



**Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**  
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**Media Advisory/Photo Opportunity**

***RICHARD BOURNE SUNDAY SERVICE - Sunday, August 18 at 11 am***

**WHAT:** The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and the Old Indian Meeting House Committee host the annual *Richard Bourne Sunday Service* .

The service will be led by Pastor Curtis Frye, Jr., with music accompaniment by Dr. Robert McManus and the Mashpee Baptist Church Choir.

The Richard Bourne service takes place annually on the third Sunday of August.

The public is invited and welcome to join in worship.

Richard Bourne was instrumental in facilitating the means for “Mashpees” to formulate a governmental structure in the 17<sup>th</sup> century via the formation of an approved congregation and a Praying Town approved by the General Court of Plimoth Colony. It was important to Bourne that a place be established where the Tribal people could live in peace from one generation to the next. In reference to a quitclaim deed to the land, now known as Mashpee, his intent was to bring stability to the tribal community – both spiritually and – in the eyes of the judicial system “so that no part or parcel of them (the lands) could be bought by or sold to any white person or persons, without the consent of all the said Indians, not even with the consent of the general court.”

The Old Indian Meeting House and Indian Burial Ground quite literally rest on the soil from whence Mashpee Wampanoag ancestors existed for centuries.

**WHEN:** **Sunday, August 18, 2013**  
**11 am**

**WHERE:** Old Indian Meeting House  
410 Meetinghouse Road  
Mashpee, MA 02649

**About the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe:**

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, known as the People of the First Light, has inhabited present day Massachusetts for more than 12,000 years. After an arduous 30+ year process, the Mashpee Wampanoag were re-acknowledged as a federally recognized tribe in 2007 and retain full tribal sovereignty rights. There are approximately 2,600 enrolled citizens of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe.

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