



MANHATTAN  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# Connections

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds...encouraging one another all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

NOVEMBER 2025

ISSUE 3

VOLUME 26

## Annual Campaign Dinner with John Stonestreet, Colson Center President

Darin Hoekema, Board President

I find myself thinking a lot about TRUTH lately as everywhere we look we see varied claims to the truth. It seems like truth has become more elusive than ever. You may have similar thoughts as you read or listen to the prominent news stories of our day. Do we understand the cultural moment we are in as Christians anchored in the truth? Unless we can identify where we are, like that big star on a mall map, we likely won't know how to get where we want to go.

Come hear John Stonestreet, sought after speaker, and president of the Colson Center, speak about the current cultural moment as it relates to our homes, community, and this endeavor we call Manhattan Christian School. As Christians (and as Christian educators), we know where the truth is found. Jesus says in John 18:37, "I have come into the world to bear witness to the truth, everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice." And in John 16:33 he says, "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

We look forward to seeing you November 18 to hear from John Stonestreet and what we are up to at MCS. Call the school office to make sure you have a seat at the table and enjoy a meal with us!

If you did not receive a formal invitation in the mail but would like to be added to our mailing list, please email [office@manhattanchristian.org](mailto:office@manhattanchristian.org) or call 406.282.7261 and let them know. We'd still love to have you for dinner!

Read more about Stonestreet on page 2 or visit these websites for more info:

<https://colsoncenter.org>

<https://www.truthrising.com>

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## Classroom Highlight of the Month

The seventh grade Technology class has been learning to recreate their school photos as a vector file! See pictures from Mrs. Ayers' class on page 3.

# ROTARY

student of the month

Please join us in congratulating September's Rotary Student of the Month, Blaise Bolich. Blaise was chosen by his teachers because he is known to display high character, leadership, and community mindedness both at and away from school.

B  
laise  
Bolich



#### How long have you been at MCS?

I've been at MCS since 2nd grade; I was at Saddle Peak before that and did 5th grade at Manhattan.

#### What extracurriculars are involved with?

I have been a part of the basketball program every year since I was a freshman, and have been on the varsity team since my sophomore year. I have been a member of student council my freshman, sophomore, and senior years of high school. I have also competed in the Montana High School Rodeo Association from 7th grade up to my senior year. I compete in the Northern Rodeo Association too, Montana's amateur rodeo association.

#### What awards have you won during your time in those extracurriculars?

I have been awarded Academic All State in basketball as both a sophomore and a junior. I won the elections for student body president as a freshman and a junior then served the following years for the office. I have been the MHSRA Tie Down Roping Director for both my junior and senior years, and I was the 2025 State Champion Tie Down Roper and was blessed to get to be on the Montana National team that went to the NHSFR in Rock Springs last July. I won the Tie Down Roping Rookie of the Year in the NRA for 2025 as well.

#### What have some of your favorite classes and teachers been while at MCS?

Probably my math classes, I've liked taking them from Mr. Kimm all through high school. I've also loved playing board games like Axis and Allies in study hall with Mr. TeSlaa and having fun.

#### What are some of your best non-academic memories?

My favorite memory at MCS was probably campaigning with Zach Albro for president and vice president both freshman and junior year. We had a lot of fun.

#### What goal have you set for yourself during your senior year?

I want to win state again in the Tie Down Roping.

#### What are you working on for your Senior Project?

I am teaching roping and western values to the 6th grade PE class.

#### What are your plans for after graduation?

I am planning to compete in college rodeo and study mechanical engineering.

#### What is one thing you think sets your education at MCS apart from at other schools?

I think the fact that we have a small school but still offer things like Dual Enrollment and AP classes is huge, and we get a great education and get to learn about God and His love in all our classes.

#### Favorite Bible Verse?

Proverbs 21:31 "The horse is made ready for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the LORD." ESV

# John Stonestreet

## Colson Center President

(Cont. From Page 1)



John Stonestreet serves as president of the Colson Center. He's a sought-after speaker and author on areas of faith and culture, theology, worldview, education and apologetics. John is the daily voice of Breakpoint, the nationally syndicated commentary on the culture founded by the late Chuck Colson. He has co-authored five books including *A Practical Guide to Culture and Restoring All Things*. Before coming to the Colson Center in 2010, John served in various leadership capacities with Summit Ministries and was on the biblical studies faculty at Bryan College (TN). John is an ordained deacon in the Anglican Church of North America. He and his wife, Sarah, have four children and live in Colorado Springs, CO.

