

meet MARIA AMIHAN



FAITH HOUSE THAILAND

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her story

Maria Nelma Amihan is from the Philippines and originally worked in pharmaceutical sales. In the 1990s, God used the time she spent volunteering at her local church to stir her heart toward the country of Myanmar, which has the longest-running civil war in the world. Maria's initial attempts to follow her calling fell through, and so she sought God's direction, as she strongly felt that is where He was calling her. Then Maria was directed to the border of Myanmar, in Maesot, Thailand, where she saw the migrant children in such desperate conditions and knew that was where she was to fulfill her calling.

In 2002, Elpis Ministries was formed to begin to teach the children to read since they were not allowed to attend a Thai school. What began as a literacy program developed into a migrant school of 35 children, and today the school has 310 students!

Due to desperate conditions, many of these children's parents were not able to care for them, and so many were being forced into human trafficking. It was because of this that in 2004 Maria and her team changed course in their ministry and Faith House was born. The team initially identified two girls who were high risk and provided them with care, schooling, life skills, and the saving message of Jesus Christ. Upon entering Faith House, many of these girls were malnourished, sickly, insecure, and distrustful, but through the years Faith House has changed the trajectory of their lives. Faith House now cares for 30 girls, and many of them have become community leaders, Bible study teachers, and worship leaders. Someday, these young ladies may return to their homeland, and they are now equipped to reach Myanmar with the Gospel and continue the work that Maria began.

NOVEMBER 2023

PRAISE

- ❖ Ajima is outstanding in her school; facilitating Bible study, English study, and volunteering in school activities. Pastor Gilbert Unica who has partnered with us to take care of Faith House girls in Chiangmai said that the vice president, academic dean and the head of HR of her school for a meeting. They stated their positive regard of Ajima and what they can do to help change her migrant status.
- ❖ Maria was able to come back well and safe from her USA trip.
- ❖ New Faith House girls show big improvement in their leadership skills.
- ❖ Faith House was able to go bring the girls for a picnic and a swim at Maekasa water falls.
- ❖ PawPoe was accepted for internship by Baan Dek. She will start this December.
- ❖ The construction of additional room for the girls and the staff house has begun.

PRAYER

- Pray for Paw Poe. For the conviction of the Holy Spirit in some aspects of her life. Identity, peace, heart that is sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for Khin Khin Wai now living alone in her apartment that she maybe able to find a new flat mate.
- For the boys at the back of Hsa Thoo Gaw who are practicing guitar that they might come regularly. That they may encounter the Holy Spirit powerfully and grow into their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the safety of the carpenters who are working on the new house/dorm extension.
- December is the busiest month of the year for Faith House with Christmas and gift giving. For provision, for strength for the staff and the Faith House children, buying, packing and distributing the gifts.
- **Next Meeting Wednesday, December 20, 2023 @ 8:00 AM EST**