

The MAGNIFICENT Seven



★ **Carin A. Hagberg, MD, FASA** ★ Carin grew up in a faith-loving family. Her father was a lay reader and her mother led annual church fundraising activities. During services, Carin sang in the church choir with her mother and sister while her brother served as an altar boy. Carin later taught Sunday school for her own children. She was inspired to become a physician after caring for her mother during a difficult struggle with cancer and later passing. Her mother's illness led Carin to move from Massachusetts to Texas and join MD Anderson Cancer Center to perform clinical research. Carin has served in faculty and leadership positions for over 30 years. Carin's brilliant perseverance is evident as she will explain, *"In honor of my dear mother's journey of suffering with cancer, I find purpose and great joy in caring for patients and serving as a leader."* She leans on her faith and humility in her clinical practice, administrative roles, and personal life. Her faith is central to her approach in her work as she leads with a grateful heart, an open mind, and an inspired spirit. She realizes that with God's love and divine assistance, anything is possible. ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Grace Park** ★ As a new resident in Houston, Grace felt called to serve her community at Houston Methodist Hospital in the Texas Medical Center. As a Registered Nurse in the Cardiac Intensive Care Unit, she finds that this is a place where God has truly led her in her ministry. It is in this critically intense setting that Grace works hard to be keenly aware of the needs of patients and their loved ones who are in their most vulnerable state. She is grateful to be able to bring comfort and share the love of God through her attentive care and actions as one patient commented, *"You have been an outstanding Nurse these last few days which have been some of the hardest hours of my life."* Grace has genuine love for each individual and strives to be the *"salt and the light"* (Matthew 5:13-16) to all whom she comes across. Grace is involved in her church, New Life Fellowship of Houston, where she co-shepherds a group of young adults with her husband. Grace offers, *"I know that God continues to move in my life and will lead me to touch many more lives through love and compassion for them."* She is excited to see what more God has in store for her life to further His kingdom, in His time. ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Kimberly Phillip** ★ Kimberly grew up in the Presbyterian faith, attending church regularly with her family and she recalls it was her grandmother who led her to have unlimited faith in the healing power of prayer guided by the Holy Spirit. At an early age, Kimberly loved to write prayers to God in her journal as she was always aware of God's unconditional love for her which formed her heart to love and serve others. As young adults, Kimberly was united with her husband and soulmate, Anthony, and God blessed them with four beautiful children whom they love dearly. Kimberly feels blessed to be working alongside her father and siblings in the family business. In 2020, months before a cancer diagnosis, Kimberly shares, *"God spoke into my spirit saying, 'Walk by Faith, not by sight, take it one day and one step at a time and be obedient.'" This would be the beginning of a faith journey where God would perform healing miracles and bring Joy in the valley. In her healing journey, Kimberly offers, "The Lord has given me a passion to serve others in the hospital and bring his love, joy and hope to those in their healing journeys as I give God all glory and honor as I trust in him daily."* ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Angela Madeksho** ★ Angela is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin and Texas Southern University School of Law. Beginning in early childhood, Angela felt a calling to help others which evolved into working alongside her brother and law partner, Chris as they follow their father's footsteps. Protecting those who feel defenseless, fighting for justice and giving a voice to the voiceless will be a notable and lovely part of her legacy. Angela also devotes herself to advocating for animals and founded the animal rescue group ADORE Houston, in hopes of addressing Houston's homeless animal crisis. Since 2011, ADORE has saved over 5,000 precious lives. Angela also provides peace of mind to cancer patients and other terminally ill pet owners in their final days by working to safely re-home their beloved pets. When asked about her journey as a cancer survivor, Angela shares, *"I have a great appreciation for the ministry of PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE because I understand how important spirituality is to healing of the mind, body and spirit. It has been in my darkest hours and moments of hopelessness that I have always been able to turn to the Lord and have felt him wrap his loving arms around me and whisper in my ear, 'I am your protector and your work for Me is not finished!'"* ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Mary Elizabeth Burgett Foster Brown** ★ Elizabeth was born on January 26th in Houston, Texas. Her family home was in Dawson, Texas. She grew up with 4 brothers and 2 sisters, and a special dog, Sparky. Upon graduating from San Jacinto High School, she worked at the Shamrock Hotel on Main Street. Elizabeth married and had three children, Alan, Lynnette and Michael. Alan's passing in 2020 has been very difficult for her and the family, as well as missing her siblings who have gone to be with the Lord. Elizabeth owns and operates Foster's Automotive Repair which she inherited from her deceased husband Porter Foster and is proud of Foster's Automotive celebrating its 70th anniversary! In 1999, Elizabeth and Jay Brown were married and enjoy the ministries of the Boomers' Sunday School class. Elizabeth shares, *"When I suffered a stroke in December of 2010, it may have slowed me down a bit, but it did not dampen my faith and resolve - hallmarks of my life. I love to pray with customers at Foster's, neighbors and dear friends at First Presbyterian Church. When someone asks me to pray, I sense God calls me to stop and pray for them on the spot; being led by God's Word; 'Pray without ceasing; 1 Thessalonians 5:16.'"* ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Johnnie Lanell Peterson** ★ Raised in Odessa, Texas, Johnnie is a *"proud West Texas girl!"* One of six children, she reflects upon her life with a great appreciation for the commitment her parents placed in being active members of the Church of God in Christ. There Johnnie sang in the Choir's Sunshine Band with her siblings and served in the Friendship Center. During high school, Johnnie fondly remembers vying for 1st Chair with her sisters and cousin for the Bassoon during concert season and then in marching season, 1st and 2nd Chair for the Bass Clarinet. She speaks of the core lessons her parents impressed upon her, *"read the Bible, obey, do the Lord's work, respect others and joyfully serve people."* Including being a Starbucks server, and two other jobs, Johnnie's example comes from her father who picked cotton for many years and then worked hard landscaping their property. Even though he would encourage her to enjoy herself, Johnnie would often go to where her father was working and join in - *"I just loved working alongside him."* While grieving the recent loss of her dear mother, Johnnie offers, *"I picked up the coffee cup my mother gave me before she passed and there it was, painted on the cup - I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" Phil. 4:13. There was my mother's spirit urging me forward with her love and knowledge of Christ. God has turned me into a 'people person,' and I want to remain grateful all of my life."* ~ *Magnificent!*



★ **Sandra Martinez** ★ "I live alone and I rarely talk to anyone until I come to see the doctor, so thank you for really listening to me." This is an example of what patients say to Sandra Martinez, Patient Access Registrar at Oak-Bend Medical Center Hospital in Richmond, Texas. Sandra shares, "It's a real privilege, you know, to serve so many patients every day from all walks of life and diverse injuries. We talk about how they are doing and they usually bring up how good God is, how great He is and then share their experiences with me. And, no matter how bad it is for them, they're always looking to Jesus for strength and energy and love. I see the light within them shine through their eyes as they speak." As Sandra performs her many responsibilities it is her desire to ensure the patients' ability to share their concerns. Where does her calling and deep compassion originate? Sandra will quickly respond, "My children. Prior to my children, I thought I understood love, but traversing through their stages of life with them, Christ has led me directly into His Heart. I feel like it is an honor and duty to share from my life experiences; the joys and the hardships and all of the milestones with my family. God is real. As I help others, God is healing me; His Love truly comes Full Circle!"... ~ *Magnificent!*