



GAILEEN IN THE CARIBBEAN SUN

AN ENDING...



It was the last training session in June of this year --the last of the five sessions we held in the last 18 months of my ministry on the Island. The 30 women gathered around me to pray for my next step of Home Assignment and retirement at the end of this year. My departure was scheduled for July 15th. However, before leaving I had the joy of having my twin sisters come down, along with 13 other family members, so I could show them some of the sites of our childhood--even seeing the clinic (no longer in use) where we were born.



A BEGINNING...



The new regional Alliance Women's Teams at work--pictured here the Central Region.



A Women's Rally in a local church in the Central Region.



Meeting with local churches in Eastern Region to present the Alliance Women's ministry



An Alliance Women's training session with women in the Eastern Region.



A gathering of the Western Regional Team with women from the Alliance churches in the capital city--for fellowship, celebration and planning.

BEGINNINGS BRING NEW CHALLENGES...PLEASE PRAY:

1. *The economy on the Island is not doing well and our Alliance churches are struggling financially. Minimum wage is still around CAD\$28 to \$42 (USD\$20 to \$30) per month.*
2. *There is an urgent need to re-print our main course, "Developing a Discerning Heart". We need to print 500 manuals at a cost of CAD\$2,330 (USD\$1,666). It seems like a lot of money but it represents a cost of CAD\$4.66 (USD\$3.33) per manual.*
3. *The Alliance Women on the Island would love to hold two Regional Women's Retreats in 2020 but, once again, the financial constraints make this a real challenge. Our women are so desirous of these retreats that they are willing to contribute CAD\$5.82 (USD\$4.16) each to attend, even though for most it will be a great sacrifice. Each Regional Retreat will cost around CAD\$3,500 (USD\$2,500).*
4. *With the continuing desire to train and prepare women leaders, our three Regional Teams have expenses to visit the wives of pastors and lay women leaders in each region—the two most spread our regions are Central and Eastern.*
5. *Pray for the National President of the Alliance Women's Ministry on the Island, Lili Caron, as she leads and mentors the three Regional Leaders--Loika (Western), Yudelkis (Central) and Miriam (Eastern).*
6. *As I enter retirement officially in January, 2020, I would appreciate prayer for what's next for me. I still have a deep desire to minister to women--whether in the Caribbean Sun Region or in Canada. However, I'm happy that I can do this in a more relaxed way, as I plan out my own schedule.*
7. *I have the privilege to travel back to the Island in late January to get an extension stamped in my passport and then on to Mexico the third week in February to co-facilitate "Developing a Discerning Heart", along with my friend Norma Van Dalen. We will be leading a group of Alliance women leaders in Guadalajara through the course.*
8. *Please pray urgently for all the Alliance churches on the Island as they go through a time of adjustment due to a change in national leadership this past November.*



GREAT NEWS TO MEET THE CHALLENGES!

The C&MA in Canada has decided to continue to help some of the ministries on the Island for the next two years! Our Alliance Women's Ministry will continue to receive financial help through the "Approved Special CMT Women's Ministry". Donations can be made to this fund and sent to our office in Mississauga, Ontario (address below). Though I can no longer receive gifts to my Approved Special Work of Gaileen fund after retirement, I am so happy to know that you can continue supporting the Alliance Women's ministry on the Island. As you know I have not normally asked for funds through my letters but at this time would ask you to prayerfully consider helping out. Thank you.

IN CLOSING...Beginnings are many things-- exciting, scary, wonderful, emotional. I have experienced all of these, and will continue to do so more often as I enter 2020. However, after 40 years of endings and beginnings in ministry I have always found the Lord faithful in carrying me through them...and He does not change! I have stated the following truth SO MANY times over the years--"Whatever I have accomplished in ministry has been because of you, my faithful supporters!" Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for all the prayers, the encouraging words, the financial support through the Global Advance Fund and approved specials giving and for working by my side, many of you, both in Venezuela and on the Island! My last official prayer letter--I write this with tears in my eyes, but with joy and thanksgiving in my heart!

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OF YOU
AND BLESSED NEW YEAR 2020!**

In Christ's name, *Gaileen Warden*

