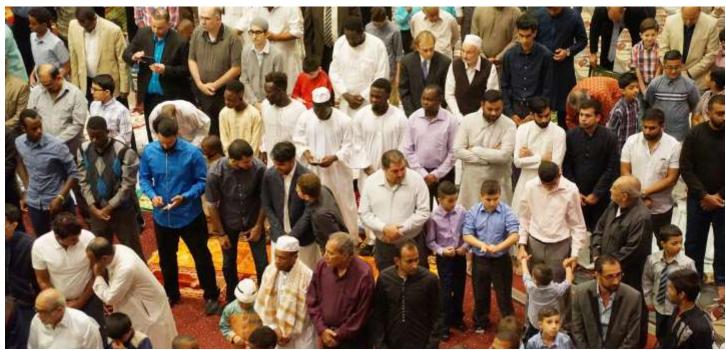
Photos are by Lee Matz of the Milwaukee Independent, an online newspaper.

More photos can be seen at: www.milwaukeeindependent. com/photos/muslim-holiday-celebration-packs-wisconsin-center/









"You will not enter paradise until you have faith and you will not have faith until you love one another."

Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon him).

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#### Youth Basketball Tournaments



Pictured above are the winners of the 5 on 5 Youth Basketball Tournament.

On Saturday, September 30, the ISM hosting a youth basketball tournament for brothers in the ISM gym.

Over 36 youth participated in the 3 on 3 and 5 on 5 double elimination tournaments. All players on the winning teams received trophies.

The youth who participated in the tournament had a great time and all are looking forward to the next scheduled tournament. Insha'Allah, the ISM will host a number of tournaments each year. Please watch for future announcements via email and on our Facebook page. (To receive ISM emails, send your email to ismoffice@ismonline.org).



## Iqama Schedule at 13th & Layton

#### October/November

Day	Fajr	Dhuhr	Asr	Maghril	o Isha
	October				
1-10	6:00	1:10	4:15	+5 min	8:00
11-20	6:15	1:10	4:00	+5 min	8:00
21-31	6:30	1:10	3:45	+5 min	8:00
	November				
1-4	6:30	1:10	3:30	+5 min	8:00
5-20	5:45	1:10	2:30	+5 min	8:00
21-30	6:00	1:10	2:30	+5 min	8:00

#### Visit of Russian Chairman

Dr. Damir Mukhetdino, the First Deputy Chairman of the Religious Board of Muslims of the Russian Federation and Executive Secretary of the Muslim International Forum, visited the ISM on July 28th. Following Friday prayers, Dr. Mukhetdino spoke to the attendees about the large Russian Muslim community.



#### Summer Programs at the ISM

Throughout the summer, the ISM held a variety of programs at its main facility. The following pages provide an overview of some of these programs.

#### **QAI Intensive Qur'an Camp**

The Quran and Arabic Institute led a Quran Camp this summer consisting of about 45 students. The program included children ages 6 - 15. The students were taught about the importance of the Quran and the students also memorized a number of suras. The program ended with a day full of fun to celebrate the students' accomplish-





#### Girls Hifth Summer Program

This past summer, the ISM held an all girls hifth program that allowed young girls to come together to strengthen their relationship with the Qur'an.

This program successfully taught the participants to recite the Qur'an with proper pronunciation, and to memorize portions of the Qur'an.



Take care of 5 before 5...

Youth before Old age
Health before Sickness
Wealth before Poverty
Free time before Preoccupation
Life before Death

Prophet Muhammad, Peace be upon him

If you would like to be added to the ISM email list, please contact us at ismoffice@ismonline.org. Please let us know if you want to receive all emails (Friday Khutba schedules, condolence announcements, program announcements, Eid announcements, regular programs, etc.) or if you are only interested in receiving emails about lectures and other special programs.

# Summer Programs at the ISM - Carnival

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee held an Eid carnival for families in the Milwaukee area to join together to celebrate the Eid.

The carnival had several activities for all ages including a camel ride sponsored by <u>Hayat Pharmacy</u>! (Thank you for your generosity and for your commitment to Milwaukee's Muslim community).

Other activities included basketball, bounce houses, and face painting which were located both indoors and outdoors.

The community also enjoyed great food such as chicken sandwiches, hot dogs, burgers, and even grilled corn.







