



## Back to School!

ETSC's Spring Term began on February 6th, 2006. It has been a busy few weeks on campus. New students have joined our community, and we prepare to say goodbye to the 2006 graduates who are beginning their last term at ETSC. The total student body is currently 171 students in all programs.

Please join us in praying for our faculty studying abroad this semester: Darren and Elizabeth Kennedy and Hani Y. Kostandi and their families. Tharwat Wahba is teaching this term, but will also be traveling to England and the U.S. as he completes his research for his PhD.



Dusty Ellington and Wageeh Mikhail lead worship

## Lay Pastor Training Begins



As our Spring Term began, 14 new students joined ETSC's community as the first class of the Lay Pastor Training Program. The program is a collaborative effort with the Synod of the Nile of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Egypt (EPCE) to confront the problem of churches lacking in pastoral leadership, especially in rural areas. Their main areas of training will be in practical and pastoral studies, Biblical study, mission, community development, and historical studies. Additionally, these Lay Pastors will be prepared to assess the needs of their communities in the areas of health, literacy, and economic development. On February 6th at 7pm ETSC commemorated the commencement of the program with a special gathering for worship and celebration.

## They Shall Come from East and West...

Six pastors from the American Baptist Church (ABC) join six pastors from the EPCE in a Continuing Education Event at ETSC this month. Together these twelve pastors have been learning from one another about pastoring in different cultures and traditions, ecumenical challenges, and ministry in urban and rural areas. The Egyptian and American pastors are reflecting together about pressing pastoral issues and exchanging ideas and strategies. The event, an initiative of the Center for Middle East Christianity, is a pilot project which may serve as a model for future pastoral encounters.



ABC and EPCE pastors learn together

## Guest Speaker Outlines Egyptian Leadership in the Middle East



Rev. Lew Scudder III visited ETSC on Tuesday February 14th to speak about the role of the EPCE, and ETSC, in preparing and sending leaders to other countries in the Middle East. Rev. Scudder serves currently as Mission Consultant and Educator for the Reformed Church in America (RCA) in Cyprus. His presentation focused on the context of Iraq and the Persian Gulf countries and the way in which Egyptian pastors and leaders have risen to leadership of Arab Churches in the region. He and his wife Nancy have served in Lebanon, Bahrain, Kuwait, and Turkey in addition to their work with the Middle East Council of Churches and were able to share insights from their experience of working side by side with Egyptian pastors and leaders in the field.