



## New Territories . . . New Opportunities!

December 2011

The Evangelical Theological Seminary in Cairo (ETSC) was founded by early Presbyterian missionaries in 1863. At that time the seminary had a floating campus, as the missionaries sailed up and down The Nile in a sail boat visiting cities and villages to evangelize and train leaders. In 1926, our current campus was established with the purchase of land in central Cairo totaling 3600 square meters, and a two-story building was soon erected. This building now houses classrooms as well as staff and faculty offices. Later, in the sixties, a six-story



From the front: Old meets new

building was added to include the seminary library and residence for the faculty. And in the nineties, another 8-story building was constructed to include a dining hall with a large kitchen, a 250-seat auditorium, and a student dormitory to house up to 80 students. Recently, a multipurpose sports-field was prepared on the remaining small area between the three buildings, officially marking the maximum possible utilization of the campus space the seminary had with its initial land purchase.

We praise the Lord for the continuous growth in the seminary student body and programs. This growth made



ETSC full time students with some faculty members

us all the more aware of our limited campus space and the need to expand our facilities. In 2000, the number of ETSC students was approximately 80 students, now we have around 250 students enrolled in the various programs. ETSC. Graduates serve as pastors and leaders in protestant churches in Egypt and across the Middle East, in addition to serving numerous congregations in many foreign countries across North America, Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australia.

Although ETSC has trained and equipped more than 700 ordained pastors since its establishment, there are still 96 Presbyterian churches in Egypt with no pastors. This will eventually lead to deterioration of those churches and make them susceptible to closure over the years.

This reality has challenged ETSC to increase its admission of incoming students. And while we're grateful for the enormous number of applicants we get every year, due to our limited campus space we can only accept a small percentage of those applicants, unable to adequately meet the needs of the Egyptian Church.

For many years now, we've prayed for an opportunity to expand our facilities, knowing full well that our options were quite limited due to the high density of our neighborhood in Cairo. However, our God is always faithful to supply all our needs according to his riches in glory.

This year, an unexpected opportunity presented itself as a new building was being erected adjacent to our property. We sensed that this was God's answer to our prayers, and see it as the final possible option for ETSC to expand its facilities in this current location in the foreseeable future.

God gave us grace in the eyes of the landlord, and we signed a contract allowing ETSC to purchase the entire first floor of the new building, with private access from campus. The new floor adds 1300 square meters to our campus – an area larger than the total area of the original Administration/Academic building, and will undoubtedly enhance and add to our facilities.



From the back: the new floor adjacent to faculty housing and the sports-field

The price of this floor (with no internal finishing) is US\$667,920.00, and the installments are expected to be fully paid by October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. With God's grace, ETSC has secured US\$194,111.00 (all are local contributions), which represents 30% of the total cost. We pray that we will be able to secure the remaining US\$473,809.00 through donations from our faithful friends and partners inside and outside Egypt.

We hope that you prayerfully consider supporting this vital project for the seminary and for the future of the Egyptian Church. A donation of \$500.00 will cover the cost of one square meter.