



2024



ISLAMIC SOCIETY
OF ADDISON

End of Year Newsletter

An aerial photograph showing a large, light-colored building with a flat roof, surrounded by a parking lot with yellow-painted spaces and some trees. The image is positioned at the top of the page, partially obscured by a blue diagonal graphic element.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Our Story
- Our Current Programs
- Details for Programs
- Jummah Announcement
- Community Service
- Future Projects
- Basement Project
- CMMA x Isa
- Donation Appeal

OUR STORY



- Grand opening in March of 2024
- Over 18,000 square feet in upper and lower level, usable space combined
- More than 700 identified community members in the greater Addison area
- 4-acre lot, zoning approved for the Masjid

Masjid Isa is committed to providing a welcoming, inclusive space for worship, education, and community service. Our mission is to uphold the principles of Islam, foster spiritual growth, and promote social justice and compassion. We strive to support the diverse needs of our congregation through religious services, educational programs, and community outreach initiatives, aiming to create a harmonious environment that reflects the teachings of Islam.



GAZA, PALESTINE

Allahu Akbar! Masjid Isa is profoundly humbled by the overwhelming response from our community during our fundraiser for Gaza. In an extraordinary demonstration of unity and care, we raised over \$175,000 in just 10 minutes, showcasing our collective commitment to supporting our brothers and sisters in need. This incredible achievement reflects the heart of our community—a beacon of hope and compassion for those facing unimaginable hardships.

We were honored to host Dr. Zaher Sahloul, founder and president of MedGlobal, as our keynote speaker. Dr. Sahloul shared heartfelt accounts of his time in Gaza, where MedGlobal provides life-saving medical care to 5,000 victims daily. Drawing from his recent two-week visit, he described the resilience of Gaza's people and the urgent need for continued support. His work, including his time at Al-Nasser Hospital, served as a powerful reminder of the immense impact we can have when we come together for a noble cause.

Jazakum Allahu Khairan to every donor and supporter who contributed to this critical effort. Your generosity has made a tangible difference, and we pray that this fundraiser inspires ongoing support for those in Gaza, reminding us of the power of collective action guided by faith and compassion.

MARCH 24, 2024

\$175,000

RAISED FOR GAZA RELIEF





OUR CURRENT PROGRAMS



Full Time Hifz



Fajr and Fitness



**Sister's Tafseer
Classes**



Revert Program



**Al-Barakat Al-
Makkiyyah**



**Free Community
Health Screening**



Fiqh 101



Children's Robotics



Non-Muslim Outreach



**Rawdah
Academy**



**Developing the Mind
& Soul**



**Youth Basketball
Clinic**



**Adult Quran
Classes**



Sister's Paint Night



**Community Open
House**



**Empowering the
Community**



**Secrets of the
Prophets**



Afterschool Maktab

FULL-TIME HIFZ PROGRAM

The full-time Hifz Program at Masjid ISA is a cornerstone of our mission, having launched just four months after the masjid's opening in March 2024. This flagship initiative underscores our commitment to providing quality Islamic education to the community in Illinois, with the aim of nurturing future generations of huffadh equipped with both knowledge and character. To lead this essential program, we carefully selected Mufti Mirza Mahmood Baig, whose expertise and mentorship create an environment where students thrive.

Our program is built on three foundational pillars: Memorization, Understanding, and Practicality. While the memorization of the Holy Quran is a noble pursuit, we emphasize that true success comes from understanding its meaning. By weaving comprehension into their studies, students build a deeper, more personal connection with the Quran. Historical context and real-life applications are seamlessly integrated into lessons, ensuring that each verse holds relevance beyond the page.



The response to the Hifz Program has been overwhelmingly positive, with more families learning about and joining this transformative journey. As one of Masjid ISA's hallmark initiatives, we are committed to continually enhancing the learning experience for our students, supporting them in their path to becoming not only memorizers but ambassadors of the Quran's wisdom.

