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## Making All Things New

*Submitted by Rev. Joshua Serrano*

Trying to repurpose collections like Beanie Babies - which once sold on eBay for up to \$1,000 and now fill boxes in attics and garage shelves - might seem like an impossible task, but not for the youth of Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church in Orinda. The grade-school age children learned about a need at a clinic run by International Health Partners whose mission is to develop partnerships across the globe to improve healthcare in Tanzania. When children come to the clinic to receive care they are given a Beanie Baby to comfort them. When the Holy Shepherd Beanie Baby drive culminated, the children had collected 1,200 of these little stuffed animals and blessed the Beanie Babies on September 30. During Sunday school, the children played their hearts out with the Beanie Babies, boxed them up, and shipped them to Tanzania.

Holy Shepherd youth pray for those who will receive Beanie Babies. Photo Joshua Serrano

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[back](#)

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