



MANHATTAN  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



# Connections

“Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food...yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation.” Habakkuk 3:17-18

NOVEMBER 2023    ISSUE 3    VOLUME 24

## End of Year Appeal

*Joel Westa, Head of School*

Normally in November, MCS has an Annual Campaign Dinner. I recommended to the Board that we take this year off from the dinner to allow us to put together a Campaign for next year to address some big needs here at the school.

Starting today, with this article, we are entering the year end time of giving, where we prayerfully ask you to consider a year end gift to support the mission of MCS. You will see a letter arriving soon with a donation envelope in it, and probably receive an email or two—maybe even a phone call! I'd ask you to begin to prayerfully consider giving a year end gift to the school.

As you know, the mission of Manhattan Christian School is to inspire students to live God-glorifying lives by teaching Christ's lordship in faith, learning, and living. Since 1907, this school has been committed to that mission. Many things have changed around us over these past 116 years, but one thing holds true; God's Word has been and will always be the foundation upon which we build here at MCS. We believe the total educational program of the Christian school should be designed to orient the child to a life in Christ, for fellowship with and service to God and his fellow man.

Earlier this year, the veteran social researcher George Barna released a shocking new report describing the HUGE faith crisis hitting our young people. He reports that, “between the ages of 18-22, the number of young people calling themselves committed Christians SHRINKS BY NEARLY HALF... to just 17%.”

Why are they walking away? They are under assault every single day. I've never seen spiritual warfare this intense. From open attacks on Christianity, the constant bombardment of social media and the call to compromise, our students are living in difficult times. Think about that again: about half are giving up. Denying their faith. Turning away from Jesus.

Our goal here at MCS is to provide a place where students learn the truth of Scripture and their identity in Christ. We want them to know how to live in the world without being of the world. We want to prepare them to change the world for Christ. We need your help to do that!

Our goal this year is to raise \$145,000.00 to support the overall mission of MCS. Whatever the Lord lays upon your heart to give will bless this school. Please prayerfully consider the impact you can make, and then make your tax-deductible gift before December 31. Thank you for your generous support!

## November Contents

End of Year Appeal

Rotary Student of the Month

MCS Volleyball  
Three Peat

Cross Country  
Success

Waffles the Cat Visit

Senior Project  
Spotlight

New Notes

Basketball Schedule

Football: Year One

Senior Poem

## Teaching for Transformation:

To encourage life-long learners, Teaching for Transformation focuses on four main Habits of Learning. The second being Gracious Communicators: We are kind, specific, and helpful.

# ROTARY

## student of the month

Please join us in congratulating November's Rotary Student of the Month, Kyanna Hoekema. Kyanna was chosen by her teachers because she is known to display high character, leadership, and community mindedness both at and away from school.



**Meet Manhattan Christian Senior, Kyanna Hoekema.**

### How long have you been at MCS?

Since Preschool in 2009!

### What extracurriculars have you been involved in during your time here?

Choir, Speech and Debate, Theater and Drama, and Golf.

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

Music Festival Awards: Superior ratings at State in solo, duet, trio; All-State Choir; Speech and Debate: 5th place in informative speech at State.

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

Choir with Mrs. Brewer and Creative Writing with Mrs. Adams

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

State Music Festival with choir friends

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

To enjoy every last second, work hard, and have fun!

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

I am remodeling and organizing the theater room at MCS.

### What are your plans for after graduation?

I plan on studying Elementary Education and attending college on a music scholarship.

## MCS Volleyball: In their Three Peat Era

*Lexi Glaus, Assistant Volleyball Coach*

The title stems from the girls' daily request for Taylor Swift music during practice; bless their hearts. This group of girls brought so much joy and laughter to the gym every single day. From Tik Tok dances in the locker room to dress up practices to the Clue game we finished up after the final match at State; Hanna got me out-- Lexi holding the State Trophy in the Bathroom. She recruited the girls' help for a celebratory team mirror selfie and my guard was down.

What a year! After three straight years (and more, I believe, since before I coached) of dropping the Friday night semi-final match and working our way back up, the girls played some of their best volleyball (certainly their best serving) to come back from a deficit in the first set against North Country for a 3-0 win to finally see the championship match through the winner's bracket. Personally, I think it was the tinsel in their hair and Hanna's proposition that she would even take some for Saturday if they won Friday night. We coaches all noted how special it was to see all of the girls play their role at State so well. It was so fun to hear many different fans be so complimentary of different players for different reasons Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Everyone stepped up; it was a true team victory.

