

## The Great Emergence:

### How Christianity is changing and Why

Phyllis Tickle

“The Great Emergence” is a name that is being given to the current upheaval in which we are now living. Approximately every 500 years the church sheds its institutional framework in order to be revitalized. We are living in the midst of this time of breakthrough. Tickle shares what she calls ‘clearly visible contours’ to this movement. These include an orientation toward Jesus, community, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd century Christian practices.

A good companion read to the Great Emergence ↗

## A People’s History of Christianity:

### The other Side of the Story

Diana Butler Bass

“I hope that Christians can locate themselves in a past of spirituality and social justice, that emerging communities of faith might remember never to sever the connection between attending to the inner life and doing good in the world ...these pages search the Christian tradition for a path to a vital, hopeful, hospitable, and open faith—a faith that can heal, reconcile, and bring peace. ... (p. 18)



## Sea Sick: The Global Ocean in Crisis

Alanna Mitchell

Life on earth is dependent upon the oceans. It is through the seas phytoplankton that most of earth’s oxygen is produced. This book examines the current state of our oceans while dramatically highlighting the vast and largely unexamined ecological crisis existent in our seas, and its impact and implications for our planet today.

*“Read this book and you will recognize the urgent crisis we face and the need to bring our powerful technologies and insatiable demands under control.”*

David Suzuki



## The Green Bible NRSV. New York: HarperCollins, 2008. Print

‘encourages you to see God’s vision for creation ...’

Westley, Zimmerman, Quinn Patton. *Getting to Maybe*. Random House Canada. 2006. Print.

Reese, Martha Grace. *Unbinding the Gospel*. Danvers: Chalice press, 2008. Print.

Bass, Diana Butler. *A People’s History*. New York: HarperCollins, 2009. Print.

Phyllis Tickle, *The Great Emergence*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2008. Print.

Ruth, McClintock. *Healthy Disclosure*. Herndon: Alban Institute, 2007. Print.

Mitchel, Alanna. *Sea Sick..* Toronto: McLelland & Stewart, 2009. Print.

# Toward Daring Discipleship



October 2009  
What are you reading?



**So many good books...  
And so little time...**

**The Conference Staff  
share some of the good books  
they are reading.**

# GIVE INSTRUCTION TO THE WISE, AND THEY WILL BECOME WISER STILL; TEACH THE RIGHTEOUS AND THEY WILL GAIN IN LEARNING PROVERBS 9:9

## Getting to Maybe:

### How the World is Changed

Frances Westley, Brenda Zimmerman  
and Michael Quinn Patton



Using the experience of individuals, communities, and movements who have been means of change, the book sheds light on the processes, challenges, necessities and characteristics of that work. There is no claim to offer a 'formula for success.' The book offers a way of seeing and thinking about how change is brought about in communities, businesses, societies and in the world that is both enlightening and empowering.

"Social innovators are not people who create more doors, or even people who are surrounded by more doors than other folks. They are simply people who *see* more doors. They *believe* in doors, if you will, and so doors are there." (p.221)

## Healthy Disclosure:

### Solving Communication quandaries in Congregations

Kibbie Simmons Ruth & Karen A. McClintock

"Our particular concern is that congregational vitality is too often destroyed by harmful, often unconscious communication, such as passing on misinformation, keeping secrets, disclosing confidences, and spreading insidious gossip and slander. Communication patterns that are indirect, reduce relations respect, or unnecessarily expose private information can destroy a faith community. Conflicts cannot be resolved without learning healthy disclosure,. Abuses of power will continue to plague congregations if we don't address the unnecessary silences that make room for secrets. On the other hand, over disclosure by clergy and lay leaders can have similar negative effects on the congregation." (p. 2)



"Ruth and McClintock have taken the dreadful menace out of secrets and their disclosure." (p. viii Speed Leas)

## Unbinding the Gospel Series

Martha Grace Reese



This is a series of three books: Unbinding the Gospel a Church Leaders' Study, Unbinding your Church, a Pastor's and Leaders' Guide, and Unbinding your Heart, an all-church study and personal Prayer Journal.

This series is about the 'E word': 'That which must not be named in mainline churches' - Evangelism: faith sharing.

Together the three volumes provide a detailed, yet flexible resource for congregations to return to holding relationship with God and others, prayer, and faith sharing as central to their lives.

What difference does it make in our lives that we are Christian? Is that difference profound enough, that in love and compassion we wish to share it with others? What does that mean?