

Masjid Nur Newsletter

Nur Islamic Center

Al Muk-bir: The Informer

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

DECEMBER 10, 2017

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Hurricane Relief
- Services
- Mission
- What's New?
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Hurricane Relief

When it rains it pours. As we all experienced, Hurricane Irma and Hurricane Maria ravaged through our island of St. Thomas with destruction in its path. The two category 5 hurricanes left many without shelter, utilities, food and water. Though our community was shaken it was not destroyed.

Many community members assisted one another in their time of need. Neighbors helping neighbors recover, distribution centers distributing food and water, and off-island and local agencies/individuals donating massive amounts of aid. In particular,

Masjid Nur Islamic Center (NIC) was able to partner up with several businesses and organizations such as Mattress

One, Schumacher Electronics, Paradise Covenant Ministries, and Community Action Now whom sent aid which included, water, nonperishable foods,



Muslim youth distributing care packages at Masjid Nur Ahl-Ul-Sunnah, St. Thomas, USVI.

tarps, baby items, insect repellents, hygiene products, and cleaning products to name a few. Due to the effort of NIC, more than a thousand families were

given aid in the form of everyday necessities.

The contributions helped to alleviate many people's current situations. As a religious entity, it is the mission of this organization, Nur Islamic Center (NIC) to assist and support its community. We want to thank those who made it possible as we come together as one to recover and rebuild all that we have lost.

Continued donations are welcomed :

<http://www.nurahlusunnah.com/donate.html>

or

<https://www.piousprojects.org/campaign?id=427>

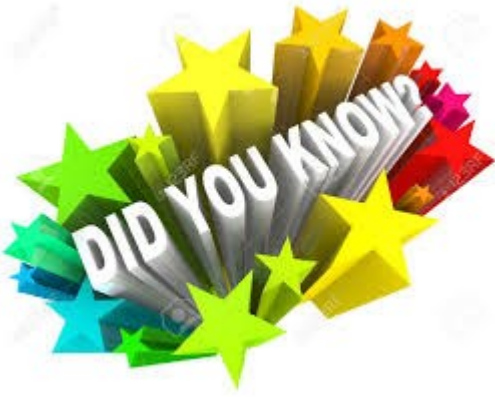
NIC Services Our Mission

- Five daily congregational prayers and Fridays Jumu'ah prayer
- Counselling, Advice and Fatwa
- Educational services
- New Muslims support
- Outreach
- Burial Services
- Marriage Services

Our mission is to improve, support and encourage an Islamic way of life as outlined in the Holy Quran, and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him). We strive to deliver generous and philanthropic help to the community.

We promote Islam through educational and social activities, which are consistent with the teachings and principles of Islam. We reinforce and support the

positive relationships between Muslims and Non-Muslims by establishing a united community through actual interfaith partnerships, acceptance, and respect.



Did you know?

1. Islam is the fastest growing religion, and it is the religion of all Prophets of Allah!
2. Paradise exists above the seventh sky. Hellfire exists and it is a real fire below the seventh earth. Its depth is 70 years.
3. Jinn are created from fire. Satan was a Muslim Jinn first and blasphemed when he objected to Allah. But he was never an angel.
4. Angels are created from light; they are neither males nor females. They do not eat or drink and they never disobey Allah.
5. The best five Prophets (respectively) are: "Muhammad, Ibrahim, Moses, Jesus, and Noah" peace be upon them all.
6. Prophet Ayyub (Job) was very patient over calamities and illness, but it's not true that worms used to eat his flesh!
7. Prophet Yussuf never intended to have adultery with the wife of al-Aziz, rather he wanted to push her away, and she ripped his shirt from the back.
8. Prophet Yaqaob (Jacob) is also called Isra'il (Hence Children of Isra'il).
9. Prophet Ibrahim was always a Muslim and he never doubted about the existence of Allah.

Fun Facts

**"To sponsor a hot meal:
\$10 per meal
\$120 per day
\$240 weekend"**

**Imam
Abu-
Bakar
Mohamed**



What's new?

1. Masjid Nur Islamic Center is official member of the St. Thomas Recovery Team (STRT). We encourage all local nonprofit and for profit businesses to join the STRT.
2. Nur Islamic Center will be feeding the elderly whom are still sheltered at the old hospital for the month of December. We will deliver hot meals every Saturday and Sunday. If you would like to sponsor meals at any time, contact Imam Abubakar Mohmed.
3. We are in the process of finalizing preliminary renderings of the Masjid and will be holding a community meeting Dec 31st after Magrib 5:54.
4. Daily Quran classes for adults will be available after the Fajar prayer and by appointment.
5. There will be a two hour self-defense training every Saturday with Sansei Sulayman Francis from 6:am-8am.

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Islamic Center Directors Message

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

As'salamualikum brothers and sisters, we are happy to re-establish the Islamic newsletter, Al-Mukbir, for Masjid Ahl-us-Sunnah Islamic Center here on St. Thomas, USVI.

The primary objective of this monthly newsletter is to update members of the community and congregation on our mission, to keep in touch and access information.

Our diverse congregation is made up of different ethnic backgrounds where all is welcomed especially during this time of rebuilding and recovering from Hurricane Irma

and Hurricane Maria.

