Dear St. Paulers,

My name is Elliot Tran, and I’m a member of St. Paul’s youth group. I often wonder what our ancestors imagined for our congregation today. Could they have foreseen how fun our Kids Serve Camps and youth group are, or how awesome our yearly MLK Day service projects are? I wonder if they knew their faithful generosity back then would have so many amazing ripple effects today.

For the last few weeks, we’ve been talking a lot about stewardship, generosity, and taking care of everyone in God’s world, great and small. I hope you’ve had a chance to think about how you’d like to support St. Paul in your weekly or monthly giving, so that our gifts will not only sustain us in the coming year, but also for many years to come.

In one of his letters to the growing early church, Paul wrote (referring to his co-worker, Apollos): “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth” (1 Corinthians 3:6). Our job is to plant and water – and if we do, perhaps five years from now we’ll be seeing new ministries grow. Perhaps in 20 years, some of our kids will be in the pulpit preaching. And in 100 years, our descendants will be worshiping and serving in ways we can’t even imagine!

Our gifts are like seeds that take time, care, and attention in order to grow. We may or may not be around for the harvest, but the act of planting is an act of hope and love for generations to come. If you haven’t already, please fill out the pledge cards we sent out last week (extras are also available at church).

We’ll celebrate our hope and love this Sunday September 22nd during our Sunday worship service. Please bring your pledge cards and your prayers. I’m looking forward to seeing you there!

Peace,

Elliot Tran, 7th grade