

SALAM CHURCH

First Arabic Worship Service



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Praise be to God! We had the first Arabic worship service at Peace Lutheran Church in Lombard, IL, at noon on Saturday March 1, 2008.

Refugees and immigrants from Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Sudan, and Palestine attended this Lutheran Arabic church (LCMS), the first of its kind in Chicagoland. We had 45 people, converts and seekers, ranging in age from two to 65.



We are calling it Salam Church ("salam" means peace in both Arabic and Persian) because only the Prince of Peace can bring reconciliation to the hearts of Middle Eastern peoples.

The Old Testament and New Testament readings were done in both Arabic and Persian by members of the congregation. POBLO Missionary Hicham Chehab preached in Arabic. Hymns were also sung in Arabic. In addition, some spiritual songs were done in English in order to reach the younger generation.



Then we had lunch - it was more like a Middle Eastern feast.

The worship service will be held again at noon next Saturday, God willing, and at the same location, Peace Lutheran Church, 21W500 Butterfield Rd., Lombard, IL (at Routes 56 and 53). Pray that this worship service - a mission outpost to reach Middle Eastern peoples- will continue and that other churches will be planted.



Thanks for your hard work and partnership in this ministry. All glory and praise be to God!

In God's Peace,

Hicham Chehab

POBLO and
NID-LCMS Missionary

March 3, 2008



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