WHEREAS, the 2013 General Assembly in Orlando, Florida, approved an amendment to The Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), creating the Moderator-Elect position when it adopted GA-1336, Amendments to The Design of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ); and

WHEREAS, paragraph 64 of The Design states “The Administrative Committee shall fill vacancies in offices elected by the General Assembly, subject to ratification by the General Assembly at its next regular meeting.”; and

WHEREAS, the General Nominating Committee forwarded the name of Paul Tche as Moderator-Elect for the 2013-2015 biennium to the Fall 2013 Administrative Committee meeting to fill the vacancy created by the General Assembly action in Orlando;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, July 18-22, 2015, ratify the decision of the fall 2013 Administrative Committee to name Paul Tche Moderator-Elect for the 2013-2015 biennium; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that this General Assembly affirm Paul Tche as Moderator of the General Assembly for the 2015-2017 biennium.

Administrative Committee

The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT GA-1535. (Discussion time: 12 minutes)
Rev. Seung (Paul) Tche serves as the pastor at White Oak Pond Christian Church, Richmond, Kentucky, which is a historic congregation that was established in 1790 as a Baptist congregation and later joined other “Campbellites” of the frontier in the Campbell-Stone movement. In the summer of 2012, this seasoned congregation extended their radical call to Paul, a first generation immigrant and a native of South Korea. Before he became a solo pastor, Paul also served churches as a student associate minister for Korean-American congregations in California and as an associate minister for American congregations in Kentucky. The transition between two ethnically different bodies of the church was possible thanks to the Residency Program at Central Christian Church, Lexington, KY, which was a 2-year program designed to nurture pastoral leaders through intense engagement in a flourishing congregation and fully funded by the Lilly Foundation.

Ever since becoming a member of the Disciples of Christ, he has been actively involved in ministries of the general church. He has served on the board of the Council of Christian Unity (CCU), including chair of the Board. He has been a member of the North American Pacific Asian Disciples (NAPAD) and Week of Compassion Committee. He is part of the Korean Disciples Convocation. Paul grew up in the independent Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, witnessing struggles for unity among the Stone-Campbell movement churches in South Korea.

After his study of Catholic social philosophy at graduate school, Paul developed a strong desire to deepen the understanding of his own faith tradition. As he was seeking an opportunity for the theological education in the US, he was accepted to the “co-operating program” between Disciples Seminary Foundation, San Francisco Theological Seminary, Brite Divinity School, and the NAPAD, which was a Master of Divinity program designed to educate Korean-American ministers for the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). In 2006, he successfully finished the program and received his M. Div. degree from Brite Divinity School, Fort Worth, TX. Before he came to the US, he earned a Master of Art degree in Philosophy from Sogang University, and a Bachelor of Art degree in French and Philosophy from Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, in Seoul, Korea. While he was at the college, he completed his mandatory military service and was discharged as a sergeant from the Republic of Korea Army. He has translated several books into Korean, and they were published in Korea or the US.

Paul is married to Yeon-Sun Lim, who is a Ph.D. candidate in Philosophy, and they have an infant son, Brandon, whom Paul hopes to take on hiking and camping trips when he is older.