



Volunteers work to finish church building

## Ben Lomond Church Repaid For Generosity

St. Andrews Church in Ben Lomond has given out so much money to storm victims — more than \$80,000 to storm victims — it can't afford to finish an expansion project for the hall which adjoins the church.

So Ben Lomond firemen, business people and some of the very victims the church's disaster fund helped have joined forces to complete the project.

Using church-bought materials, they have hung sheetrock, paneling, installed wiring and

plumbing, and refinished the storm-damaged floor in the downstairs section of the hall.

"We're opening a day school in the downstairs and moving Father's (Joe Kennedy) office upstairs," said Annette Marcum, the church volunteer who has directed the storm relief work. "We had the work done to the bare walls, and couldn't afford to do any more.

"The Ben Lomond firemen heard we didn't

have the money to finish, and this is their way of thanking us for what we did for the people of Ben Lomond."

The church spent only \$26 of the money collected from all over the state, and furniture, clothing and automobiles donated for victims. The \$26 was mainly spent on postage to thank contributors.

A total of 529 people were helped, Marcum said, but "as of today, I have 22 families on hold,

in immediate need of funds."

Some victims who received aid from the church have returned the same amount of money, to be put back into the fund for other victims still in need.

"We never expected them to do that," Marcum said.

The church established a separate fund for Kimberlee Kidd, the most

seriously injured of the five Love Creek slide survivors.

Kidd, who lost her husband, home and belongings in the Jan. 5 slide, is still recovering from her injuries in Dominican Hospital.

Father Kennedy said in a letter to other churches, "It would be in error to refer to the storm disaster in the past tense. It is very much with us, and will be for some time."