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Crowd of volunteers readies Gladstone schools

Last week, in lieu of attending church services, Gladstone's faith community turned out in force to work at all four Gladstone schools to spiff up the school grounds for the arrival of students. Volunteers included students, parents and staff, as well as seniors and small children.

Over 150 volunteers spread fresh bark dust, pulled weeds, picked up litter, and swept the walkways. Some tackled projects at nearby parks. A large team also worked to ready the Gladstone Community Clothes closet for the back-to-school rush.

"I'm still on a high from the community service project when I think about all the work accomplished," said Clothes Closet coordinator LaRae Applebee. "Now we have a well-stocked distribution room, an organized collection room, and the new appliances are installed and working. We are grateful for all the socks and underwear people donated."

Participants in the event included Gladstone Christian Church, Gladstone Church of the Nazarene, Gladstone First Baptist, Gospel Fellowship Community Church, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, and Tri-City Baptist Temple.