SISTER'S TAFSEER



Thursdays, bi-weekly

Masjid Isa's bi-weekly Sister's Tafseer Program is more than just a gathering—it's a vibrant sanctuary for women seeking spiritual growth, connection, and inspiration. Crafted with care, this program is a blend of learning, bonding, and rejuvenation, welcoming sisters from all walks of life to deepen their understanding of Islam while building lasting friendships.

At its heart are the engaging Tafseer sessions, where participants dive into the meanings and teachings of the Quran, unlocking insights that resonate in everyday life. These sessions are a journey into the divine, sparking reflections that inspire faith and purpose.



Beyond learning, the program is sprinkled with fun interactive games that bring laughter and warmth, creating an environment where everyone feels at home. The Q&A segments open the floor for honest discussions, curiosity, and shared wisdom, fostering a supportive atmosphere where questions are encouraged, and voices are heard. To wrap it all up, there's time set aside to relax over snacks, sharing stories and smiles that strengthen the bonds of sisterhood.

Whether you're coming for the learning, the connection, or simply a break from the routine, Masjid Isa's Sister's Program is where hearts and minds come together!

REVERT PROGRAM

This program at Masjid Isa is a welcoming and supportive initiative designed to create a sense of community for new reverts to Islam. Meeting on the third Saturday of every month, this program offers a warm and inclusive environment where reverts can connect with fellow Muslims, share their experiences, and deepen their understanding of the faith.



Each session is thoughtfully planned, featuring a mix of engaging activities, thought-provoking lectures, and a shared meal that fosters camaraderie and companionship. Whether you're new to the faith or have been on this journey for some time, the Revert Program provides a space to grow, learn, and build lasting friendships.

We were honored to inaugurate this program with a welcoming address from the esteemed Shaykh Khalid Herrington, whose words of wisdom and encouragement set the tone for what this initiative aims to achieve. With each gathering, we strive to ensure that reverts feel supported and valued as they navigate their new path in Islam. We look forward to continuing this journey together and encourage all reverts to join us for future sessions.



AL-BARAKAT AL-MAKKIYYAH



Wednesdays, bi-weekly

Every other Wednesday evening, Masjid ISA invites you to take part in Al-Barakat Al-Makkiyyah, a program designed to deepen our love and understanding of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. This spiritually rich initiative explores the profound significance behind the 800+ names of the Prophet ﷺ as detailed in the esteemed text, Al-Barakat Al-Makkiyyah.

Guided by the esteemed Maulana Yousuf Ghouse, each session brings to life the historical and spiritual context of these names, drawing participants closer to the legacy of the Prophet ﷺ. The community's enthusiasm was evident at the program's launch, where over 100 attendees gathered for an evening filled with inspiration and learning.



After each session, the atmosphere shifts to one of togetherness, with attendees sharing a meal or refreshments that reinforces the bonds of unity and brotherhood. This blend of learning and connection has made Al-Barakat Al-Makkiyyah a beloved addition to Masjid ISA's calendar.

We are honored to offer this enriching journey and invite you to join us in exploring the timeless beauty and teachings embodied by our beloved Prophet ﷺ. We invite you to be a part of this transformative experience and strengthen your spiritual connection.

AFTERSCHOOL MAKTAB



Weekday Evenings



Masjid ISA is excited to offer our After School Maktab Program, designed to deepen students' understanding of Islam through a well-rounded curriculum. Beyond developing fluency in Quranic recitation with practical Tajweed lessons, students will engage in studies of the Sirah, exploring the life and teachings of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in historical context.

The program includes foundational Fiqh lessons, teaching students how to apply Islamic principles in daily life, and emphasizes Adab and Ikhlāq to foster good character and manners. Lessons in Tareekh introduce key events and figures in Islamic history, connecting the past to contemporary faith practices.



Our Maktab Program is dedicated to nurturing knowledgeable, respectful, and spiritually grounded individuals. It's an ideal space for young learners to build their Islamic education and moral character, laying a strong foundation for lifelong faith and learning.

