

## Belarus:

In response to the enthusiasm of the Belarusian leaders to see the One New Man vision impact their nation and it was a great blessing to host 30 leaders for their very own conference. Belarus is a unique country in that despite the break up of the Soviet Union, it has retained many Soviet-era policies under its autocratic leader Alexander Lukashenko. Religious expression is closely controlled by a central committee under the KGB with unregistered religious groups unable to function. That said, the Belarussian leaders are unfazed by their circumstances and remain very active in their Kingdom work. The delegates included many leaders meeting each other for the first time and



they spent the bus drive to the conference sharing their testimonies and even at one point got to bond by pushing the bus! Almost all the leaders were coming to a One New Man conference for the first time and a surprising number of evangelicals humbly shared that they did not teach from the Old Testament as they did not have full enough understanding of it. It was a joy to lay down some solid Biblical foundations and truly make clear the harmony and integrity of Scripture including the unity of Jew and Gentile in Jesus. It was also very encouraging to have a good number of young messianic leaders who have a real heart to follow their Jewish roots and were ready to wrestle with how to live out their faith as Biblically as they could, whilst embracing their Gentile brethren.



### **Pastor Olexander, Belarus.**

*During 15 years of pastoral ministry I have attended many conferences but this conference was different. Every lecture challenged me as a Pastor in my thinking about the immensity and greatness of our God. The conference showed me my need to be open to Jewish denominations to build the Body of Christ.*

### **Pastor Yuri, Belarus**

*I was deeply impressed by the One New Man conference. I was really blessed with such deep teaching and such systematic knowledge that was presented by Piers and Paul. They really emphasised our unity in spite of our differences as Jew and Gentile and everyone felt equal and free. Besides this, I was amazed by the friendly atmosphere and how the speakers/organisers mixed easily with the participants.*



# Uzhgorad/Countries West:

Driving from Kiev west to Uzhgorad, through the Carpathian mountains at the edge of Ukraine, really felt like crossing into another country. The city sits right up against the



Slovakian border with Romania, Hungary and Poland within easy reach. It was the perfect location for inviting leaders from neighbouring countries. The group we gathered was diverse but very engaged with the largest number of visitors coming from Hungary. As always, we were a mix of Jew and Gentile, Evangelical and Messianic. Interestingly, some of the Messianics were not Jewish but had been moved to

adopt a worship and practice they felt was more Biblical. The Messianic movement as a whole is just as controversial in all the new countries we connected to as it has been in the past. The participants were very open but cautious. It is very common for leaders that attend our conferences to have a negative view of Messianic congregations or mainstream Evangelicalism and with clear points they want to raise. Having a smaller group at the conference gave us more time for questions and reflection which really helped everyone feel like they had had a say. As always it was time together under the power of the Holy Spirit that really broke down the walls between Jew and Gentile and we all left encouraged and with fresh revelation. This is just the first step in these new countries and I look forward to groups joining our August conference in Lviv, particularly from Moldova and Hungary.



## ***Bishop Josef Demeter, Hungary***

The atmosphere of the conference blessed me and encouraged thoughtful listening. Particularly important I felt was the emphasis on the integrity of the Scriptures. The conference was helpful for uniting Jewish and Gentile believers. I received renewal, encouragement and revelation of the unity between Jew and Gentile. I will share the message with the church in my country. This conference is a cross cultural and cross denominational platform for those who are seeking the Lord.