

Church brings recovery to everyone

By Jessika Toothman

Henry Neighbor Staff Writer

Celebrate Recovery, a program created by Pastor Rick Warren, author of the popular “The Purpose Driven Life,” is available in Henry County through the efforts of Community Bible Church, 2001 West Jodeco Road in Stockbridge.

The eight-week sermon series focuses on different themes of the Christ-based therapy program, said Jack Bartlett, a teaching pastor at Community Bible Church.

Upon the completion of the sermon series, weekly meetings will commence on April 12 to get into the more individualized portion of the program, said Cindy Hall, the church’s spokeswoman.

Thursday nights will target a range of personal issues, under the umbrella concept “habits, hurts and hang-ups,” such as anger management, fear and anxiety, divorce, codependency and substance abuse among others, Ms. Hall said.

“Everybody I meet has a hurt, a habit, or hang-up, and everybody is looking for ways to get better and looking for hope. I think it is going to be a great program,” Bartlett said. “We feel like our community really needs this.”

Participants will be placed into groups based on the problems they wish to target and these groups will share experiences, as well as advance through a 12-step program similar to the 12 steps used by Alcoholics Anonymous.

“We have had an overwhelming, positive response from people. I think mainly because people are realizing this is something they can benefit from, that it is not just for people with addictions,” said Ms. Hall.

To emphasize that Celebrate Recovery is not only for people with physical addictions, the entire pastoral staff will also participate, addressing their own concerns.

On Thursdays, the evening events will run from 6 to 10 p.m. with dinner, service, group sessions and a social hour with coffee and desserts for socializing during the evening,

Information: (770) 914-0808.