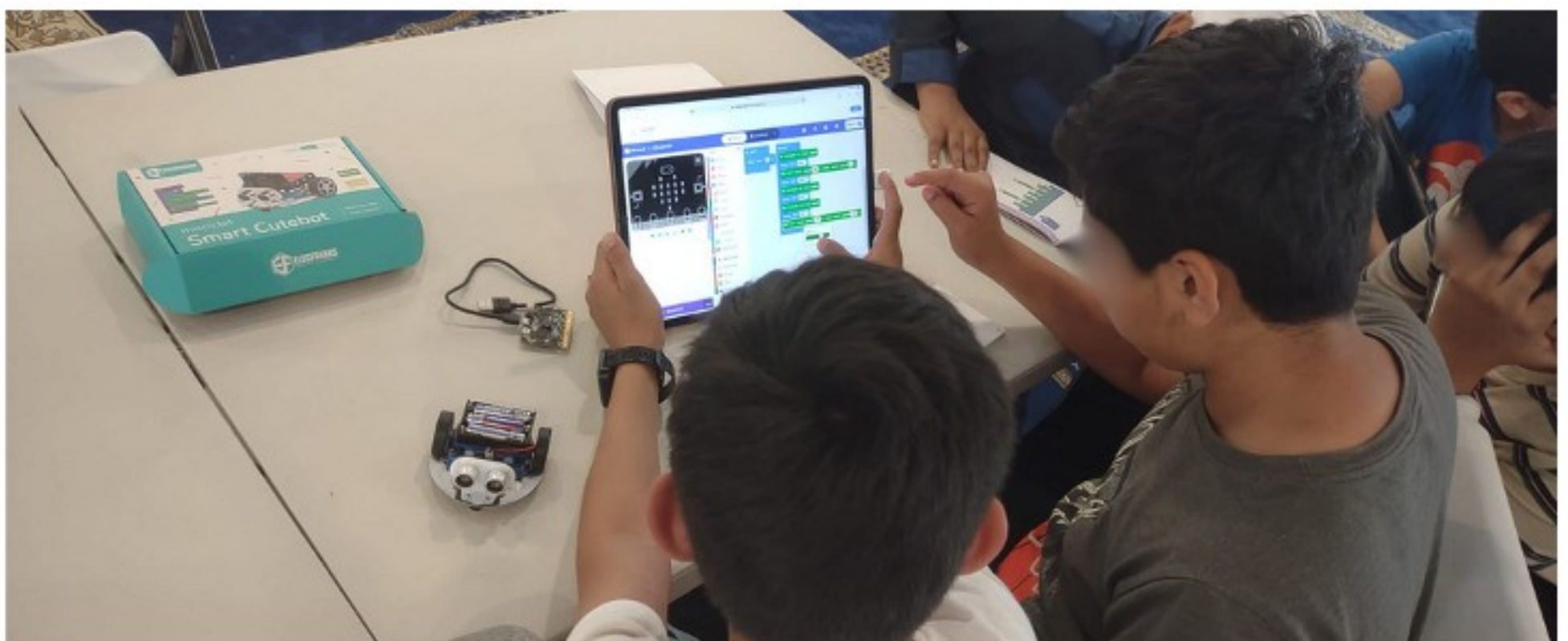
When a man dies, his deeds come to an end except for three things: Sadaqah Jariyah (ceaseless charity); a knowledge which is beneficial, or a virtuous descendant who prays for him (for the deceased). [Riyad as-Salihin 1383]

CHILDREN'S ROBOTICS



Masjid ISA's 8-week Coding & Robotics Workshop opened the door for young minds to explore the fascinating world of technology. This program offered an engaging, hands-on approach that equipped students with a solid introduction to coding and robotics. From building bots to programming them to perform specific tasks, participants put their knowledge to the test through creative projects that brought lessons to life. Beyond learning technical skills, the workshop emphasized essential problem-solving and critical thinking, nurturing both creativity and a systematic approach to challenges.

