

The Great Emergence, How Christianity is Changing and Why

Phyllis Tickle

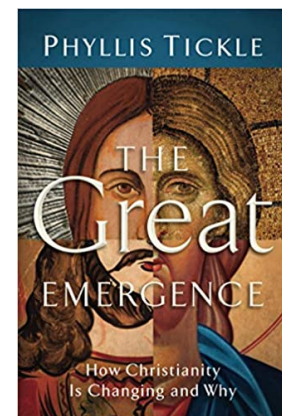


Phyllis Tickle (1934 – 2015) was an American author and lecturer whose work focused on spirituality and religion issues. She began her career as a Latin teacher in the Memphis public schools (1955-1957), then taught at Furman University (1960-1962), and Rhodes College (1962-1965), before being appointed Dean of Humanities at the Memphis College of Art (1965-1971).

In 1972 Tickle transitioned from teaching to writing and editing. She worked as the managing editor (1975-1982) and senior editor (1982-1987) for St. Luke's Press, then the senior editor for Peachtree Publishers (1987-1989). She was the Director of the Trade Publishing Group for the Wimmer Companies from 1987 until 1990.

In 1991, Tickle launched *Publishers Weekly's* religion department, as "religion publishing was becoming a force to be reckoned with" and she remained with the magazine until 2004, when she resigned in order to devote more time to her work with Emergence thought in general, and Emergence Christianity in particular. During her tenure at Publishers Weekly, Tickle was famous for such bon mots as referring to religion books as "portable pastors," and for what *USA Today* referred to as her "rigorous mind and hand-in-the dirt humility."

Herself a popular writer and speaker, she is well known as a leading voice in the emergence church movement. She is perhaps best known for *The Divine Hours* series of books, published by Doubleday Press, and her book *The Great Emergence- How Christianity Is Changing and Why*. Tickle was a member of the Episcopal Church, where she was licensed as both a lector and a lay eucharistic minister. She has been widely quoted by many media outlets, including *Newsweek*, *Time*, *Life*, *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, CNN, C-SPAN, PBS, The History Channel, the BBC and VOA.



Prepare to be challenged:

“Every five hundred years, the Church cleans out its attic and has a giant rummage sale” (back cover). Tickle explains this phenomenon, mostly spawned in the United States

beginning in the 19th Century, as a way to understand the ways that religious practice has changed dramatically in our lifetimes.

What others are saying:

“An immensely important contribution to the current conversation about new and emerging forms of Christianity in a postmodern environment – and a delight to read.”
The Most Rev Katharine Jeffers Schori, formerly our Presiding Bishop.