**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Susan Carey***

**Date: Sunday, July 26, 2015**

**Sermon Title: Risk-Taking Mission & Service: All You Need is Love**

**Scripture: 1 John 2:3-6**

We know that we have come to know him if we keep his commands. Whoever says, “I know him,” but does not do what he commands is a liar, and the truth is not in that person. But if anyone obeys his word, love for Godis truly made complete in them. This is how we know we are in him: Whoever claims to live in him must live as Jesus did.

**Isaiah 6:8**

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?”

And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only)**

Leader: Come! Listen to the word of the Lord!  
**People: Help us to receive God’s word and direction for our lives.**  
Leader: Proclaim the goodness of God’s love!  
**People: Let our voices and our actions be filled with love.**  
Leader: Come, now is the time to worship.  
**All: Open our eyes, our hearts and our spirits this day, Lord. AMEN.**

**Basic Theme: *If we are truly Christ-followers, we must live like he did. Jesus brought a message of hope into this world by seeking out and simply loving the lost, the forgotten, the outcasts. When we commit to following Christ, we have no choice but to do likewise through risk-taking mission and service.***

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): It is so easy to remain in our comfort zones once we have established them. It is easy to attend service on Sunday, perhaps drop a bill or check into the offering basket, donate an item or two, and check worship and service off of our to-do list. However, God sent His son to model true love and true service for us; He calls us to follow that model, to teach it to our children, and to change lives in His name.**

**So What? What kind of legacy do you want to leave behind for your children and for your community? How is God prompting you to use your gifts and talents to reach out to the lost, the lonely, the outcast in your church, community, and world? Have the courage to seek out opportunities for service, and have the courage to say "Yes!" when those opportunities arise.**