

# ISGR 1432 AH

Islamic Society of Greater Richmond (ISGR)



August 2011

## Establishing the Community

**Early Days:** Islamic Society of Greater Richmond (ISGR) searched for a year or so for some land to build a Masjid in the West End. On [September 13th, 1997](#), ISGR rented an office building at 6325 Antler Road. After the property was sold to Home Depot, the ISGR moved to its present location at 6324 Rigsby Road. Since July 2001, ISGR is renting another office building at 6326 Rigsby Road, with an initial purpose to resettle refugee Muslims. Since 2002, Friday and Taraweeh prayers are held in two buildings and in the backyard as ISGR congregation continues to grow.

**Worship Services:** ISGR began its [Friday, or Jummah, services](#) within a week of renting the Antler Road location. Since then, numerous Imams, scholars, and brothers from all over the central Virginia has given Khutbahs (or sermons) at ISGR.

Since January of 1999, ISGR Web site offers [audio recordings](#) of Friday Khutbahs (or sermons) and other lectures. The ISGR provides [Friday Lunches](#)  
continued on page 2

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Establishing the Community
- 1 Need Your Support
- 3 How to Support ISGR

## Need Your Support

**Background:** Islamic Society of Greater Richmond (ISGR) is located in the western part of metropolitan Richmond, Virginia (West End). Metropolitan Richmond includes the city of Richmond, which is the state capital of Virginia, located in the Southeast region of United States and about 100 miles from Washington, DC.

Besides ISGR, there are six other Masjid (plural of Masjid, Islamic place of worship) in metropolitan Richmond: [Masjidullah Inc.](#) in north side, [Masjid Bilal](#) in east end, [Masjid Rahman](#) in south of metropolitan Richmond, [Islamic Center of Virginia](#) further south, [Petersburg Islamic Center](#) in Petersburg, and in Farmville [Islamic Center of Prince Edwards](#). There are Friday prayer services at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) campus and Medical Center (MCV).

Since opening its doors to area Muslims, ISGR continues to add new services and activities to benefit the Muslim community and other Americans. After achieving the immediate goals, the long-term plan is to establish more activities and services.

**Current Location:** ISGR have four prayer rooms for brothers and two small rooms for sisters at 6324 and 6326 Rigsby. During Sunday school, classes are held in these two buildings.

**Need a Formal Masjid Building:** On Fridays and during Ramadan, it is [very hard](#) to find a place in the buildings. Many brothers have to pray in the tents and on the ground in the back of the buildings. [Parking](#) is limited during Fridays, or Jummah services. Size and number of rooms limits the activities during Sunday school.

continued on page 3

## *Establishing the Community - continued from page 1*

donated by local families since the Summer 1999. After establishing Friday services, ISGR has been open for five daily prayers. ISGR also has comprehensive [Ramadan activities](#) since December 1997, which include daily Suhr/Iftar, Taraweeh, and lectures led by scholars local and from abroad. ISGR has an extensive selection of [prayer calendars](#) for many locations available on Internet and on ISGR's [automated telephone system](#).

**Charity:** From the very first Ramadan, ISGR streamlined the collection and distribution of [Zakat](#) (obligatory charity) and [Sadaqa](#) (voluntary charity). ISGR evaluates the financial aid request on an as needed basis, and usually distributes the charity immediately. ISGR also cooperates with other Masajid to provide assistance to the needy people in other congregations. From March 2000, ISGR started [Electronic Donations](#), and later on our web site. Donors can elect to have the ISGR withdraw a fixed amount from their bank account every month or one time for a general donation, Zakat, Sadaqa, or for any purpose. Since December 2002, ISGR has a [Zakat form](#) to calculate [Zakat-ul-Maal](#). In 2002, ISGR reevaluated the whole concept of [Zakat-ul-Fitr](#). ISGR distributes Zakat-ul-Fitr mainly as food assistance to the needy in terms of cash, grocery cards, and food from the ISGR [Food Bank](#). In order to provide temporary employment to some needing more financial assistance, ISGR started a [Community Worker Assistance](#). ISGR also provides [Loan and Financial Assistance](#) to individuals and businesses.

**Islamic Education:** Since December 1997, ISGR offers [Sunday School](#) for children to learn Qur'an, Hadith, history, Islamic studies, manners, prayers, and much more. Sometimes there is additional teaching for children during the week and Saturdays. Between July and August, children have [Summer School](#) with more classes during the week. Since spring 1998, ISGR has [Halaqas](#) (Study Circles) for brothers and sisters. Sometimes there are [classes for adults](#) that teach Qur'an and different topics of Islam.

**Outreach:** From the very first day, ISGR has been giving [Daawah](#) (outreach) to other Muslims. Through the years, ISGR has continued to provide

information and conducts classes on Islam to [Non-Muslim](#) visitors and journalists and responds to inquiries through phone and Email. ISGR has conducted many [Shahadah ceremonies](#) and provides orientations for new Muslims. During the summer of 1999, ISGR reorganized the outreach program for Muslim inmates at various prisons. Since then, ISGR developed a comprehensive [prison Daawah](#) effort which includes regular Friday prayers at local jails, steady mailing of Islamic literature, attire, and prayer calendars to prisons all over the nation. ISGR continues the effort to create its own dawaah literature and organize community outreach programs.

**Funeral Services:** Over the years, ISGR has cooperated with other Masajid to provide funeral services including washing the deceased, prayer, and burial services. ISGR worked with others in the community to establish [Al-Barzakh](#), a cemetery for Muslims.

**Community Presence:** ISGR has a [sophisticated telephone system](#) with [fax on demand](#) and menus with timings of congregational prayers, directions to ISGR, and information on other activities and services. Since November 1997, [ISGR web site](#) serves the local and global community. ISGR participates in community events such as Eid. In early 2006, ISGR initiated the effort to provide prayer and Zabiha in the same location during the festival of [Eid-ul-Adha](#).

**Other Services:** ISGR conducts [Islamic weddings](#) and provides [marriage counseling](#). ISGR also provides relief to many [refugees](#).

**Muslim Business:** In 2005, started [Muslim Yellow Pages](#) to connect the businesses to Muslim community. In July 2010, started [GlobalMart](#), a store next door to ISGR offering Islamic products, grocery, zabiha/halal meat, Friday lunch, internet, and much more. Visit online store at [globalmartstores.biz](#)

**New Masjid Project at Shady Grove Road:** In 2006, ISGR started the first project to build the Masjid in the West End.

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*Need Your Support - continued from page 1*

## How to Support ISGR

Current Expenses \$3,500 per month  
(Maintenance) at 6324 & 6326 Rigsby Road

- One time check \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Post dated checks each for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Write checks payable to ISGR.

- Online Donations, Visit <http://www.isgr.org/donisgr.htm> or fill the following:

I give ISGR the permission to electronically withdraw from my bank account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for:

- Maintenance  Zakat/Sadaqa
- Where the Need is Greatest

Starting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

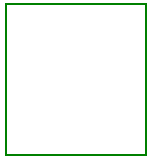
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a voided check or deposit slip.

Mail this form or any donations to:

Islamic Society of Greater Richmond (ISGR)  
6324 Rigsby Road Richmond, VA 23226  
Telephone: (804) 673-4177  
Fax: (804) 750-1147  
Web Site: <http://www.isgr.org>  
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