Join us Tuesday, November 18 at the Campaign Dinner.



If you would be willing to make a dessert for the Dessert Auction at the Campaign Dinner, please contact Jodi Venema at 406-580-0792. Thank you for helping make the evening sweet!

# Eagle Cross Country Teams Shine at State

Congratulations to our boys and girls cross country teams for their outstanding performances at the Class C State Meet in Missoula! The girls' team finished an impressive 4th overall, while the boys soared to 3rd place—both exceeding expectations and making our school proud.

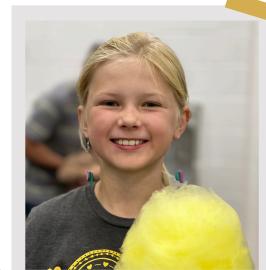
Three runners earned All-State honors by placing in the top 15: freshmen Graycen Lee and Halle Miller, along with senior Bria Ohs. In addition to their athletic success, nearly half of the team achieved Academic All-State recognition for maintaining GPAs above 3.5 during the season, a true testament to their hard work on and off the course.

Both teams, along with Coach T, also demonstrated what it means to live out our school's mission by inviting athletes from other schools to join in a prayer circle before each race. Nearly every runner accepted the invitation, creating a powerful moment of unity and faith among competitors.

A big thank-you goes out to coaches Amy Freed and Nate TeSlaa for their leadership and dedication. Congratulations to all our Eagle runners; your future looks bright!



# Thank You for Another Wonderful Harvest Festival



What an incredible weekend! Our annual Harvest Festival was once again a huge success, and we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made it possible. It was exciting to see so many new faces this year; word of our event is spreading beyond Churchill, and we couldn't be happier to welcome friends from near and far.

A huge thank you goes out to our generous donors, hardworking volunteers, talented bakers, dedicated parent workers, and our Harvest Market sponsors. Your time, talent, and contributions made all the difference. We also want to thank everyone who participated in the auction; your bids help raise essential funds that directly support our school programs and students.

Each year, the Harvest Festival reminds us how special our community is. With your continued support, we look forward to making next year's celebration even bigger and better. Thank you for helping our school grow!

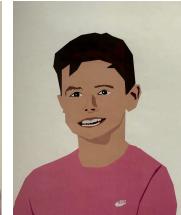
## New Crossing Guards Keeping our Students Safe

We're excited to share that MCS now has morning and afternoon crossing guards stationed on Churchill Road to help our students who bike and walk to school cross safely.

A big thank you to those who have already signed up to serve in this important way! Even if you drive your children to school, we'd appreciate your help—please use the QR code to sign up and join the rotation. Your support truly makes a difference!



Seventh Grade Technology Vector Self Portraits From classroom highlight of the month on page 1.



# senior SPOTLIGHT

## Bria Ohs

For her senior project, Bria has worked with Bozeman Fellowship of Christian Athletes Director, Whitt Jones, to bring an FCA chapter to Manhattan Christian School. FCA will be officially starting up this month. Whitt spoke at chapel last week to overview what the club is and how it will be used in our school. The first meeting will be Wednesday, November 19th over lunch. In December, we will be hearing from guest speaker, Cameron Crosby.

## Fall Alumni Night Brings Excitement and Connection to MCS

This year's Fall Alumni Night was full of energy and Eagle pride! The evening featured a hard-fought conference victory for the varsity volleyball team against the Gardiner Bruins and a special PINK Night to honor and recognize friends and family who have courageously battled breast cancer.

Alumni were welcomed back to campus with free admission and popcorn, and the night was made even more special when a few of our alumni musicians joined the pep band—led by interim high school band director Todd Rosenberger—to fill the gym with music and school spirit.

A huge thank you to our Admissions Director, Gloria Veltkamp, for planning and organizing such a fun and meaningful event. We're excited to continue this tradition each year, alternating between fall and winter seasons to keep all alumni connected and involved.

