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University of Chicago Divinity School professor to deliver religion and culture lecture at Eureka College

University of Chicago Divinity School professor Kathryn Tanner will deliver the E. Royal F. Humbert Lecture on Religion and Culture at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 20 in the Cerf Center at Eureka College. The event is free and open to the public. A reception will follow.

Tanner's topic will be "Grace and Gambling: A Theological Critique of Financial Speculation." It will examine Christian beliefs about grace and the relevance of those beliefs to both games of chance and, more broadly, the practices of speculation that increasingly are central to and create problems for our economy, she said.

Tanner performs constructive Christian theology in the Protestant tradition to address contemporary challenges to belief through the creative use of the history of Christian thought and interdisciplinary methods, including critical, social and feminist theory.

Tanner's book "Economy of Grace" explores how Christians can affect the global economy to make the system more just. Her books "God and Creation in Christian Theology" and "The Politics of God" discuss the coherence and practical force of Christian beliefs about God's relation to the world. Her book "Theories of Culture: A New Agenda for Theology" explores the relevance of cultural studies for rethinking theological method. Her brief systematic theology "Jesus, Humanity, and the Trinity" centers on the incarnation.

Tanner earned master's and doctoral degrees at Yale University.

The Humbert Lecture was established in 1975 to recognize 27 years of teaching by Royal Humbert. The aim of the lectureship is to provide a forum for dealing critically and constructively with relevant issues in the area of religion and culture.

For more information, contact Eureka College religion professor William Wright at (309) 467-6331.

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