



Dallas Baptist University hosted the 24th Annual Decatur Baptist College Spring Reunion for Decatur alumni on Saturday, April 21. During the program, the class of 1962 was honored for their 50th Anniversary, the class of 1952 was recognized for their 60th Anniversary, Bryan Price was presented with the Distinguished Service Award, and DBU Professor Marsha Pool received the Honorary Alumna Award.

"The 2012 Decatur Reunion was a great event," said Dr. Cory Hines, DBU vice president for external affairs. "Gathering together as former classmates and lifelong friends is a blessing that stirs the soul. It is always a wonderful experience to worship together in our former chapel, share memories, and honor those who live out the legacy of Decatur Baptist College on a daily basis."

The Reunion celebration was held at the Wise County Heritage Museum in Decatur. Decatur Baptist College was founded in 1898 with the distinction of being the first two-year institution of higher education in Texas. The school enjoyed a rich, full history in Decatur until 1965 when it moved to Dallas at the invitation of the Dallas Baptist Association. Alumni, friends, and family join together each year to celebrate this significant anniversary in the life of the school.

DBU President Dr. Gary Cook and other University officials attended the event to help commemorate the University's heritage. In addition to the Reunion Convocation, a luncheon

and worship service were also held to honor those in attendance. The worship service was held on Sunday at the First Baptist Church of Decatur to honor Decatur alumni.

During the Reunion Convocation, Bo Pilgrim, co-founder of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, gave a \$2 million gift to the University to complete the fundraising efforts on the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel. This significant gift completes Mr. Pilgrim's pledge of \$8 million for the chapel construction. Additionally, Mr. Pilgrim presented Bryan Price with the Pilgrim Award from the American Bible Society during the program.

Distinguished Service Award recipient Bryan Price is a 1958 graduate of Decatur Baptist College who has served in Christian ministry for the past 56 years. Before his retirement from full-time church ministry, he served at the First Baptist Church of Pittsburg, Texas, for 19 years as minister of music. In retirement during the summer months, he and his wife, Lorna, lead a church in Creede, Colorado, through the Alpine Resort Ministry.

Honorary Alumna Marsha Pool began teaching mathematics at Dallas Baptist University one year after the college was moved from Decatur to Dallas. She is a beloved faculty member in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics where she has dedicated the past 46 years of her life to educating students at DBU.

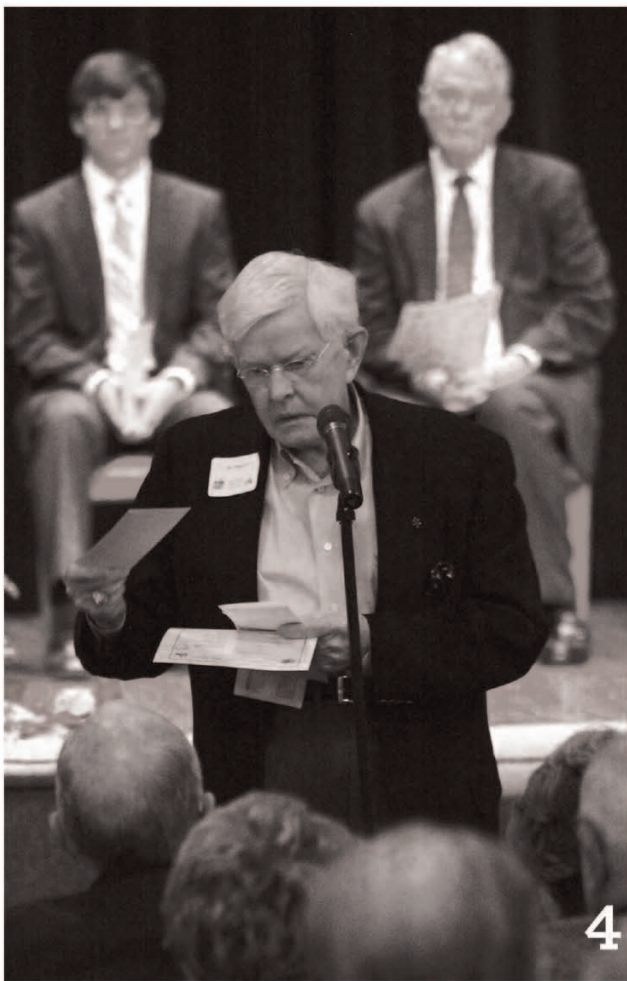
*Pictured Right:* 1. Members of the Decatur Baptist College reunion class of 1962. 2. Honorary Alumna Award recipient and DBU Professor Marsha Pool, along with Dr. Gail Linam, DBU provost. 3. Members of the Decatur Baptist College reunion class of 1952. 4. Bo Pilgrim presents a \$2 million check to DBU, completing his \$8 million pledge for the Patty and Bo Pilgrim Chapel. 5. Dennis Linam, DBU director of denominational and governmental relations, along with Rosalie Gregg, treasurer and historian of the Wise County Historical Society.

*Pictured Left:* Distinguished Service Award recipient Bryan Price (center) and his family, Vance, Kevin, Lorna, Philip, and Sean.





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## HISTORY OF DBC

Decatur Baptist College was founded in 1898 as a two-year college. The initial enrollment was 105 students.

In 1965, the college moved from Decatur to Dallas, now under the name Dallas Baptist College. In 1968, DBC became a senior college, adding the third and fourth years.

Although the name changed again in 1985 to Dallas Baptist University, the students from Decatur are still honored every year in a special reunion.

