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

WHEREAS, the Moderator-Elect position was created so our incoming moderator has the opportunity to learn about the duties and responsibilities of being moderator thus giving them the ability to move into the position as Moderator in the next biennium with a strong foundation; 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, in accordance with paragraph 64 of The Design which 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, in June 2015, the Council on Christian Unity announced it had called Paul Tche as its President-Elect, beginning September 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Paul Tche has tendered his resignation as Moderator-Elect, effective at the end of the 2015 General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the General Nominating Committee, by this resolution, nominates our current Second Vice Moderator Antonio (Tony) Rodriguez, Moderator of the 2015-2017 biennium; and

WHEREAS, the General Nominating Committee believes the election of Rodriguez honors the intent behind creating the Moderator-Elect position by selecting someone who has been actively involved with the current moderator team over the past biennium:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 2015 General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, meeting in Columbus, Ohio, July 18-22, 2015, elects Antonio (Tony) Rodriguez Moderator for the 2015-2017 biennium.

For Moderator

Antonio Rodriguez (Tony) is originally from Cali, Colombia, where he was born and raised. In 1978, Tony moved to New Jersey, graduating from Kean University with a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics. Tony has over 25 years of experience in the financial services industry and is currently a Compliance Principal for Allstate Financial Services.

Tony is an active member of Central Christian Church in Coral Gables, Florida. He has served as an Elder, a Teacher and as Moderator of their Board of Directors. Tony is well known among both the regional and general expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and ecumenically. He serves as a
Tony is just completing his term as Second Vice Moderator of the General Assembly. In this position, he has served as Chair of the Business Committee of the General Board, Chair of the Committee on Reference and Counsel for the General Assembly and has been presenting the business of the Assembly for consideration. Tony also chaired the Mission Council Advisory Task Force, created by the General Board in 2014 to facilitate the development of the Mission First! proposal. He led the task force through the gathering of input from all expressions of the church and from that input, the crafting of the Mission First! proposal which went to the 2015 General Board.

Tony lives in Pembroke Pines, Florida with his wife Elsa. They have two daughters, Kerem and Gisela and are first-time grandparents to Kaleb Lucas Boden.

Submitted by:
Michelle Harris Gloyer – First Christian Church, Orange, CA
James Campbell – Mount Olivet Christian Church, Washington, DC
Phil Smith – Willow Street Christian Church, Hannibal, MO
Kelli Driscoll – Bethany Christian Church, Tulsa, OK
Sandhya Jha – Ubuntu Community Oakland, CA
Xose Escamilla – Casa de Oracion, San Diego, CA
Silvia Tiznado – Foothills Christian Church in Arizona and Templo Cristiano Central (Discípulos de Cristo)
Jean Blackburn – First Christian Church, Chattanooga, TN
Larry Love – Woodland Christian, Woodland CA
Nathan Higgenbothem – The Woodlands Christian Church, The Woodlands, TX
Dawn Robinette - First Christian Church, Gainesville, FL
Danny Gulden - Sandy Springs Christian Church, Sandy Springs, GA
Eliezer Rolon - Root and Branch Church, Chicago, IL
Glen Miles - Country Club Christian Church, Kansas City, MO
Joan Bell-Haynes - United Christian Parish, Reston, VA

On behalf of the General Board, the Committee on Reference and Counsel recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT GA-1538.
(Discussion time: 12 minutes)