Australia held a Festival Gathering for many years but is now focusing more on local and regional groups.

Canada held its Sixth Annual Festival of Biblical Storytelling just north of Toronto. This two-day event featured the Rev. Dr. Marti Steussy, Professor Emerita at Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis on the Theme of “Bringing the Bible to Life.” A dozen workshops were held and the Epic Telling included the Book of Ruth and the Book of Esther. Sixty-five people attended this well appreciated Festival.

The Festival will move to the Niagara Falls area on October 14-15, 2016. Information is available on www.BiblicalStorytellingCAN.ca

Cameroon held its first Festival Gathering in December 2014 in Belo organized by our Coordinator there, George Vimen-Minang. The theme was “Returning to the Oral Tradition of the Gospel: A Challenge for the Church in Africa Today” with Dr. Peter Yuh from the Cameroon Baptist Theological Seminary in Ndu. A total of 20 different Bible stories were told in English, Pidgin and French, and people attended from near and far. A Second Annual Festival Gathering was held in December 2015 in Ndop. The theme was “Realizing the Fire of Biblical Storytelling in African Families.”

NBS Gambia has been invited for the past three years by the Gambia Christian Council to tell Bible stories in December at the Annual Carol Night Festival held at St. Therese’s Catholic Church by West Field. This has steadily become one of the highlights of the festival. This December, our storyteller Dr. Babila Logba performed Luke 2 to a standing ovation.

Father Pius continues to actively use biblical storytelling in his own ministry as well as leading the Gambia Catholic churches in appreciating and using biblical storytelling in services and in ministering to the youth. The Catholic Bishop supports this ministry and in March of 2015 we all came together at his church in Brusubi for a telling from John 18 and 19. Besides these reported major events, members continue to tell Bible stories in their own churches and those who teach use it in their schools.

The Philippines have been holding a number of Festivals in various locations since our mission team went there in October 2014. In December 2014 they had a Festival at the Alliance Gospel Church in Valenzuela and another one in February of 2014 at the Community of Faith Alliance Church in Las Piñas City.

The Philippines’ Festivals involve an active group of young people, under the leadership of Larry Gusto and they enthusiastically spread the word about biblical storytelling. You can check them out on Facebook at Network of Biblical Storytellers Philippines.

Do you have international connections who could sponsor an NBS Training Institute Team? Please email Juliana Rowe, NBS Director of International Missions: boodydede@aol.com or call NBS at 1-800-355-6627.