

Tuesday February 27, 2024

Islam commands Muslims to strive towards unity. The Quran states: “And hold fast, all together by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves” (Quran 3:103)

The Leadership and Imams of the Masjids named below have agreed to adopt the position of the Fiqh Council of North America (FCNA) for declaring the beginning of Ramadan and Shawwal.

The FCNA along with many world renowned Muslim Scholars recognize the astronomical calculation method, for determining the beginning of Lunar months including the months of Ramadan and Shawwal, to be as acceptable as the sighting method.

The FCNA uses the criteria of European Council of Fatwa and Research, which are that somewhere on the globe, at the sunset, the crescent satisfies specific scientific conditions for visibility. As such, the dates of Ramadan and Eid ul-Fitr for the year 1445 AH are determined as follows:

1st of Ramadan will be on Monday, March 11th, 2024

(Taraweeh Prayer will start on Sunday night March 10th)

1st of Shawwal (Eid Al-Fitr) will be on Wednesday, April 10th, 2024

We will be delighted and honored to have other leaders and Imams of the Masjids in the Twin Cities and across the state of Minnesota join in unity with us on this chosen, sound method of Shari‘a that will bring many benefits to our community. This action is a first step forward towards unifying Eids in the Twin Cities Metro Area. In addition, it will allow for early announcements of the dates, which is necessary for our pursuit of official state and local school recognition of our Holidays including days off from school for all students. Additionally, it will provide Muslim organizations, families, and individuals the ability to anticipate, plan, and organize well in advance events and activities.

To this end, the Religious Holiday Bill first introduced to the Minnesota Legislature in 2017 was signed into law in 2021. This bill requires school boards to provide annual notice to parents of the school district's policy relating to a pupil's absence from school for religious observance. Some school districts have already added Eid Al-Fitr as a holiday to their annual calendars, including Minneapolis, St Paul, St. Anthony-New Brighton, Mounds View, Hopkins, and Mankato Public Schools. More school districts are considering the addition to their 2024-2025 calendars (see the link below for future Eid Al-Fitr dates).

For organizations who will choose to follow the moon sighting method, we will always be brothers in faith and we will honor and respect your decision in the event that your start of Ramadan or Shawwal occurs on different days than the ones mentioned above.

May Allah (SWT) guide us, accept our fasting, and forgive our shortcomings.

For details on the FCNA method for the beginning of Lunar months please visit: www.fiqhcouncil.org
For dates of Eid Al-Fitr for future years 2025 thru 2045 please visit: <https://fiqhcouncil.org/calendar/>

Islamic Organization Name	City
Brooklyn Park Islamic Center	Brooklyn Park
Eastern Twin Cities Islamic Center	Afton
Islamic Association of Mankato	Mankato
Islamic Center of Minnesota	Fridley
Islamic Center of Minnesota – Masjid Abu-Khadra	Columbia Heights
Islamic Cultural Community Center – Masjid Al-Huda	Minneapolis
Islamic Cultural Community Center – Masjid Al-Tawba	Eden Prairie
Islamic Institute of Minnesota – Burnsville Mosque	Burnsville
Islamic Institute of Minnesota – Masjid Assalam	Maplewood
Mankato Islamic Center	Mankato
Masjid An-Nur	Minneapolis
Masjid Ar Rahman	Bloomington
Muslim American Society – Blaine Masjid	Blaine
Muslim American Society – Coon Rapids Masjid	Coon Rapids
Muslim American Society – Maple Grove Masjid	Maple Grove
Muslim American Society – Masjid At-Taqwa	St Paul
Muslim American Society – Quba Islamic Center Chaska	Chaska
Muslim American Society – South Metro Islamic Center	Rosemount
Northwest Islamic Community Center – Masjid Al Kareem	Plymouth