

Join Us at Zion for the Holidays!
Be a Part of our Tradition of
Lighting the Historic 1813
Crystal Chandelier

On each Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve only, Zion Reformed Church UCC observes our unique tradition of lowering and lighting our sanctuary's chandelier.



The chandelier holds 16 candles, is 98 inches in height, 40 inches in diameter and is adorned with 153 feet of crystal chain. Lighting it requires that a church member crawl into the church's attic and use a hand crank to lower it to floor level.

Just prior to 1813, it was purchased by the ladies of the church congregation for \$300. In 1835, the chandelier was replaced by oil lamps, dismantled into 1,725 parts, wrapped in newspapers and straw, and stored. It remained hidden in storage until it was discovered in the 1940s.

In the mid-1970s, a restoration was completed. The chandelier was re-hung in 1977 and lit for Christmas Eve services. It is an Adams-type chandelier, reportedly made by Waterford Glass Factory in Waterford, Ireland. It closely resembles those that hang today in St. Paul's Cathedral in London and in Guild Hall, Bath.

The Zion crystal chandelier is lit only for the church's Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve celebrations each year, and is considered a highlight of the many local Holiday observances.

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