By the program's conclusion, students walked away with more than just experience; they gained the confidence and curiosity to continue exploring the limitless potential of technology. The workshop not only sparked an interest in the future of innovation but also inspired a generation ready to take on tomorrow's challenges with newfound skills and enthusiasm.



NON-MUSLIM OUTREACH



Our Masjid is proud to introduce a new and heartfelt initiative focused on non-Muslim outreach, aimed at sharing the beauty and teachings of Islam with those who may be unfamiliar with it. We launched this program with an inspiring keynote from the renowned Daee' Dr. Sabeel Ahmed, whose powerful words reminded us that Dawah is not just important—it's an essential duty for every Muslim.

Dr. Ahmed offered practical and encouraging insights on how reaching out can be more straightforward than we often think, motivating our community to step forward and embrace this rewarding mission. His expertise set the stage for a collaborative partnership with Gain Peace, an organization dedicated to effective and compassionate outreach.



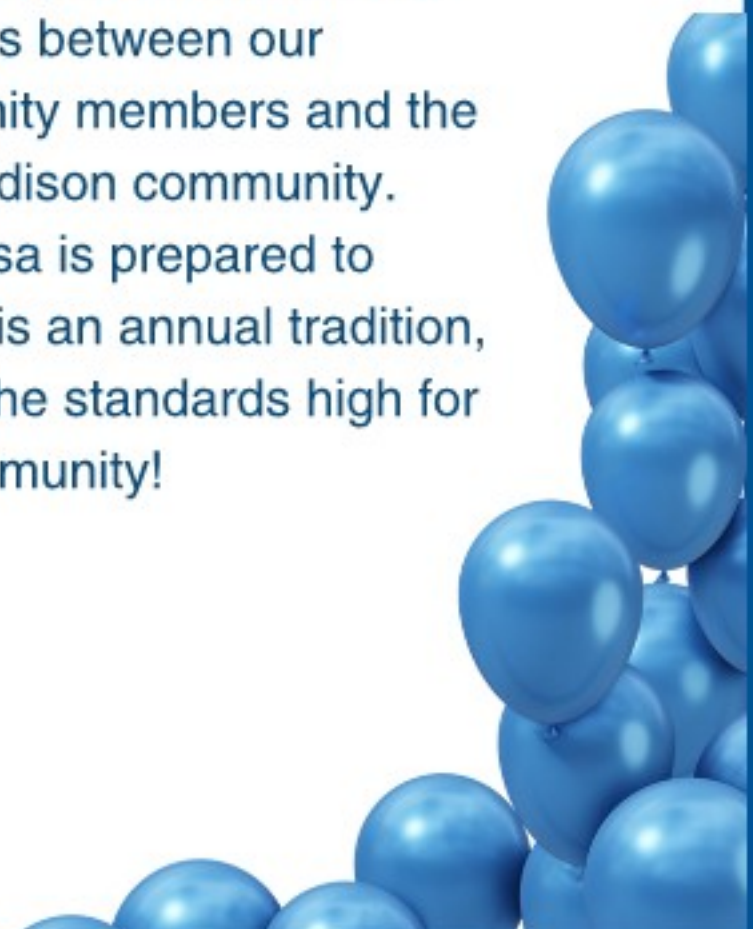


SPOTLIGHT: OPEN HOUSE

In collaboration with Dr. Sabeel Ahmed's organization, Gain Peace, Masjid Isa has successfully launched our very first Mosque Open House in October of this year! Our masjid welcomed over 40+ local non-Muslim residents to visit the house of Allah swt to learn more about Islam. Just as important was the introductions made to connect the Muslims to their next-door neighbors.



We are excited and eager to continue our efforts to bring nearness between our community members and the local Addison community. Masjid Isa is prepared to make this an annual tradition, setting the standards high for our community!





EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH PROPHETIC ETHICS



Once a Month

Masjid ISA is honored to present a transformative monthly series, Empowering the Community Through the Ethics of the Prophet ﷺ, led by the esteemed Shaykh Mohammed Amin Kholwadia of Darul Qasim. This enlightening program delves into the timeless principles of the Prophet's character, offering practical insights on how they can guide us in building purposeful lives, nurturing meaningful relationships, and strengthening the moral and spiritual foundation of our community.

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ETHICS OF THE PROPHET ﷺ

Monthly Friday Lectures
by Shaykh Mohammed Amin Kholwadia,
Director of Darul Qasim

Time: After Esha Salah (7:45 PM)

Starting Friday, December 13th

EMPOWERING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ETHICS OF THE PROPHET ﷺ

Monthly Friday Lectures
by Shaykh Mohammed Amin Kholwadia,
Director of Darul Qasim

Time: After Esha Salah (7:45 PM)

Starting Friday, December 13th

Announcements for each session's date will be shared via Masjid communications, so stay tuned and don't miss this unique opportunity to connect with the profound legacy of the Prophet ﷺ. Let's come together to embody these teachings and make a positive impact on our lives and the world around us.



[https://www.youtube.com/
@ISA-Masjid](https://www.youtube.com/@ISA-Masjid)



FREE COMMUNITY HEALTH SCREENINGS



Masjid ISA, in collaboration with the Chicago Muslim Medical Alliance (CMMA), is proud to offer free community health screenings, demonstrating our commitment to fostering well-being and healthy living within our community. These screenings are designed to make essential health services accessible, including checks for blood pressure, cholesterol/HbA1c, blood sugar, flu shots, and personalized consultations.

Staffed by dedicated medical professionals and eager medical students, these sessions ensure that community members receive valuable, preliminary health insights that could be life-changing. In fact, at a recent screening, a participant discovered an underlying health issue, empowering them to take preventative measures and avoid more serious complications. It's moments like these that underscore the importance of these health initiatives.

At Masjid ISA, we believe that caring for our physical health is intertwined with spiritual well-being. By promoting healthy habits, we aim to help our community members maintain their vitality and strengthen their connection with their Creator. This initiative is our way of making that path smoother and more accessible for everyone.



