

## **St. Joseph County Republican Party**

### **We are Republicans because:**

We believe the strength of our nation lies with the individual and that each person's dignity, freedom, ability, and responsibility must be honored.

We believe in the United States and Michigan Constitutions and in their literal translation, as written by our founding patriots, by all elected and appointed government officials, including the legislative, the executive, and the judicial.

We believe in life, imbued by a Creator with a soul at the moment of conception, and that to be consistently pro-life, we must lead to insure every citizen has access to quality education, healthcare, economic security through the opportunity to work, and a healthy environment to sustain each life through its natural end.

We believe in equal rights, equal justice, and equal opportunity for all, regardless of race, creed, gender, age or disability.

We believe free enterprise and encouraging individual initiative have brought this nation opportunity, economic-growth, and prosperity.

We believe government must practice fiscal responsibility and allow individuals to keep more of the money they earn.

We believe in directing our own lives, the proper role of government being to provide for the people only those critical functions that cannot be performed by individuals or private organizations and that the best government is that which governs less.

We believe the most effective, responsible, honorable, and responsive government is that government, that is closest to the people.

We believe conservation of our natural resources is conservative; duty to pass on to future generations of Americans clean air, clean water, healthy agricultural lands, and our birthright, public lands and wildlife, is ours.

We believe Americans must retain the principles that have made us strong while developing new and innovative ideas to meet the challenges of changing times.

We believe Americans value and thus desire to preserve our national strength and pride while working to extend peace, freedom, and human rights throughout the world.

We believe in our historically strong advocacy of immigration, and a strong, legal immigration system that affords opportunity, while respecting the safety, values, concerns, and desires of our American Citizens.

FINALLY, we believe the Republican Party is big enough to be home for individuals with diverse views, is the best vehicle for translating our ideals into positive and successful principles of government, and encourage positive campaigning by all members and candidates.