# Summer Programs at the ISM

#### Al Aqsa Rally

On Friday, July 28th, 2017, members of the Muslim community and their supporters joined together for a rally outside the Islamic Society of Milwaukee. The rally was held in response to recent Israeli actions against the third holiest site for Muslims, Al-Agsa Mosque located in Israeli occupied Jerusalem.

Over the past years, an increasing number of extremist Jews, including Israeli government ministers and Rabbis, have called for the destruction of Al-Aqsa Masjid and the Dome of the Rock Masjid and the establishment of a new Jewish Temple on the same site.

The incident which led to the organization of the rally was the Israeli government's closure of the Masjid and the occupying Israeli government's attempts to impose new measures to further restrict freedom of worship for Muslims at one of their holiest sites.



The Muslim community in Milwaukee, along with Muslims around the world, peacefully rallied to express their rejection of the discriminatory Israeli policies and to express their support for the freedom of worship at Al

Did you know that MOST of the Palestinians living under Israeli occupation are DENIED the right to travel to Jerusalem to pray at Al-Aqsa? Jews face no such restrictions!





ONE PERSON,

IT IS AS IF HE HAS

# Summer Programs at the ISM

#### Islamic Center Blood Drive

On Monday, July 17th, 2017, the Islamic Society of Milwaukee hosted a blood drive for the Milwaukee community. The ISM generally holds two or three blood drives per year for the Blood Center of Wisconsin.

The ISM exceeded its donor goal for this particular blood drive. What was especially encouraging about this blood drive is that there were a total of 14 FIRST TIME donors.

Blood Center personnel informed us that one donation can be separated to help 3 patients. Imagine if your simple donation of blood (which

takes a very short time) helps save the lives of three people!

Thank you to all those who supported the Islamic Center Blood Drive. We appreciate everyone











# Summer Programs at the ISM

#### Taco Truck Iftar

On June 14th, some members of the Muslim community arriving at the ISM for Maghrib prayers were surprised to see the presence of several "taco trucks" parked in the parking lot of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee. They were surprised because this was taking place during the blessed month of RAMADAN!

The surprised members soon found out that the ISM coordinated efforts with MARUF to bring together Muslims and Latinos for an Iftar. A member of had MARUF heard about a program of this nature taking place in another state and they wanted to duplicate the program in Milwaukee. Although time seemed very limited, they were willing to act quickly. MARUF approached the ISM to host the program in the parking lot of Masjid and MARUF then contacted the owners of several taco trucks, explained Muslim dietary requirements, and supplied the trucks with Zabeeha meat!!



Alhamdulillah, although participation was somewhat limited due to the very short notice, all who did attend and participate thoroughly enjoyed the program.



Insha'Allah, the ISM will be hosting more programs in the future that will bring together Muslims and people from many other backgrounds to understand one another and to work together on issues of common interest.



#### Salam School News

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year.

Enrollment at Salam School continues to increase with a waiting list of students for whom we have no space.

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been moved to the elementary building this year to alleviate some of the high enrollment in in the middle school. Salam School enrollment is over 800 students this year, with our school being one of the largest Islamic Schools in the United States, Alhamdullilah.

The parking lot at the 8th and Layton building has been completely repaved around the school. Many thanks to Mr. Nabil Salous for supervising this very massive undertaking. This was a huge task that came at a great cost to the ISM and Salam School. We are still accepting contributions from families for the parking lot work. Every family that has students attending Salam School can contribute with any amount being acceptable. Please earmark your contribution for the same.

Salam high school students' performance on the ACT has shown continuous improvement. In June, the class of 2017 graduated with 100% of the graduates attending college. The class of 2017 was the 7th class to graduate from Salam High School. A few graduates from previous classes have graduated college and returned to Salam School as teachers: Jameela Asmar as middle school Science teacher and Lena Abu-Saif, 4th grade classroom teacher. We welcome them to the Salam School faculty.

We also welcome the new faculty, Mrs. Marquis as a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Mr. Deiner as a resource teacher, Ms. Douglas for HS Social Sciences, Mrs. Musleh as a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and Mrs. Awawdeh and Mrs. Naureen as assistants in the elementary classrooms. Mrs. Marwah Ibrahim has also returned as an Islamic Studies/Arabic teacher.

