

June 10, 2009 - Fuller Theological Seminary

LOS ANGELES -- More than 50 rabbis, evangelical Christian ministers, Catholic leaders, and other people of faith were participating together in an interfaith conference called "Caring for Those in Need in These Difficult Times" when they heard news about the act of religious hatred and violence that occurred today at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C.

As details filtered in about the tragedy, the conference participants joined together in prayer: "We plead for mercy in this terrible situation," said Richard J. Mouw, president of Fuller Seminary, an evangelical Christian seminary.

In a joint statement, three faith leaders attending the conference in Los Angeles – Mouw, Rabbi Mark Diamond (Board of Rabbis Executive Vice President), and Father Alexei Smith (Director of the Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles) – made the following comments:

"We stand together in condemning this, and all acts of violence – whether they are committed against Jews, Catholics, Evangelical Christians, Muslims, Hindus or any people of faith. We, as faith leaders, want to express our care and concern for one another, and we urge our communities to stand together, to pray for each other, and to mourn together today's monumental act of hatred."