I'm happy for the girls; they worked their tails off for this. Some have been in the program since middle school, and many of them commit extra time in the off season to play club. Some played in the Title game last year, and some never saw the blue floor at all this year, but still gave their time and effort in the postseason to help the program improve.

I'm happy for Hanna; she sacrifices a lot of time, especially away from her job, to teach the girls not only the skills needed for the dominant performance they pulled off this year, but the character she helps them develop along the way. Johanna and I both have so much fun assisting her; the three of us learn a lot from each other being very similar in some ways and very different in others. Between the three of us and the girls, we drink enough coffee to keep all shops in a 10 mile radius of MC in business.

I'm happy for our school. One of our prayers specifically at State was that God would use that big stage for us all to shine His light, not our own. While sometimes it feels like Manhattan Christian has a target on its back, it was encouraging to see some of our own District 12C teams who had been eliminated either earlier in the day or in Divisionals cheering front row in the semi-final game against North Country. I think it speaks loudly of the girls and how they carried themselves through the season with grace, often times inviting opponents to join them in prayer at the conclusion of the match.



While we watched the 10am game before our championship match, Hanna turned to me and explained a drill she wants to run next year with our hitters. Bless her heart, too; I politely asked her to get us through the next two hours and then take a few weeks off.

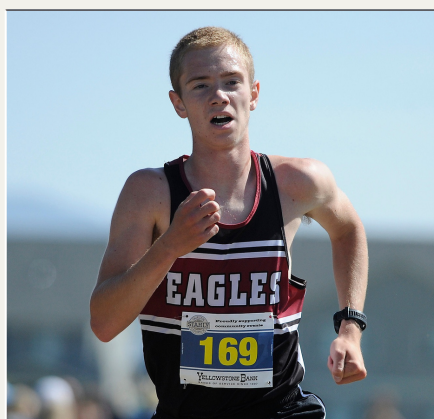


## Cross Country Boys Win their Eighth Straight

**Oren Wins His Third Straight  
and Girls Place Seventh**



Without a returning varsity runner, the girls still landed the seventh place in the state!



Arthun broke his own state Class C record (16:52.8, set in 2022) with a time of 15:55.29



Visser placed 4th, Kinn placed 28th, and Miller broke the tie to win by placing 57th.

## Author/Illustrator of Waffles the Cat, Nick Mask

Lexi Glaus, Librarian

We recently had the privilege of hosting local author and illustrator, Nick Mask, of the Waffles the Cat series. Nick spent the day speaking with Kindergarten through fifth grade classes about how he came up with the idea for the Waffles books, the process of writing and publishing a book, and even did a draw-along with the kids so they could draw their own Waffles. Many of the kids purchased one of the books-- Waffles the Cat, Waffles in Space, Wafflesaurus Rex, and Wild West Waffles-- for him to autograph. It was especially fun to have Mrs. Adam's high school creative writing class join us. While in the midst of their own writing project, it was fun to see the questions they asked of a "real" author!



## Active Shooter Training for Staff and Faculty



Joel Westa, Head of School

Thanks to the Gallatin County Sheriff for leading our faculty and staff through Active Shooter training during our last Faculty Professional Development session. We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment to allow us to protect your kids and the staff while we carry out our mission: **Manhattan Christian inspires students to live God-glorifying lives by teaching Christ's lordship in faith, learning, and living.**

# senior project

Jacie Burley is working to spread joy this holiday season. For her senior project, Jacie is hosting a Holiday Fill a Box, Fill a Heart Toy Drive. She will be partnering with several local organizations to provide low-income families an opportunity to receive gently used toys that they can give to their children for Christmas. Donation boxes are located at the main entrance of the school by the office, or you can contact Jacie directly to arrange a time for pick up. She is accepting gently used or new toys for all age groups! Text Jacie with any questions at (406) 581-4534. Help bring a smile to a special child this holiday season!

# New Notes: The Happenings of the Music Department

Anna Brewer, Band & Choir Director

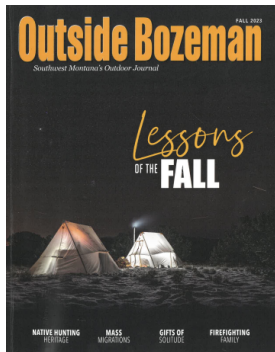
Our Christmas concert is fast approaching, and students are busy working on their music. "A Journey to Christmas" performed by the middle school and high school music department will be Wednesday, December 13 at 7 PM. Mark your calendars for a wonderful evening filled with festive music!