The school leadership team continues to grow and evolve to better meet the needs of the students and families. Mr. Shalaby is in year number eleven as the head principal. Mrs. Asmar is the elementary school principal, Mrs. Zehra Tahir, former teacher and guidance counselor, has been promoted as an assistant principal in the middle and high school. Additionally, Mr. David Clarke has been promoted to assistant principal at the middle and high school.

Salam School is always seeking highly qualified and skilled teachers to work with our students. Salam School is always accepting of highly skilled and qualified volunteers to assist in our schools and lunchrooms. Please make an appointment to speak with an administrator if you are interested in volunteering.

We look forward to the new school year with lots of learning and fun. Look for news from the school year as the year progresses.

Written by: Sr. Khawla Asmar, M. Ed.



Photo of the 2017 Salam School 8th Grade graduates.

# Salam School News (continued)

#### RECENT SALAM SCHOOL ALUMNI



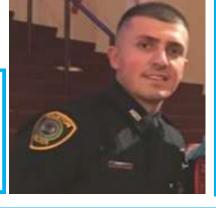
Summer Aldabbeh (2013) - She graduated from The University of Wisconsin Parkside with a biological sciences major and a pre-health concentration. She was accepted into The Ohio State University College of Medicine where she plans to graduate with her Doctor of Medicine (MD) de-





Salma AlJamal (2012) - Salma graduated from Marquette University in May 2016 with a double major in Biomedical Sciences and Theology and Religious Studies. She is Currently a second year student at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine, expected to graduate in May 2020.

Jameela Asmar (2011) - Jameela graduated from UW-Milwaukee with a bachelors degree in Biology. She's currently pursuing a masters degree in education at Cardinal Stritch University. She also returned to Salam School as a 7th and 8th grade science teacher.



Bilal Hamid (2011) -Bilal graduated from UW-Milwaukee with a supply chain/ operations management degree. He is currently a police officer for the Houston Police Department and we was able to serve the community during Hurricane Harvey.



Afnan Ismail (2013) - Afnan graduated with a double major in middle/ secondary education and broad field sciences - biological sciences from Marquette University . She was hired at Milwaukee Academy of Science as a biology and engineering teacher. In the future, Sr. Afnan will certainly be found in school administration!

Did you know that the "Class of 2017" was the 7th class to graduate from Salam High School? Did you know that 2017-2018 is the 25th Anniversary of Salam School?

#### Salam School News (continued)

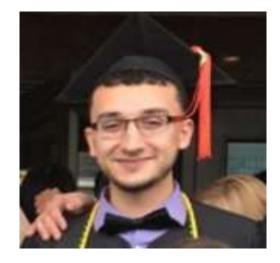
Ahsan Sikander Godal (2014) - Ahsan is currently a Senior at Marquette University and pursuing a double major in Supply chain management and International Business. The idea of Fro Zone came to light about 10 months ago when my partner and I started looking into the rolled ice cream trend. Rolled ice cream was not served anywhere in Wisconsin at the time. So we decided why not be the first in the state to open one. Even though we overcame a lot of hurdles we got our Brady street spot up and running and it has been a success with lines out the door. Within this coming month we will have our second location opened in Brookfield.



We are looking to feature more students in future editions of ISM Today.

If you are a former student, please drop us a note at: ismoffice@ismonline.org

Provide us with a short statement and a photo!



Omar Saleh (2013) - Omar went to UW-Milwaukee and graduated last spring with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering. During his time at UWM, he was active with student organizations, and in his senior year served as president for the Muslim Student Association. He also was elected as an At-Large Senator in the student government. He recently accepted an offer from WE Energies, and is excited to start his professional career as an engineer.

The 2017 – 2018 school year represents the 25th Anniversary of Salam School.

Salam School will be organizing a number of special programs and events to commemorate our 25th year.

We want to thank all of our former and current students as well as all as the commitment of all of our parents.

We ask Allah (SWT) to bless all of our children, whether they went to Salam School or any other school. Of course, we at Salam School have a very special place in our hearts for those who went to Salam School!

#### "America's Passage to Equality"

by Jillian Ochoa October 3, 2016

Is my pain so less than yours?

Your sign says open. Yet, you lock the doors.

Do you hold my hand at the same time you tie my feet?

Is it now that history is doomed to repeat?

Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses.

But, for many, our equality passes.

Take away my religion, locked in my own skin How long will we wait for the equality to begin?

Bless America and its abundant land

Praying to Allah/God that they open their eyes and begin to understand.

What's right is right and is felt in the heart.