If you're an MCS alum who hasn't heard from us lately, we'd love to stay in touch!

Please email [mcscommunications@manhattanchristian.org](mailto:mcscommunications@manhattanchristian.org) or fill out the alumni form on our website under the Alumni tab.

### The Ohs Family on the Network Podcast

"I think the gist of it is that this is *an answer to prayer*." Heather Ohs, on finding Manhattan Christian School was the perfect place for her two high school girls.

Scan the QR code to hear our first family interview on the Manhattan Christian Network Podcast. Heather shares what it was like to tour with Bria and Harper, start school at a familiar, yet unfamiliar place, and how watching them grow at Manhattan Christian has been an answer to prayer for their family. Follow us on Spotify so you never miss an episode!



Bria, Dave, Harper,  
& Heather Ohs at  
State Cross Country  
a few weeks ago in  
Missoula



## The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: Directed by Haley Sander

For her senior project, Haley Sander is directing the K-8 production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* After holding auditions, Haley is now leading 62 student actors and managers from the elementary and middle school as they prepare for the big performance. Catch the show on Thursday, December 11 at 6 p.m. (location TBD). Watch our socials and the weekly for updates!

### Employment Opportunities at MCS:

#### Bus Drivers

We are in need of bus drivers for Manhattan Christian School. If you are someone with a class B or class A CDL license or even just willing to drive a van for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon, please contact Chip at 406-539-9867 or fill out the application online.

#### Development Director

The Director of Development will be responsible for planning and implementing a comprehensive fundraising program that includes major gifts, corporate and foundation giving, planned giving, and special events. The successful candidate will work closely with the Head of School and Board of Directors to develop fundraising goals and strategies. Works closely with the MCS Foundation to coordinate fundraising events in support of both organizations.

#### Secondary Music Teacher

The Secondary Music Teacher will assist the Leadership and Board of Manhattan Christian School in the effective education of children in Music at Manhattan Christian School. Provide inspirational and effective leadership for the Music Program at MCS.

#### Spiritual Life Director

The Spiritual Life Director serves as a spiritual shepherd and leader within our PK-12 school community, fostering a Christ-centered atmosphere that supports the spiritual growth of students and families. This individual is responsible for building relationships with students, partnering with local churches and ministry leaders, coordinating chapel services, and teaching select Bible classes as needed.

## Faithful Grounds Coffee Shop Artists Needed

Are you or someone you know interested in sharing your creativity with the Manhattan Christian School community? The Faithful Grounds Coffee Shop is excited to offer a space again this year for artists to display and/or sell their work. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase your talent, connect with our students, families, and visitors, and be part of a vibrant, creative environment.

If you would like to participate or learn more, please contact [kswanson@manhattanchristian.org](mailto:kswanson@manhattanchristian.org).

We can't wait to see your art on display!

## Eagle Voices Soar at All-State Choir

Our three senior All-State Choir members joined the top high school singers from across Montana for two days of rehearsals with a nationally renowned conductor, culminating in a sold-out concert at the Mansfield Theater Civic Center in Great Falls on Friday, October 17. Congratulations to Eliza Kimm, Cecilia Morrison, and Haley Sander on representing MCS with excellence!



## 2025-2026 Winter Schedules:

### Girls/Boys Basketball and Speech & Debate (Co-op with MHS)

*\*Subject to change; always check the Google Calendar & Social Media for updates*

