

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.

recent prayer requests

"We live by faith and not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

The new year brought hope of things to come but at the same time uncertainties remain. We have many reasons to rejoice though. January started with the blessing of two girls in Faith House deciding to be baptized. Although the girls had known the Lord Jesus for long but have hesitated to be baptized due to family or peer related pressure. Praise God for courage of Khin Khin Way and K'Moo Paw to submit to baptism.

Praises

Khin Khin Way & K'Moo Paw's baptism. The celebration of the Lord's Supper after Baptism.

The regular Worship service in Faith House. Due to covid restrictions most churches could not meet face to face but praise God the church was brought to Faith House.

It has been the tradition of Faith House to hold a special celebration on the 18th birthday of our girls to affirm and celebrate their being loved. They are given roses, cakes and even dance with other girls. It was Aye Sandar Myint 18th birthday last Jan. 29. It was a happy celebration.

Documents of Maria & Gigi had arrived from Thailand. May their visa application be approved.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for Myanmar. There had been rallies in Yangon and threat of civil war.

Please pray for our girls who are stranded in Myanmar as well as some girls who are studying there.

Please pray for the safety family & relatives of our girls in Myanmar.

Please pray for God's favor for Maria & Gigi to be given a visa, provision and necessary paper works. Probable date of travel last week of February or 1st week of March. Pray for safe travel.

Please pray for Grace & Faith House staff. Pray for the complete healing of Isabel Saquing from malignant thyroid.