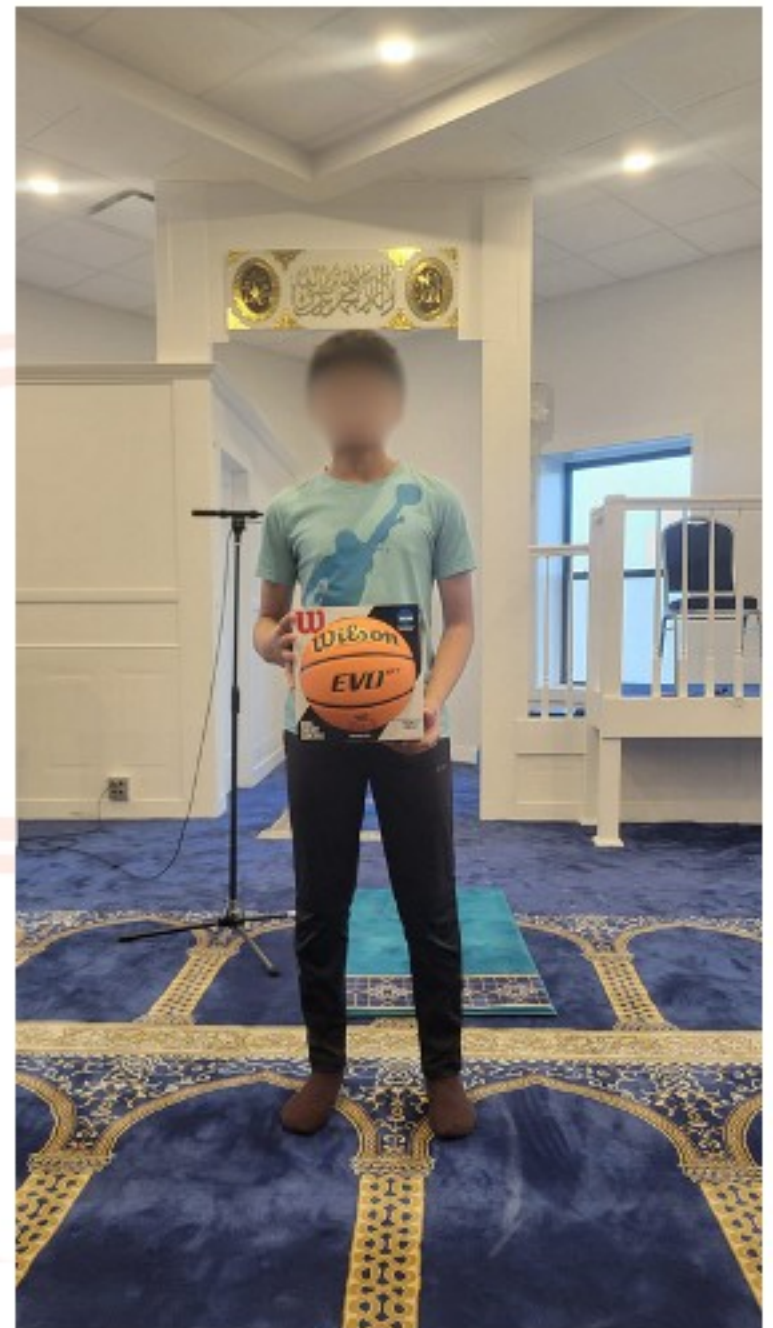
YOUTH BASKETBALL CLINIC



Masjid ISA's Youth Basketball Clinic, held on Sunday, September 8, was an unforgettable experience for the youth in our community. From 4 PM to 6 PM, the rented gym buzzed with excitement as participants took to the court for a dynamic drill session led by the renowned Coach Cliff. With years of coaching experience, including training NBA players, Coach Cliff inspired and pushed our young athletes to refine their basketball skills through engaging drills and friendly games.

Beyond the action on the court, the clinic also featured a meaningful reminder about living with strong Islamic values, highlighting the importance of balancing physical activity with spiritual growth. The event was complete with lunch that kept everyone energized and in good spirits, fostering a sense of unity and camaraderie.

We're already looking forward to more events like this, Insha'Allah, that continue to bring our youth together and strengthen their connection with the community.



Raffle Winner of Evolution Basketball!

SECOND ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

2024

On Friday, November 15, Masjid Isa hosted its highly anticipated annual fundraiser, and it was nothing short of extraordinary. With over 950 attendees, the banquet hall brimmed with the warmth, unity, and love of our vibrant community. The evening featured beautiful Quran recitations, uplifting lectures, and engaging activities for children, creating cherished memories for everyone present.

One of the night's highlights was the raffle giveaway of two free Umrah tickets, which brought excitement and joy to the crowd. Together, we raised \$510,000 toward our goal of \$750,000, a resounding testament to the generosity and dedication of our community members.



Thank you to everyone who attended and supported this event. Your contributions are vital to helping Masjid ISA grow and continue serving as a beacon of faith, learning, and togetherness. We look forward to achieving even greater milestones with you in the future, Insha'Allah!

EXPANDING JUMMAH OFFERINGS



Happy Fridays! To better serve our growing community and accommodate busy schedules, Masjid Isa is thrilled to announce an expansion of our Friday Jummah prayers to two sessions! This new offering began on December 20, 2024, and has already proven to be a welcomed addition.



The first Jummah session will remain at its usual time, with the English talk at 1:00 PM followed by the Arabic Khutbah and Salah at 1:25 PM. The second session now begins at 2:00 PM with the English talk, followed by the Arabic Khutbah and Salah at 2:20 PM.



