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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Prof. Gary Dorrien to speak on “God’s Economy” 2012 Collins Lecture will explore faithful response to economic crisis**

With high levels of unemployment and underemployment across the country, a growing divide between rich and poor, and economic uncertainty throughout the world, one question becomes increasingly important: “How do people and communities of faith respond to the economic crisis?”

Faith communities are coming together across Oregon to discuss how to respond to today’s profound political and economic challenges, while meeting the spiritual and material needs of their members and the broader community. The 2012 Collins Lecture “God’s Economy: Faithful Response to the Economic Crisis,” will provide an opportunity to pursue these issues.

Presented by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) on Nov. 1 at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, the Collins Lecture will feature Professor Gary Dorrien, hailed by Princeton University philosopher Cornell West as “the pre-eminent social ethicist in North America today.”

A half-day workshop, “Economics 101: What you should know about the Economy,” will be held at the same location the afternoon preceding the lecture. The workshop will begin with a presentation by Martin Hart-Landsberg, professor of Economics and coordinator of Political Economy at Lewis & Clark College, followed by a panel discussion with Tom Kelly, president of Neil Kelly Co.; Gina Ronning, Portland State University graduate student and Occupy Movement activist; Aurolyn Stwyer-Pinkham, member of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs; and Kay Toran, president/CEO of Volunteers of America Oregon.

#### **About Professor Gary Dorrien**

Dorrien is the Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary and professor of Religion at Columbia University. He is also an Episcopal priest and the author of 14

#### MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ American Baptist Churches of Oregon ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren ■ Community of Christ  
Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)—Presbytery of the Cascades  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

books and approximately 250 articles that range across the fields of ethics, social theory, theology, philosophy, politics and history. These works include four books on social ethics and economic democracy, two acclaimed books on political neoconservatism, and a trilogy titled “The Making of American Liberal Theology.”

Dorrien won the Choice Award for Social Ethics in the Making as the outstanding book in ethics of 2009. His book *Economy, Difference, Empire: Social Ethics for Social Justice* (Columbia University Press, 2010) features his lectures on economic democracy, racial and gender justice, and anti-imperial politics. His newest book is *The Obama Question: A Progressive Perspective*.

### **Learn more and register**

On Thursday, Nov. 1, the “Economics 101” workshop will be held from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. (registration / check-in opens at 2 p.m.), and the Collins Lecture with Gary Dorrien will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Both events will be held at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, located at 147 NW 19<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, Ore. The registration fee for both the workshop and lecture is \$40 (includes dinner); if attending only the lecture, the fee is \$10. Students with ID are half price. Register securely online or download a registration brochure at [www.emoregon.org](http://www.emoregon.org); the registration deadline is Oct. 25.

The Collins Lecture is an annual event designed to provide an opportunity for clergy and laity to explore issues related to religion and social ethics. The lecture is supported by the Collins Foundation. For more information, call the EMO office at (503) 221-1054.

*Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.*