



Special to The Daily Dispatch

From left are Kittrell Community Watch board member Jill Floyd, president Edward Woodlief, treasurer Diane Bullock, board member Mary Jo Floyd, guest speaker Greg Kelly, Crime Stoppers board members Lorraine Watkins and Bobby Choplin, Union Chapel pastor the Rev. Joe Precht and Sheriff's Deputy Craig Thorpe.

Kelly speaks on Teen Court at community watch

KITRELL COMMUNITY WATCH

The Kittrell Community Watch met at the Kittrell Community House on March 17 for an update

on local issues and a presentation on the Vance County Teen Court Program. Kittrell Community Watch president Edward Woodlief called the meeting to order, and the Rev. Joe Precht of Union Chapel delivered the invocation.

The featured speaker was Greg Kelly, coor-

dinator for the Vance County Teen Court program since 2012. Teen Court lets 11- to 17-year-old first-time defendants avoid a criminal record. But those defendants must make restitution and perform community service or other sanction determined by the court. Teen court also teaches youth about the justice system. Except for the judge and coordinator, volunteer youth perform all court roles from attorneys to jury members. The judges

are actual judges or attorneys, and the court operates like a regular court. Kelly said the program teaches critical thinking skills. He said the youth are the best recruiters for the program, which has helped many youth become more productive members of society.

Go to kittrellcommunitywatch.com for more information.

The next Kittrell Community Watch meeting is scheduled for May 19.