Manhattan Christian H.S Basketball: 25-26			
DATE	OPPONENTS	TEAMS	GAME TIMES
6-Dec	@ Jefferson	CB,JVB,JVG,VB,VB	1/2:30/2:30/4/5:30
12-Dec	vs. Missoula Loyola (Tip-Off)	TBD,TBD,VB,VB	TBD/TBD/5:45/7:30
13-Dec	vs. Lustre Christian (Tip-Off)	VG,VB	5:45/7:30
19-Dec	@ Shields Valley	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	2:30/4/5:30/7
20-Dec	@ Townsend	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	1/2:30/2:30/4/5:30
2-Jan	vs. Gardiner	JVB,JVG,VB,VB	1/2:30/4/5:30
2-Jan	vs. Heritage	CB	2:30
3-Jan	@ Three Forks	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	1/1/2:30/4/5:30
10-Jan	vs Heritage	CB	2:30
10-Jan	vs West Yellowstone	JVB,JVG,VB,VB	1/2:30/4/5:30
13-Jan	@ Twin Bridges	JVB,JVG,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
16-Jan	vs Jefferson	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
24-Jan	vs Sheridan	JVG,JVB,VB	1/2:30/4
27-Jan	vs Manhattan	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
30-Jan	@ West Yellowstone	JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
3-Feb	vs GVHS	CB,JVG,JVB	4/5:30/7
5-Feb	vs Twin Bridges	JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
6-Feb	vs Shields Valley	JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
10-Feb	vs Three Forks	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
12-Feb	@ Gardiner	JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
14-Feb	@ Sheridan	JVG,JVB,VB	1/2:30/4
FEB. 19-21st		DISTRICT 12C TOURNAMENT-Churchill (MEC)	
FEB. 26th-28th		WESTERN C DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT-MAC	
MARCH 11th-14th		STATE C TOURNAMENT Adams Center (Missoula)	



## Manhattan/MCS Speech & Drama 25-26

DATE	LOCATION
8-Nov	Roundup
15-Nov	Park City
6-Dec	Red Lodge
13-Dec	Livingston
3-10-Jan	MHS Showcase
17-Jan	Three Forks
24-Jan	Jefferson (Divisionals)
30-31-Jan	Townsend (State)

Eagle fans,  
gear is  
COMING!  
Watch for  
more info  
Coming soon.  
Think:  
Christmas  
gifts for all  
The MCS  
fans in your  
life!

# Like, Follow, Comment, Share, and Subscribe!

Help us share OUR STORY!



## Manhattan Christian School Network on Facebook

- [Manhattan Christian Football](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Cross Country Teams](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Eagles Volleyball](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Lady Eagles Basketball Team](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Eagles Boys Basketball](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Eagles Track & Field](#)
- [Manhattan Christian Eagles Golf](#)



## @manhattanchristianeagles on Instagram

- [@manhattanchristianvolleyball](#)
- [@mcsboysbasketball](#)
- [@mcseaglesgirlsbball](#)
- [@manhattanchristianfootball](#)
- [@manhattanchristianxc](#)



## The Manhattan Christian Network on Spotify



### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to join the MCSF in the category listed below.

- \$100 Maintaining Level
- \$500 Sustaining Level
- \$1,000 Embracing Level

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Manhattan Christian School Foundation

*Our mission is to lower tuition!*

### **The Gift That Costs “Little” to Give** *Charitable Deferred Payment Gift Annuity*

Pat and Stephanie: Ages 49/50

5% Stretch-Out Deferred Payment Gift Annuity

Cash-Funded \$10,000 DPGA commencing ages 88/87

Federal Tax Savings (24% x \$5,906 federal deduction)	\$1,417
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State Tax Credit (40% of federal deduction)	\$3,937
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<b>TOTAL TAX SAVINGS:</b>	\$5,354
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“Cost of creating a \$10,000 MCSF Endowment	\$4,646
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\*The actual federal deduction of \$9,843 must be reduced by the \$3,937 METC claimed.

**Become a member today by filling out the form to the left or visiting our webpage at [Manhattanchristian.org/support-mcs/mcs-foundation](http://Manhattanchristian.org/support-mcs/mcs-foundation).**

Contact Ron Hoekema at (406) 581-1460 with any questions or  
for more information.



**Cory Vellinga - Broker**

Cell: 406.220.1900

1970 Stadium Dr. Ste. 1

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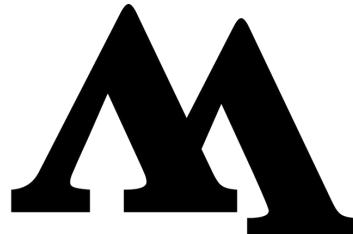
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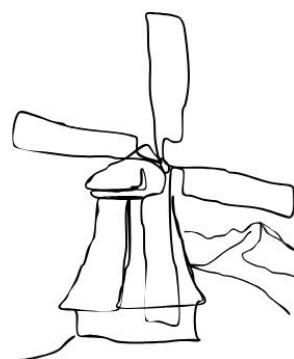
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