



The Hyphenateds: How Emergence Christianity is Re-Traditioning Mainline Practices

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"Here a baker's dozen of the most influential Hyphenateds in this country talk boldly and unapologetically about what they are doing, how they are doing it, and why they are doing it. Whether one is an emergence Christian or a mainline Christian or a traditional Christian or even a disaffected Christian, one has the opportunity here to look at the future through the lens of an evolving present. What's written here is intimately told, without apology, and with no holds barred." - Phyllis Tickle, from the Foreword

"I'm normally an upbeat person, but I get a little depressed when I see religious communities retrenching, reacting, defending, and engaging in more boundary-maintenance than bridge-building. That's why I find this volume so helpful and hopeful. It's about faith communities exploring, creating, admitting faults, and bridging divides on all sides. You'll meet Christian leaders who are obviously bright, passionately committed, and downright fascinating, people I'm so glad to know as companions in this wild journey of emergence." - Brian D. McLaren, author/speaker/activist (brianmclaren.net)

"The Hyphenateds will give you a clear sense of a new generation of leaders' hope-filled vision for the church." - Martha Grace Reese, author of the Unbinding the Gospel Series and director of the Mainline Evangelism Project

Though the emergent church was once viewed as a fringe movement with little to offer established congregations, it is now seen as one of the central driving forces shaping the future of postmodern Christianity in North America. As an increasing number of mainline communities wonder how emergence Christianity influences their own structures and practices, this book brings together the perspectives of several of the most prominent Hyphenated Christians, i.e. those with one foot in the emergent conversation and the other foot in the mainline church: Presbymergents, Anglimergents, Luthermergents, Methomergents, and so on. With a passion for both mainline traditions and emergence Christianity, Hyphenateds offer a vibrant and contagious vision of the ways in which the church might undergo the transformation necessary to faithfully embody the love of Christ in the midst of an ever-changing postmodern world.

In addition to a Foreword by Phyllis Tickle and an afterword by Doug Pagitt, contributors include thirteen leading mainline pastors and seminary professors, as well as students and lay practitioners.



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