

The MAGNIFICENT *Seven*

True stars who shine



Back row:

Jennifer Knodel Sommer, Kimberly Stanley Bergen,
Ann Elizabeth Winters, Lori Good Johnson,
Patricia Al-Attas Barrett

Front row:

Rev. Dr. Gale Kennebrew, Veronica Vazquez

Deep in the heart of TEXAS



Patricia Al-Attas Barrett

A deep love for people shines through everything Pattie does. "God has done such an amazing thing in my life; it cannot be contained!" Whether working as a speech therapist, sharing her story as a speaker, or taking time to share with a passerby, it's all an expression of the joy she finds in being a child of God. Now in retirement, that passion for others has broadened as she pours herself into a wide range of non-profits while remaining deeply involved at Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church with its 120 local ministry partners. "It's wonderful to know most of our Outreach Partners' ministries, and now I feel God's call as a conduit between them, serving where I am able." *Magnificent!*



Kimberly Stanley Bergen

A self-described work-in-progress, Kim shares a faith that evolved and strengthened over time. While reflecting upon years as a volunteer in school and community projects, working on Wall Street and then business school, Kim shares, "I was always striving hard to prove myself because I erroneously thought God and the world loved the perfect. I've learned that God has a heart for the imperfect which changed my perceptions and attitudes toward myself and others." Relying on her faith as a guide, she cherishes her role as wife and mother and serves as MD Anderson Cancer Center's CFO of Cancer Network Services. Kim readily responds to others' needs and exudes an empathy that she admits, "God is teaching me." *Magnificent!*



Lori Good Johnson

Dreams of making a difference through what seemed to be power in a professional career changed as Lori listened to God and surrendered a well-planned agenda for exciting ways God had prepared and moved Lori and her husband, Chip to new avenues of serving His people. Years of Bible studies and youth ministries with her children took her faith to deeper dimensions. She cherishes experiences with a Rafiki orphanage in Rwanda, Agape Development Ministries in the Third Ward, and leadership at First Presbyterian Church Houston as transformational relationships. Lori's courageous surrender is now involved in the planting of Seven Mile Road Church, exemplifying a desire to trust in the Power of God to use us one day at a time, drawing others to Christ. *Magnificent!*



Rev. Dr. Gale Francine Kennebrew

A pastor for God's people and gifted with an acute sense for meeting human suffering with compassion, Gale was led to a peculiar parish – the hospital, where she "feels the pain in patients' questions, witnesses the power of prayer bringing peace in the midst of the storm of death." Serving as Director of Spiritual Care and Education at MD Anderson Cancer Center, Gale is



Jennifer Knodel Sommer

There are people who will be there for you and then there is Jenny Sommer, often filling her days with family or friends who are dealing with very difficult life challenges. If coined, Jenny's *modus operandi* would say, "You are not alone." Seeking the Lord in prayer, wisdom of mentors, her church and community, Jenny emulates inclusiveness. Along with a dedication to her precious family, Jenny also enjoys growing lovely herbs in her organic garden. Family and gardening – perfect preparations for the Holy Ground Garden, a ministry of Main Street Ministries. Jenny is found weekly planting and pruning this garden, working alongside individuals who are building new life patterns. Together they guarantee loads of seasonal vegetables for God's family. *Magnificent!*



Veronica Vazquez

As a new student at San Jacinto College, Veronica and a friend were driving along without a worry when just ahead, a car crashed. Veronica knew they must stop; people needed rescuing. While pulling a child out of the mangled mess, a passing car came too close. Remembering her parents' tear-stained faces as she woke up and learned her leg had been torn away, she cried, "How could God allow this to happen, I'm only 18? But God was there as I passed through the valley of death." Veronica confidently shares. "God heard my cry and as I questioned, God transformed my heart. Now my life has a great purpose – becoming a surgical technician and helping others who need a prosthesis." *Magnificent!*



Ann Elizabeth Winters

Raised by God-fearing parents, Ann was encouraged to seek God in expansive ways. After years of dedication to education and paralegal work, Ann's dedication to God deeply expanded through her involvement with The International Order of Saint Luke the Physician (OSL) at the Hope and Healing Center of St. Martin's Episcopal Church, Houston. Possessing an appreciation for science in tandem with an extraordinary understanding of healing prayer, Ann faithfully serves as the OSL Convener as the ministry offers healing prayer. Asked how she cared so beautifully for her parents during end-of-life stages, Ann offers her source of wisdom: "There was never any question, the best way of caring for others had been modeled for me!" *Magnificent!*