



## MEET

# Maria Amihan

## 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.

**The Bible Chapel has partnered with Faith House since 2018.**

## September 2025

## PRAISE

- 1. Praise God for the baptism of 8 people last August 10.
- 2. Faith House church celebrated its 15th anniversary with 250 people and fun & games after.
- 2. How precious that Faith House Church which started as a children's church is now attended by
- both children and adults, have seen conversion, baptisms, discipleship and empowered student leaders.
- 3. Thank you that Bbright enabled to bring Maria and Gigi are in the USA meeting with ministry
- partners. Will be in Pittsburgh September 10-28.
- 4. Celebration of Faith House Church 15th anniversary was held at the hall that is currently in
- renovation. It will be converted into a church.
- 5. First Worship service was held at the new Faith House Church last Aug. 17.
- 6. Praise God for the expansion of the ministry work in communities.

## PRAYER

- 1. Khin Mar San. She needs to take one more General Education Development (GED) exam so that
- she can enroll in university. Please pray that she will be scheduled as soon.
- 2. There are 5 Faith House girls about to enter university. Please pray for guidance and direction into
- what course to take up and to be accepted to the university they will apply.
- 3. The recent bombings of a village where some of our girls' relatives are has caused displacement.
- Please pray that they will find another safe place and livelihood.
- 4. Divine appointments and spiritual empowerment of Maria and Gigi as they travel around USA.
- 5. Prayers for Has Tu Gaw (Elpis School) teachers and students. That they will grow and be disciplined
- into good leaders in the school and communities.