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Dear Friends:

For several years now, we have been developing a very special forum, called "Our Muslim Neighbors", a panel presentation and discussion, featuring several Muslim Americans from different professions, ages, and genders. As busy Americans, we often miss out on meeting or genuinely interacting with the Muslims who are our neighbors and colleagues. We at the IRTPJ seek to provide an opportunity to engage with Muslims from all walks of life and get to know them directly, beyond what is presented in the media or the internet, without third-party biases and agendas.

Since its inception, we have committed to very actively offering such a forum to diverse audiences, especially those who would not normally have the opportunity to meet or interact with Muslims. The inaugural event was held this past August at Holy Nativity Episcopal, a local neighborhood church that graciously hosted us. Since that time, we have sought to hold the next such event at a larger venue and to actively engage with more conservative churches and organizations. We ask for your attendance at this event, as well as your assistance in getting word to the churches and groups that would most benefit from this event.

After Saturday's tragic shooting at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, we are made keenly aware of the damage done by ignorance and fear, and their offspring—hatred. As part of the IRTPJ's larger programs to educate the general public about the world's religions, especially those practiced by our neighbors, I would like to invite you to the reprise of our inaugural event. Please join us for the Our Muslim Neighbors forum, held at Loyola Marymount University in Westchester, Los Angeles, on Sunday, November 11th, from 2:00 to 4:30 PM. Held on Veterans Day, this event will be dedicated to those who have served their country, in hopes of an end to all wars.

The address is 1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90045, with the main entrance off of Lincoln Blvd. There is ample free parking on weekends. The closest parking is in Lot D, the Life Sciences Building. Seaver 200 Auditorium is in the Seaver Building, on the right side of the Alumni Mall, just beyond the flagpole. Click here for a campus map. Click here for the visitor parking map.

Please RSVP at <u>ourneighborsImu.eventbrite.com</u>. The event is co-sponsored by Loyola Marymount University, with special considerations and support provided by LMU Department of Theological Studies and IslamiCity.

Dr. Arik Greenberg

Founder and President, Institute for Religious Tolerance, Peace and Justice