

# Groundbreaking LUNCHEON

On May 3, 1964, hundreds gathered on a wind-blown hillside in the southwest sector of Dallas, overlooking Mountain Creek Lake, to dedicate the ground for the building of a Baptist college, which would one day become Dallas Baptist University.

Fifty years later, more than 25 of those who had witnessed the groundbreaking traveled back to University Hill to take part in a 50th anniversary luncheon commemorating that day. Dr. Gary Cook, DBU president, thanked those in attendance for being a part of the University for these past 50 years. He also took time to honor the family of Dr. Otis Strickland, who served as president of Decatur Baptist College when it moved to Dallas and became the first president of Dallas Baptist College, as well as the family of Dr. Fred White, who helped to lead the charge to bring Decatur Baptist to Dallas and served faithfully at DBU for many years.

Dr. Rose-Mary Rumbley, who was present at the groundbreaking as a member of the first faculty of Dallas Baptist College, served as the keynote speaker for the luncheon, sharing stories of the past 50 years of DBU, and Sue Mitz, who was also present and has served as a member of the music faculty for nearly 50 years, provided luncheon music.

*Pictured below: (top right) Charlie Strickland, the son of the late Dr. Otis and Pauline Strickland, and his wife, Diane. (middle left) Dr. Bill White and Mary Helen Atkins, children of the late Dr. Fred White, along with Dr. Bill White's wife, Vicki. (middle right) Les Keesee, long-time friend of DBU who was present at the Groundbreaking Ceremony in 1964 along with his daughter, Carol Reid, who was also present at the ceremony, and her husband, Dr. Bill Reid. (lower) A group picture of all of those who were in attendance at the Groundbreaking Ceremony in 1964.*