NEW JUMMAH SCHEDULE

STARTING DECEMBER 20TH

1st Jummah

12:50 PM: First Azaan

12:55 PM: Sunnahs

1:00 PM: English Talk

1:20 PM: Announcements/Azan

1:25 PM: Arabic Khutbah & Salah

2nd Jummah

1:55 PM: Sunnahs

2:00 PM: English Talk

2:15 PM: Announcements/Azan

2:20 PM: Arabic Khutbah & Salah

This additional session provides greater flexibility for those navigating work or personal commitments, allowing more individuals to fulfill this essential act of worship. Masjid Isa is proud to continue responding to the needs of our community and looks forward to seeing more of you at Jummah, Insha'Allah!



SERVICING THE COMMUNITY



Zakat Chicago

Local Collection. Local Distribution.



Islamic Society of Addison
جمعية أديسون الإسلامية

On December 29th, Masjid ISA, in partnership with the Zakat Foundation of America, hosted a heartwarming Winter Kit Distribution to support families in need. This initiative provided essential winter items, including coats, gloves, socks, and blankets, ensuring warmth and comfort during the harsh winter months. This act of community care beautifully concluded the year, reflecting the spirit of compassion and generosity that defines our Masjid. JazakAllah Khair to everyone who contributed to making this event a success!

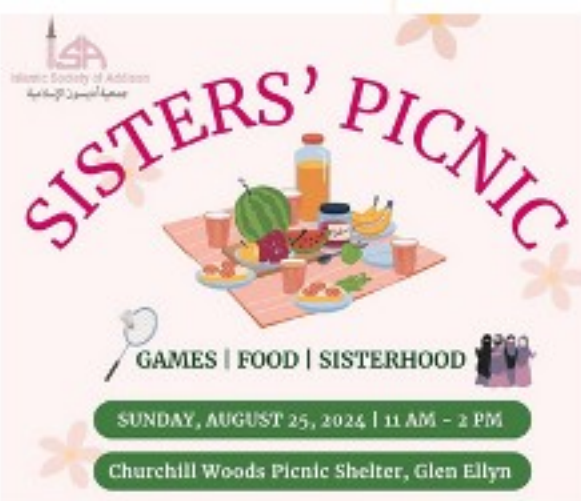


NOTABLE MEMORIES



Sister's Rabi' al-Awwal Program

This year's Sister's Seerah Program for Rabi' Al-Awwal was a remarkable success, becoming the most attended sister's event of 2024. The gathering offered a meaningful exploration of the Seerah, focusing on the life and character of the Prophet ﷺ. Attendees engaged in heartfelt salawat, creating a spiritually uplifting atmosphere. Alongside the enlightening discussions, the program emphasized community building and Suhbah, fostering deeper connections among participants. This memorable event exemplified the spirit of unity and reflection, leaving many inspired to carry its lessons into their daily lives.



Sister's Community Picnic

On August 25, 2024, we hosted a vibrant Sisters-Only Community Picnic, bringing together women from across our community for a day filled with laughter, delicious food, and fun games. The large turnout and warm atmosphere reflected the strong bonds within our community. Events like these remind us of the joy and unity that flourish when we come together.

"LOVED the picnic and socialization and sports and being with all my Muslim sisters"

"Alhumdulillah, it was a blessed gathering with all amazing Sisters. Food was so delicious."



Online Youth Cyber Security Training

Masjid Isa proudly hosted an online Cybersecurity Training program for youth, led by experienced cyber forensic experts actively working in the field. This pilot program provided participants with practical knowledge and certifications, empowering them with critical skills to thrive in one of today's most in-demand industries. With the first cohort successfully completing their training, plans are underway to expand this initiative in 2025. We encourage community youth and anyone seeking guidance in cybersecurity to connect with our advisory team as we continue to prepare the next generation for emerging career opportunities.

