

# The News Journal

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## MATTER OF COMMUNITY



Marcy Perkins does some last-minute work while her husband, Bill Perkins, talks on the telephone at St. Andrew's Place, part of a network of 11 programs for the homeless.

## Homeless Ministry stands apart

Network of 11 programs fills gaps left by other organizations

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By Stacy Tiedge  
Staff reporter

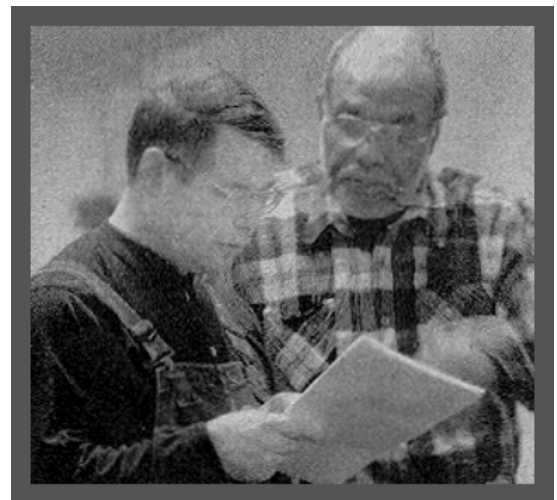
The doorbell's rough buzz announces each homeless man who arrives at the locked metal door of St. Andrew's Place shelter.

Inside, Bill Perkins is waiting for them - 19 men in all this winter's day - in the windowless basement of the Episcopal Church of Saints Andrew and Matthew in Wilmington.

Perkins, 53 is the executive director of Friendship House, a network of 11 programs for the homeless carved out of church basements, donated spaces and the sweat of volunteers.

This homeless ministry is not the largest in Wilmington, nor does it affect the most people. What makes it unique is its ability to fill in the holes, to pick up those

See Perkins - A2



Bill Perkins helps out Frank Hunter, a guest at St. Andrew's Place, with some business matters.