

Rev. Dr. Kate McLennan is a mystic, artist, and healer with rich and varied experience. She is a singer/songwriter, Interfaith Minister, teacher, author and spiritual counselor. Her multiple mediums include work as a psychotherapist, chaplain, pastor, massage therapist, yoga teacher, waitress, house painter, and stonemason. Kate holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theater from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Master's in Social Work from UT Arlington.

In June of 2004, she earned her Doctor of Ministry degree in Spirituality from the University of Creation Spirituality in Oakland, California (now called Wisdom University). During her doctoral studies in March of 2000, Kate was given dharma transmission and permission to teach from her Buddhist teacher, Robert Beatty, in Portland, Oregon. After post-doctoral work, she was in the first group to be ordained as an Interfaith Minister in the Wisdom Tradition of Creation Spirituality.

Kate served for two years as Associate Pastor for Ministry Development at MCC Austin at Freedom Oaks with Rev. Elder Ken Martin. Before her experience with this wondrous spiritual community, she was chaplain for three years at Deer Creek of Wimberley.

Kate's healing music work has taken her into hospitals, treatment centers, churches, dharma centers, conferences, workshops, coffeehouses, concert halls, and even a few smelly beer joints over the last 20 years. She was a New Folk finalist at the Kerrville Folk Festival.

Experiencing Kate's music is not so much a listening event as an invitation to deepen into the journey. She runs the gamut from reverence and peacefulness, to irreverent wildness and fun in her original songs and original presentation. Kate is a radiant and energetic performer who shares her recovery from alcohol and drugs, and her recent remission from leukemia with grace, wit and passion. Her songs offer positive and inspirational messages to soothe and heal. These days she shares her music weekly at Hospice Austin's Christopher House, a fifteen-bed hospice hospital.

Kate performed with the phenomenally talented, Ruth Huber, for over ten years. Kate and Ruth's first album, *Trailblazers*, is listed as a resource in all editions of *Courage to Heal*, and Laura Davis' *Allies in Healing*.

In 2008, Kate contributed to *Originally Blessed*, a book celebrating the 25-year anniversary of Matthew Fox's spiritual classic, *Original Blessing*. With three albums of original music, and a one-woman show DVD of her cancer survival journey to her credit, *The Messy Buddha* is Kate's first book.