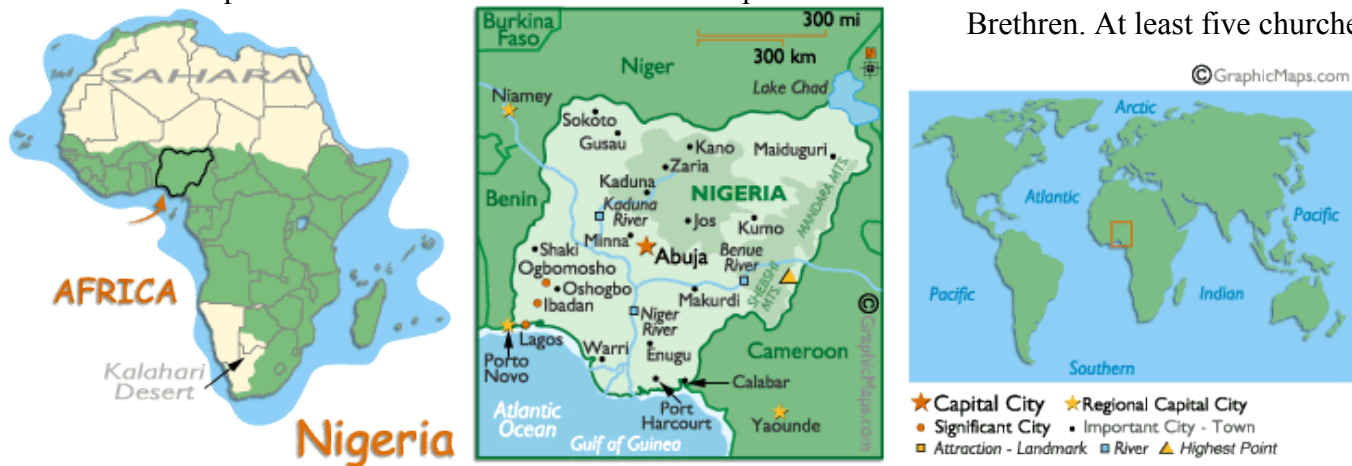


## Habitat for Humanity of Greater Richmond, Inc. 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Habitat for Humanity is holding a 16<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Fund Raising Celebration on **March 10 at 6:00 p.m.** At the Fourth Floor Blues Club. The speaker is Sally Hutton, Mayor. There will be a catered Dinner and Silent Auction. For Tickets Call: 765-962-5986. Tickets can be delivered. You are invited to see what this dynamic organization is doing for the Richmond Community, and how you can be a part of it.

## Nigerian Brethren Injured, Churches Burned

The Church of the Brethren in Nigeria is in a part of the country with a long history of Christian-Muslim tension. Riots in protest of the Danish cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed have caused trouble for the Nigerian Brethren. At least five churches of



Ekklesiyar Yan'uwa a Nigeria (EYN--the Church of the Brethren in Nigeria) were damaged or destroyed in Maiduguri, Nigeria, according to an e-mail report from Robert Krouse, Nigeria mission coordinator for the Church of the Brethren General Board.

Five EYN members were seriously injured in the rioting on Saturday, Feb. 18, in addition to the damage to buildings. The Associated Press reported that at least 15 people were killed as Muslims attacked Christians and burned churches In Maiduguri, 15 churches, including those of EYN, were burned as thousands of rioters held a three-hour rampage.

The five EYN churches that have been damaged are EYN Farm Center, which was completely destroyed; EYN Polo, which was burned but not completely destroyed; EYN Gomarigana, which was burned but not completely destroyed; EYN Bulunkutu, which has steel beams that could not be burned, "so all the pews and other furniture were put in a pile and burned," Krouse said. EYN Dala, which was destroyed in similar violence in 1996, also was completely destroyed, Krouse said.

"There is no (loss of) life involved in the crises in Maiduguri in EYN churches, but many people died from other denominations," reported Markus Gamache, a business manager for EYN.

"Unfortunately there may be additional things to report," Krouse said, adding that the rioting may have affected more EYN churches. "As of late afternoon, Monday, Feb 20, the situation had not been contained," he said. There is the potential for similar episodes of violence in other places in northern Nigeria, Krouse said. "At this point all Church of the Brethren staff are safe and secure," he reported. Krouse asked for prayers for peace in Nigeria. "*Pray that leaders within the Muslim community will call for peace among their people. Pray that the violence will not continue to escalate. Pray that Christians in Nigeria won't react to the acts of violence that have been committed against them by going on a rampage themselves.*" – from Church of the Brethren Newsline

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**Quote: We don't need fasten-your-seatbelt signs in our pews because we no longer fly. We're like a group of geese attending meetings every Sunday where we talk passionately about flying and then get up and walk home. - Tim Hansel**