This is what America has been about since its very start.

The passage to equality is narrowed by hate from shore to shore, that is leaving so many struggling, in the light of the lamp beside The Golden Door.

#### LIVING WELL WITH CHRONIC CONDITIONS: "PUT LIFE BACK IN YOUR LIFE"

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Discover better nutrition and physical activity choices

Learn about making treatment decisions

Learn better ways to talk with your doctor and family

Set your own goals and make a step-by-step plan to improve your health-and your life

If you have conditions such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, chronic pain or anxiety, a Living Well workshop can help you take charge of your life. Join us for this FREE workshop at Milwaukee Muslim Women's Coalition on Thursdays, October 5-November 9, 1:00-3:30.

To register, call Froedtert Hospital at 800-272-3666



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# Community News

#### Congratulations On Your Engagement!

#### May Allah bless your engagement and grant you a beautiful and happy marriage.

- Muneer & Anwar Abdullah
- Mahmoud Elewa & Carmen Paz Flores
   Cruces
- Osayd Assad & Tasneem Amro
- \* Barakat Kaid & Noor Kheirieh
- Muntaser Qutub & Baraa Oweisi

#### Congratulations On Your Newborn!

The ISM would like to congratulate:

- Moath Sarsour & Faiqa Oweisi (Safaa)
- Yousef Dahabra & Dalal Ahmad (Omar)
- \* Kareem Sarsour & Seema Oweisi (Salahuddin)
- Muawia Zamara & Ayah Musaitif (boy)
- Alaa Abed & Nida Jaber (Rahma)
- \* Dr Mohamad Kheir Heder Sr. Ghazal (Safa)

#### Congratulations On Your Marriage!

May Allah grant you a beautiful marriage!



Alla Ahmad & Eman Kaiss
Manar Baker & Anas Salem
Aziz Javed & Ahlam Ayesh
Mahmoud Saed & Hanan Ramahi
Baraa Sarsour & Eenas Zahran
Mohammad & Noor Ewis
Mohammad Jaber & Asma Atshan
Odai Assad & Shereen Assad
Ahmad Elshafei & Linda Jaber
Mahmoud Muhammed & Ayatt Askar
Abdullah Yousfan & Naema Ahmad

#### This Organization runs on your generosity

The Islamic Society of Milwaukee operates on the donations of its members and supporters. When you donate to the ISM, you are providing support for three masajid. Inshallah, you will be rewarded for a portion of all of the religious services and programs that take place at the Islamic Society of Milwaukee masajid. On a weekly basis, over 2,000 Muslims offer their prayers at the ISM masajid and hundreds of students are engaged in the reading and study of the Qur'an. The ISM is recognized as the leader in reaching out to the greater community. Each year, we have thousands of individuals who visit the ISM or who have representatives of the ISM visit them in their churches, schools, and organizations. The ISM is also in the forefront in providing assistance and counseling to all segments of the community. The ISM provides assistance to refugees, mediation for families, and facilities for religious and social functions including weddings, condolence gatherings, and other community events. The ISM also provides the primary funding for the food pantry operated out of the Milwaukee Islamic Dawah Center. We ask Allah to give you, our donors a share of every activity that is performed in the house of Allah.

