**Hillside UMC Sermon Prep Sheet**

***Pastor Chris Neikirk***

**Date: Sunday, August 23, 2015**

**Sermon Title: Three Simple Rules: A Wesleyan Way of Living**

**Next, Do Good**

**Scripture: 3 John 1:11 *(New International Version)***

11Dear friend, do not imitate what is evil but what is good. Anyone who does what is good is from God. Anyone who does what is evil has not seen God.

**Acts 10:34-38 *(New International Version)***

34Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism 35but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right. 36You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. 37You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

**Call to Worship: (8:30 only) – Based on Psalm 111**

Leader: God gives food to those who honor him. God remembers his covenant forever.

**People: God proclaimed his powerful deeds to his people and gave them what had belonged to other nations.**

Leader: God’s handiwork is honesty and justice.

**All: All God’s rules are trustworthy.**

**Basic Theme: *In a complicated and uncertain world, John Wesley discovered there is a way to bring faith and practice into a harmony of faithful living. His practice included acts of piety, mercy, and justice that resulted in a renewed love for God and neighbor. Those who followed his way of living discovered that it changed their lives, and in turn changed the world around them.* – Rueben P. Job, July 2014**

**Sermon Snapshot (Key Points): Can a faithful Christian life really be relegated down to *Three Simple Rules*? Maybe it isn’t that simple, but it sure is a good place to start. The second rule: Do Good! We have within us the ability to choose our own path. Choose the path that blesses others and do good, even to those with whom you disagree and to those who do not do good to you.**

**So What? Is your life characterized by doing good? Are you living your life in such a way that it reflects positively on your God and those around you would say, “He/she truly loves his/her neighbor?**