FUTURE PROJECTS



Food Pantry

- Address food insecurity within the community by establishing a comprehensive food pantry program.
- Promote overall health and wellbeing.
- Collaborate with Masjid Rahmah—a successful food pantry in the Northern Suburbs of Chicago.



Disaster Relief

- Start community initiative to stock disaster relief supplies and kits—ready to service any calamity across the global.
- Partner with existing humanitarian aid programs to provide support and supplies.
- Immediate response times when disasters strike across the globe.



Girls Hifz

- Extend our current full-time hifz program to the aspiring sisters in the greater Addison community.
- Provide a safe, exclusive space for our sisters to learn and memorize the Quran.

Youth Lounge

- Foster the next generation of Muslim leaders and community members by accommodating their social needs, at the Masjid.
- Building a space to facilitate both spiritual and social enrichment to the youths in our community—cultivating a deep connection with the Masjid.



BASEMENT PROJECT

- The unfinished basement offers 9,000 square feet of untapped potential to enhance community services.
- Additional areas will be created for classes, workshops, and tutoring sessions to promote continuous learning and growth.
- Allocating space for a future food pantry program will help provide essential supplies to those in need.
- Dedicating a portion of the basement to disaster preparedness will ensure the community is always ready to respond during emergencies.
- The basement will serve as an overflow prayer space, accommodating the growing congregation during peak times and special events.
- Transforming the space into a hub for youth development will provide a safe and engaging environment for educational and recreational activities.

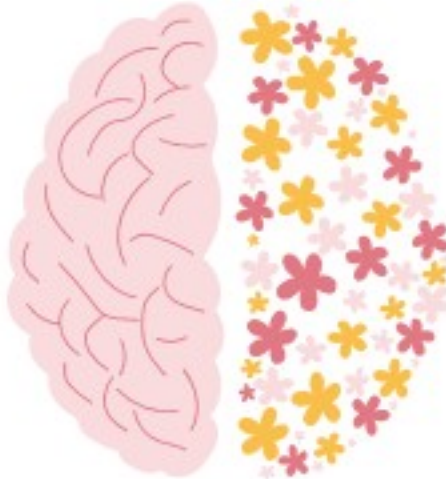




The Chicago Muslim Medical Alliance is an organization dedicated to promoting education, networking, and community outreach. Inspired by our divine values, they aim to motivate our colleagues, offer guidance to young physicians, and instill a tradition of excellence within the medical community at large.



CMMA and Masjid Isa recognize the urgent and critical need for accessible mental health services within the Ummah. The scarcity of mental health clinics specifically tailored to serve the Muslim community has highlighted a significant gap in care. In response, both organizations have united to address this pressing issue, determined to provide much-needed support and resources.



In a groundbreaking initiative, we are launching a free mental health clinic staffed by dedicated industry professionals. This clinic represents a beacon of hope for the Greater Chicago community, offering essential mental health services to those in need. The Masjid is diligently finalizing the clinic's preparation, and we are excited to soon open our doors, extending our reach and impact to all who require support.



The future clinic will provide licensed counseling and support services at no cost, ensuring that everyone can access the care they deserve. Our mission is to reduce the negative social stigma surrounding mental health, fostering an environment of acceptance and understanding. By enhancing the overall well-being of our community, this clinic stands as a testament to our commitment to holistic care, bringing goodness and transformative change to all who walk through its doors.



Help us transform our community and elevate our future leaders!

Masjid Isa is on a mission to complete our vital Wudhu facilities and Basement expansion project, creating spaces that will empower our future generations of leaders. With \$510,000 already collected and \$100,000 in pledged commitments, we are just \$140,000 away from reaching our \$750,000 goal. Your generous contributions are essential to making this vision a reality. Together, we can provide the facilities necessary for spiritual growth, community learning, and success. Donate today and leave a lasting impact, Insha'Allah!



Click the Donate button or scan the QR code!

