

Sheriff's Office captain shares safety information with Community Watch

The Kittrell Community Watch held its monthly meeting Feb. 27. A large group (representing three different community watches) turned out to hear Capt. John Shelton, head of administration of the Vance County Sheriff's Department, give information on Church Safety and Church Security.

Capt. Shelton detailed the need for safety and security when a body of people meet for worship or church related activities. He also outlined what churches can do for safety whether it be with having certain people placed on a team for added safety or going all out with armed security. He went over the types of teams and the requirements for each and the need of keeping each type of team informed of procedures



Submitted

From left, Scott Ritchey, vice president of Kittrell Community Watch, Capt. John Shelton of the Vance County Sheriff's Office, and Edward Woodlief, president of Kittrell Community Watch.

and policies. There should be extensive training for each type of team security. Policies need to be in place to handle a security breach or a medical emergency. He also urged churches to contact their liability insurance company for valuable input in form-

ing these two types of security teams.

Capt. Shelton stressed that even though it is tragic when a church or other religious group is targeted, the percentage of victims are low given the large number of churches or places of worship across the

nation. He stressed as with any crime prevention program, be proactive by having sound team members, good policies in place and extensive training for your church security teams.

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