

## HISTORY OF FORT HERKIMER CHURCH

Fort Herkimer Church is nestled on the bank of the Mohawk River along Route 5S in the Town of German Flatts. Built between 1753 and 1767, Fort Herkimer Church is one of the oldest churches in New York State and the oldest building in Herkimer County.

Fort Herkimer Church once served as a fortress during both the French and Indian War and the Revolutionary War, as well as a place of worship for valley residents.

Today, the church is used for various religious, patriotic, and family services. Fort Herkimer Church was entered on the National Register of Historic Places on July 24, 1972.

**Little Falls Historical Society**  
**319 South Ann St.**  
**Little Falls, NY 13365**  
**Website: [littlefallshistoricalsociety.org](http://littlefallshistoricalsociety.org)**



# Patriots Day FORT HERKIMER CHURCH

Saturday, May 16, 2026



# Little Falls Historical Society

## “Where History Lives”

### **Patriots Day**

Patriots Day is celebrated each year in most of New England to commemorate the April 15, 1775 Battles of Lexington and Concord which marked the beginning of the Revolutionary War.

The first Patriots Day was declared in 1894. In 1938 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts established the third Monday in April each year as Patriots Day and it has become a civic holiday. Lexington and Concord have battle re-enactments and the City of Boston swells with activity and celebration.

At the urging of the Little Falls Historical Society, the City of Little Falls established a local Patriots Day in 2010 to be celebrated each year on the third Saturday in May. This is in recognition of our ancestors' contributions to America's quest for independence.

Each year, the Little Falls Historical Society honors Patriots Day by hosting an event at a local historical site that played an important role in our colonial and Revolutionary War eras. We have commemorated Patriots Day at Yellow Church Cemetery, Herkimer Home, Fort Herkimer Church, Indian Castle Church, Snells Bush Church, Little Falls Masonic Temple, Historic Dutch Reformed Church at Historic Four Corners in Herkimer, Historic Trinity in Fairfield, Paines Hollow Church, Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Little Falls, Norway Rural Cemetery, and the John Bellinger home.

### **PROGRAM**

#### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Anita Dulak

#### **WHY HERE?**

Robert Nasypany

#### **FORT HERKIMER CHURCH – A HISTORY**

Jim Greiner

#### **LEGACY OF GENERAL HERKIMER'S FATHER**

Louis Baum

#### **THE WALRATH FAMILY - WILLIAM MURRAY**

Laura Laubenthal

#### **VOLUMES IN FIFTY-TWO WORDS**

Michele Hummel

#### **H.C. REVOLUTIONARY WAR COMMISSION**

Pat Stock

#### **DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AT 250<sup>TH</sup> AND CLOSING REMARKS**

Jeffrey Gressler

#### **MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT**

Robert Schmelcher

#### **LAYING OF D.A.R. WREATH**

Pat Stock and Laura Laubenthal

#### **RIFLE SALUTE**

Tryon County Militia

#### **PLAYING OF TAPS**

Gavin Hobart

***THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!***