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**(S.D.)- Parishioner Closing In On 1,000 Straight Services**

By: Brady McDaniel Posted at: 09/15/2013 05:52 PM

(Associated Press)

A South Dakota man who promised his dying mother to find a church and attend it regularly is closing in on 1,000 consecutive Sunday services.

Kenneth Lee Ashmore of Rapid City made that vow in 1993, and on Sunday attended his 999th straight service at Crossroads Wesleyan Church.

The Rapid City Journal reports that even a battle with cancer didn't stop the 78-year-old Ashmore from attending church.

On one occasion when Ashmore was confined to a hospital bed, the church pastor brought the service to him.

The church plans a celebration in his honor next Sunday.

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