

Press Biography

Marquita Pierre-McAlister was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, in a section of town made famous by the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina. She spent her formative years in Santa Barbara, California. At the age of 22 she moved to Alaska with her husband and young son....changing her life and beginning the adventure of her young life.

With a Louisiana and Southern California background, she had never experienced a climate that included snow, cold, darkness, bears and other wild animals. Nor was she expecting to become skilled in cabin construction and tractor operations. People to this day ask, "Why did you move to Alaska?" And, her cryptic answer is, "Young, in love, adventurous and stupid!"

It was in Alaska she developed not only an intellectual knowledge of God/Spirit, but also witnessed profound and mystical "Spiritual experiences". She came to understand and respect the human spirit with its unlimited possibilities, and she developed a passion for assisting others in becoming their own "authentic selves".

In Alaska she discovered and grew to love the various aspects of herself. And, as an employee of the State welfare department, she became an advocate for clients who had not yet come to recognize their own inner strength. In the Anchorage community, she became "Marquita", the community builder, public speaker, singer, retreat and workshop facilitator, spiritual counselor and most importantly an advocate for experiencing Spirit/God first hand.

In 2006, she became the Senior Minister of her "home church" in Anchorage. Under her direction Center attendance more than doubled, her licensed spiritual leadership group more than tripled to 23 practitioners and the Center's outreach programs expanded to become a positive force in her community. She also established a satellite Center in a remote Alaska community.

Rev. Marquita is a graduate of the Holmes Institute and is widely respected amongst her peers for her intellect, passion and spiritual insights. She is a past co-chair of the national convention of Centers for Spiritual Living, and a workshop presenter to national and international audiences. In the summer of 2012 she left Anchorage for the desert of Nevada, where she is currently establishing a new Center for Spiritual Living in the Las Vegas area.

She is a motivational speaker, a workshop and retreat facilitator, a spiritual practitioner, a spiritual growth consultant and an inspirational singer. As she says, "It was through the many deep challenges and life experiences of my journey that I discovered my soul's longing to express what I now offer to the world...love, compassion, passion and a commitment to "living my life out loud" in order to remind people they too can live a life that fulfills Spirit's promise of joy, peace and unlimited good.