

## A vision for service

Ephesians 4:11-16

<sup>11</sup> It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. <sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. <sup>16</sup> From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.<sup>1</sup>

- God has given gifts and gifted leaders to the church (11)
- The responsibility of the leaders is NOT to do all the work. Instead, they are to equip others to carry out the work (12)
- When equipping takes place, maturity is possible (12-16)
- The marks of maturity are:
  - Unity (13)
  - Knowledge (13)
  - Christlikeness (13)
  - Stability (14)
  - Loving Testimony (15)
  - Service (16)

***The members are the ministers; the pastors are the equippers.***

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<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible: New International Version.* electronic ed. Grand Rapids : Zondervan, 1996, c1984

At United Evangelical Free Church, we are *“Building a community to change the world.”* We seek to **Glorify God** by **Connecting** people to Christ, the church, and one another; so that they can **Grow** in their faith, character, and skills; in order to **Serve** the cause of Christ with their time, talents, and treasures; and to **Share** the message of the gospel where they live, work, and go to school; both locally, and as far around the world as we can reach.