PAGE 25

# Our Deepest Condolences

# Inna Lilahi wa Ina Ilaihi raji'oun. 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.

- \* Br. Ibrahim Amer (Abu Alrayan), the husband of Yousra Qasem (Salam School teacher) and the father of Malak, Suhailah, Ayah and Alrayan Amer. He is also the brother of Mazen, Sameh, Suhailah, Ghalib, Layla and Wael Amer.
- \* Sr. Wasfieh Mahmoud (Um Nemer), the beloved wife of Najib Mahmoud and the mother of Nemer (mother-in-law of Lena Mahmoud), Nidal (mother-in-law of Manal Mahmoud), Thaer, Kholoud (mother-in-law of Ahed Kadadha), Ghadeer, Sahar, Tagreed and Raeda Mahmoud.
- \* Br. Ezat Ibrahim Muhsen, the beloved father of Saif Muhsen and Mamoun Muhsen.
- \* Sr. Hajar Abu Shalanfah, the beloved mother of our community member Br. Samer Abu Shalanfah (Owner of Crystal Hair & Nail Salon).
- \* Sr. Samia Elgendi, the mother of our Salam School principal, Br. Wanis Shalaby.
- \* Sr. Muna Mahmoud Jassar, is the widow of Jamal Abdelkarim. She is also the mother of Amjad, Murad, Mustafa, Ashraf, and Ayman. Sr. Muna is the sister of Osama, Mohammad and Waseem.
- \* Br. Munther Hamed, is the husband of Taghreed Hamed (Im Abdulrahman Hamed) and the father of Abdulrahman Hamed. He is also the brother of Taysir Mustafa Hamed.
- \* Br. Muhammad Amro, is the father of our community members, Amal Amro and Nida Amro (the father-in-law of Jamal and Hazem Amro).
- \* Sr. Shamsah Abdulraheem, is the mother of our community member, Azzam Algharaibeh (Abu Jihad).
- \* Sr. Wafa Ghazawneh, is the sister of Maysoun Ahmad (Um Alla sister-in-law of Raed Ahmad Abu Alla), sister of Maysa Ahmad (sister-in-law of Nasser Ahmad), sister of Sabreen Ghazawna (sister-in-law of Fadi Ghazawna), and the aunt of many nieces and nephews in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.
- \* Br. Saeed Aziz Joudeh Hamed, is the youngest brother of Joudeh, Talaat, Tareq, Faraj, Jafar, Tahseen, Ashraf, and Sharif Aziz.
- \* Br. Jihad Atari (Abu Mohamed), is the beloved husband of Salwa Atari and the father of Mohamed, Riham (father-in-law of Nidal Jasser), Rinad, Ruba and Majdi (father-in-law of Duaa Atari).

We ask Allah (SWT) to forgive their sins and bless them with a home in Jannah. We also ask Allah (SWT) to provide their family members with strength, patience and perseverance in dealing with their loss. We request that you make dua for their maghfirah (forgiveness) and dua for their families during this difficult time.

#### ISM University Center

As many in the community know, ISM University Center, which is located in the heart of the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee (UWM) campus, was established in April of 2015.

Alhumdullah, with the grace of Allah (SWT) the ISM University Center continues to grow and is currently serving the needs of over 600 Muslim students and their families on campus. The strategic location of the ISM University Center is a platform to reach people that are open minded in that particular part of the Milwaukee community. Even prior to 2015, the Center (formerly known as Musulla Nur) had a proud tradition of Dawah, outreach and activism in a relaxed environment that did not have the traditional boundaries of other facilities.

Achievements over the past several months include community outreach, participating and organizing events on the East Side (masjid open houses, Shorewood walks, meet your Muslim neighbor), interfaith programs, Amazing Faith programs and others. The Center is also a hub for community programs such as Brothers Quran study on Thursdays, sisters halaqa, kids program on Saturday, brother's volleyball soccer in summer and more.

The Center's primary focus at this time is to increase access for those who wish to attend the Center. Currently the doors of the facility are often locked due to not having a full time receptionist or imam on site. To help solve this issue, the ISM Main Office has supplied the entire board of the Muslim Student's Association at UWM with access to the Center. (The main purpose for buying the Center was to meet the needs of the Muslim students, so it is the hope and the desire of the ISM that many of our responsible, mature Muslim students will take the lead in operating programs, events at the Center and providing services that will be beneficial for the students. In addition to student access, a part time individual will be present at the Center throughout most weekday afternoons.

The Center is also looking to increase fundraising activities for the Center. There is a need for full time maintenance and other staff. InshaAllah with your continued support we will achieve these results.

The future goals of ISM University Center include initiating more community/ interfaith activities and programs as well as attracting more community members and volunteers to play an active role at the Masjid. If you or your family members that may be attending UWM are interested in being part of the community please reach out to <a href="mailto:ismoffice@ismonline.org">ismoffice@ismonline.org</a>.

(Initial article written by Br. Ahmad Azzam)





In 2017, Sr. Huda Alkaff, Founder and Director of Wisconsin Green Muslims was recognized by Environment America as one of the national

Voices for 100% Renewable Energy for leading the Wisconsin Faith, Environmental Justice and Solar Initiative.

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#### Wisconsin Green Muslims

An environmental justice group formed in 2005. Connecting Faith, Environmental Justice and Sustainability through Education and Service.

Facebook and Twitter: @WIgreenMuslims



If the hour is about to be established and one of you was a holding a palm shoot, let him take advantage of even one second before the hour is established to plant it.





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