

# NEWS

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## Sandals for Senegal

### Challenging kids to give

**CLAYTON HUNT**  
Coaster

Pastors Tim and Allison MacGregor of the Faith Pentecostal Church in Harbour Breton want to teach the children that participate in their Splash Kids program the value of giving this Christmas.

To help do that, the MacGregor's decided to bring in a program known as 'Sandals for Senegal.'

"The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada have initiated a Canada wide program that encourages young people to raise funds to help purchase sandals for the poor children of Senegal, Africa," Pastor Allison said. "These children are victims of poverty, family violence and drugs. The vast majority of these children are forced to beg everyday for food and money just to survive.

"Although there is much that could be done to help these children, the funds raised through 'Sandals for Senegal' will be used to provide sandals for these young children."

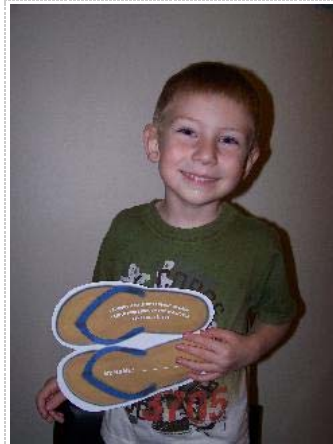
Pastor Allison said that there are two other main purposes of the 'Sandals for Senegal' project.

"We want to raise awareness of the situation in Senegal that many young people in that African country face everyday. When you live in a country like Canada, it's sometimes hard to imagine how children in poor, war-torn countries live and what they have to do to survive," She said. "In addition, we want to instill in the youth in our 'Splash Kids' program the value of giving back to others who are less fortunate than themselves. Many children are focusing on what they're going to receive for Christmas. We hope that this project will help make our youth realize that it's more important to give than to receive in some situations."

Pastor Allison noted they'll be challenging their kids to raise monies for the program in a number of ways.

"We'll encourage the youth to raise funds by saving their spare change; by doing chores for their families and/or by setting aside some of their allowances. We'll also encourage families to participate in the project," Pastor Allison said. "We've already heard of one child whose grandparents are saving all their spare change to buy sandals for Senegal."

According to a study by the United Nations, it is estimated that 100,000 children are living on the streets of Senegal with the majority of them living in the capital city of Dakar. These children do not even have the basic necessities of life and are sometimes recruited by groups to participate in war activities. Most of them wander the streets without shoes on their feet.



Brayden Strowbridge has already enlisted his grandparents to start saving their spare change to buy sandals for Senegal. Photo submitted by Pastor Allison MacGregor

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