I pray that as one *Ummah*, as one community, locally and beyond, we move to sync our operational and organizational functions to meet and address the challenging and dynamic needs of our Muslim community. If you have any suggestions, questions or ideas to add to our monthly newsletter please feel free to contact us.

Prayers



When in distress or difficulty or sorrow:

1. Ibn ‘Abbas reported:

The Prophet (peace be upon him) at times of sorrow and

grief used to supplicate:

“La ilaha illa Allah Al-‘Azim, Al-‘Alim, la ilaha illa Allah, Rabbul ‘arshil ‘Azim, la ilaha illa Allahu, Rabbus-Samawati wa rabbul ardi wa rabbul ‘arshi karim”

“There is no God but Allah, the Mighty, the Forbearing, there is no God but Allah, the Lord of the mighty throne, there is no God but Allah, the Lord of the heavens and the earth, and the Lord of the throne of hon-

or).” (Bukhari and Muslim).

2. Anas said that when the Prophet (peace be upon him) was faced with a serious difficulty, he would always supplicate:

“Ya Hayyu, ya Qayyumu, bi-rahmatika astaghithu”

“O the Living, O the Eternal, I seek help in Your grace.” (Tirmidhi)

“We have been blessed to receive \$5000 from their fundraising page as well as \$3,026 via Paypal due to their effort; s total of \$8,026.”

Rebuilding Status

1. Has there been any repairs to Masjid Nur Islamic Center since the two category 5 hurricanes hit St. Thomas, USVI?

◆ Yes, so far \$1,360 spent on repairs. The women's prayer area is now operational and repaired. Additional funds will be needed to renovate the classroom

building (approx. \$5,000) with a new roof and hardwood flooring.

2. Since the hurricanes, the organization Pious Projects has been so generous to collect donations for Masjid Nur Islamic Center. Are there any updates on their progress?

◆ We have been blessed to receive \$5000 from their fundraising page as well as \$3,026 via Paypal due to their efforts; a total of \$8,026.

Islamic World News

Irish man traces smuggled Turkish Islamic artifacts

Hurriyet Daily News—Irish art historian Mikail Patrick Duggan, is working to find Turkish Islamic artifacts that have been smuggled abroad. From his studies of western and Islamic art, he found that “each ornamentation has a meaning in Islamic art. I saw in all Seljuk artifacts that ornamentation was done for a reason. I am really impressed by Islamic ornamentations,” said Duggan. He also said he would deliver a detailed report on

the pieces from Seljuk and Turkish Islamic culture abroad to the Culture and Tourism Ministries to capture smuggled artifacts.

Muslim population in some EU countries could triple

The Guardian- The Muslim population in some European countries could triple by 2050 while it will barely change in others, new projections released by the Washington-based Pew Research Centre. Muslims in Europe is set to grow considerably through natural increases. Eu-

rope’s Muslims have more children than members of other religious groups, or people of no religion, the study shows. The European average fertility rate is 2.6 for Muslims compared to 1.6 for non-Muslims. The Muslim population is also much younger than non-Muslims. The proportion of Muslims under the age of 15 is 27%, nearly double the proportion of under-15 non-Muslims at 15%.





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The establishment of the Muslim community began in the US Virgin Islands 37 years ago with the opening of the first Islamic Center called Masjid Muhammad in 1978 on the island of St. Thomas.

It was later re-named Masjid Nur Ahl-Ul-Sunnah (locally as Masjid Nur or Nur Islamic Center (NIC)) which is currently located in Charlotte Amalie, the capital of the US Virgin Islands. There is currently a Muslim population of approximately 500 Muslims that are made up of indigenous Virgin Islanders, Palestinians, Pakistanis, Egyptians, Jordanians, Africans and residents that moved here from the continental USA.

This is the only Islamic community on island. Masjid Nur Ahl-Ul-Sunnah is an independent non-profit organization.



Belonging to Islam and the Islamic Identity

We are grateful to the Glorified Allah who guided us all to this deen (religion) and we won't be guided unless he guided us. We are also grateful to the glorified Allah who made us all belong to this ummah (nation), the best nation ever existed for mankind. We are grateful to the glorified Allah who made us all gather. Let's keep the duties in our religion with our brothers and sisters, our families and children and with all people around us on the work of Islam and to witness that there is no God but Allah.

Neither the differences in nationalities and nationalism nor the differences in colors and languages can detach us apart. We are grateful and thankful to the glorified Allah for his many bounties and we ask His glory to help us thank him for these countless bounties.

Let's convey the real shining and pure image of Islam as was delivered to our prophet (S.A.W.) and let's listen to Allah's warning and saying in surat Al-Anfal, (verse 27), what may be trans-

lated as, "O you who believe! Do not betray not Allah and His Messenger, nor betray knowingly your "amanat" (things entrusted to you)."

To insure the correct process of protecting the Islamic identity more knowledge and acquaintance with Islam is very important. Also more Islamic behavior is needed in our daily life. So let's get started today in this blessed day by cooperation and let's

establish a serious step on the path to build our individual and social life aided with Allah and his messenger's guidance. This way we achieve and be proud of the Islamic Identity.

Allah said in surat At-Tawbah, (verse 105), what may be translated as, "And say (O Muhammad) Do deeds! Allah will see your deeds, and (so will) His Messenger and the believers. And you will be brought back to the All-Knower of the unseen and the seen. Then He will inform you of what you used to do." Source: Islam1.org

