

Mayor

September 25, 2011

Island Council – GPI
Adamstown
Pitcairn Island

Re: Disposition of Bounty Bible

Dear Council Members:

For some time now, I have listened to expressions from members of the community concerning their desire to see the “Bounty” Bible returned to its original display location inside the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Comments have ranged from the sentimental “It was in the church when I was growing up”, to the spiritual “It’s the Holy Scriptures; it belongs in the church” to the marketing “Being able to view the Bible at any time will inspire visitors to want to visit the Museum” angle; and some voiced all of these.

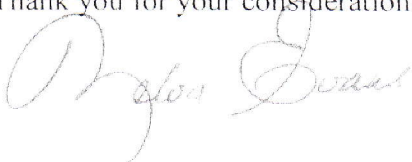
Accessibility is a matter of concern. The Museum has no posted hours for public access; whereas, the church is always open and needs no special arrangement for viewing of the Bible in its custom made secure case. Apart from this reason, however, the Bible should not be treated merely as an object to be locked away and hidden, unseen, for the majority of the year. It is the Holy Scriptures. Its rightful place, comparatively, is in a house of worship. As an artifact and object of value, it was housed safely within the church, with no obvious signs of deterioration, for more than half a century before being removed and locked away in the Museum. If security is the concern, I cannot imagine a better guardian than the Lord, Himself!

It must be considered that, if returned to the church, the Bible would not be the only Bounty artifact on island to be housed outside of the Museum. For example, the Bounty’s anchor rests in The Square, while a cannon is displayed in a private yard. Several more known artifacts reside in private collections or are scattered around town, and not necessarily protected from the elements. Furthermore, there has been no obvious public sentiment that these should all be secured and placed in the Museum.

It also bears noting that many publications exist stating that the Bible is displayed in the church, and that, even today, some visitors enter the church expecting it to still be housed there.

I, therefore, submit the attached list of signatories who approve this petition with the wish that Council give careful consideration to returning the Bounty Bible to its original display location inside the Seventh Day Adventist Church, where it will be on display to any and all who enter the church.

Thank you for your consideration.



Petition to return the Bounty Bible to the Seventh Day Adventist Church for permanent display.

By signing my name below, I hereby support the petition to return the Bounty Bible back to the Seventh Day Adventist Church for permanent display.

Signature	Printed Name	Date
Len Brown	LEN BROWN	8/9/11
C. Warren	Carol Warren	8/9/11
J. Warren	Jay Warren	8/9/2011
^{Charles} CHRISTIAN		8/9/2011
Kari B Young	KARI B YOUNG	8/9/2011
Brian Young	BRIAN Young	8/9/2011
Leshie	Leshie Jacques	9/9/2011
Jacquie Christian	Jacquie Christian	9/9/2011
Warren	Warren	9/9/11
Randy Christa	Randy Christian	9/9/11
Betty Christian	Betty Christian	9/9/10
Tom Christian	TOM CHRISTIAN	9/9/11
Jill Christian	IRMA	9/9/11
Jim O'Keefe	Sue O'Keefe	13/9/11
Charlene Warren	Charlene Warren	13/9/11
W. Young	WEATHER WENDEES	15/9/11
Kerry Young	Kerry Young	13/9/11
B. Christian	BREN CHRISTIAN	15/9/11

