

# A legacy of stewardship

MALAWI

[ELCA.org/Hunger](http://ELCA.org/Hunger)

In the village of Chole, Shadrack Tsatautenda has been cultivating trees for two years, and the oldest are nearly ready to sell and transplant. His nursery was made possible by a small business loan from the village savings and loan group established by Evangelical Lutheran Development Services in Malawi (ELDS), supported by your gifts to ELCA World Hunger. In addition to funding small business plans like Shadrack's, ELDS trains farmers on crop diversification and increasing yields through new planting methods and the use of organic fertilizer.

In Chole, as is common in many rural villages in Malawi, many trees are cleared for farming and firewood. Over time, deforestation leads to air that is less clean and soil that erodes more quickly. Having received training at the ELDS farming school, Shadrack planted the first seedlings in his nursery, which has now grown to 1,200 trees ranging from saplings to almost fully grown.

Caring for the land, coaxing life out of the soil and guiding it to maturity – this work



connects Shadrack to the past, plants him firmly in the present and informs his vision for the future. And that vision, guided by his faith, is not only for his personal prosperity, but also for the prospering of his community.

"This land has been in my family for five generations," he said. "It is meaningful to me to look after the land of my ancestors, and I want to pass this land to future generations."

The training he received, he will pass on to others. Those who receive that training will use it to heal their own land and use the profits of increased yields to send their children to school. The land that gives Shadrack life and livelihood will one day be inherited by his three children, who will receive it in a better way than it was found.

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## You Can Help!

At Holy Trinity, World Hunger is our giving focus during Lent. Visit the Red Wall to pick up a tube of M&M's today; these tubes will quickly move from feeding our sweet tooth to feeding the hungry. Each tube holds \$14 of quarters (cash and checks fit too). You can also donate by selecting "World Hunger" at the kiosk in the Narthex or online through your Realm account. Our goal is to raise \$7,000 for ELCA World Hunger, which supports ministries like the one above. Please return M&M tubes on or before Maundy Thursday (April 18).