The fifth and sixth grade students had the privilege of attending "Noon Notes," an educational music performance hosted by the Montana Chamber Music this past month. The students had the opportunity to hear the MSU saxophone quartet and Dr. Wonki Lee perform. Being exposed to chamber music and this level of musicianship was a true treat for the students. Students also had the chance to learn fun facts about the saxophone family.

The month of November has also been filled with fruit and butter braid sales for the music department. Thanks to the loving and supportive community we get to call home, the music department collected over \$24,000 in sales! Thank you for your generosity and support! If you ordered from a music student, plan on your order being delivered Monday, December 11.



## Featured!



## 2023 Christmas Concerts

Elementary: Tuesday, December 12 at 6pm

Middle & High School: Wednesday, December 13 at 7pm

Please also join us for Community Christmas Chapel at Manhattan CRC on Wednesday, December 13 at 8:20am

Pictured here in Outside Bozeman Magazine: Mrs. Swanson with her Summer 2023 Europe group in front of the Eiffel Tower!

## I Hear Manhattan Christian, a poem by Senior, Gracie Honey

I hear Manhattan Christian singing, the unique harmonies  
Those of prayers from the middle of fields, courts, mats, and classrooms  
The singing of varied talent through every activity  
Teachers singing lessons upon the students  
Singing of students studying subject scrupulously  
Singing of loud halls overall, small and tall students  
The singing spirit of the Maroon and White school  
The Eagle's song of faith, life, and love  
Each singing the important part they play  
Singing with unashamed mouths of what they believe



## '23-'24 Yearbooks

Purchase before March 8th to get them for \$50!





# High School Basketball Schedules

*\*subject to change; please follow our social media pages for updates*

23-24 Manhattan Christian H.S Basketball			
2-Dec	vs. Sheridan	JVB,VB	4/7
2-Dec	vs. GVHS	CB	2:30
2-Dec	vs. Ennis	VG	5:30
4-Dec	@ Petra	CB,JVG,JVB	4/5:30/7
5-Dec	vs White Sulphur Springs	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	2:30/4/5:30/7
8-Dec	vs. Manhattan Bank Tip-Off	VB,VG	TBD
9-Dec	vs. Manhattan Bank Tip-Off	VB,VG	TBD
11-Dec	@ Three Forks	CB, JVG, JVB, VG, VB	3/3/4:30/6/7:30
12-Dec	@ Heritage Christian	CB	4
14-Dec	@ Gardiner	JVB, JVG, VB, VG	4/5:30/7
16-Dec	@ Lone Peak	JVB, JVG, VB, VG	1/2:30/4/5:30
5-Jan	vs. St Andrews	CB/JVG	4/4
5-Jan	vs. Harrison	JVB, VB	5:30/7
6-Jan	vs West Yellowstone	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	1/2:30/4/5:30
8-Jan	@ Ennis	VG	6
9-Jan	@ Shields Valley	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	2:30/4:00/5:30/7:00
13-Jan	@ Twin Bridges	JVB,JVG,VB,VG	1/2:30/4/5:30
18-Jan	@ Manhattan	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	TBD
19-Jan	@ Lima	VB	7
23-Jan	vs Three Forks	CB,JVG,JVB,VB,VB	2:30/2:30/4/5:30/7
25-Jan	vs Heritage Christian	CB	2:30/
25-Jan	vs Gardiner	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
2-Feb	@ White Sulphur Springs	JVG, JVB, VG, VB	2:30/4/5:30/7
3-Feb	vs Shields Valley (senior night)	JVG,JVB,VB,VB	1/2:30/4/5:30
8-Feb	vs Petra	CB,JVG,JVB	4/4/5:30
9-Feb	@ Jefferson	CB, JVG, JVB, VG, VB	3pm start
FEB. 15-17th		DISTRICT 12C TOURNAMENT-Butte (MAC)	
FEB. 22-24th		WESTERN C DIVISIONAL TOURNAMENT- Frenchtown	
MARCH 7-9th		STATE C TOURNAMENT Great Falls-Four seasons	

\*\*\*UPDATED AS OF 10/16/23



## Manhattan Christian Football: Year One

Ben Holst, Head Football Coach

*Si vis Pacem, para bellum* is a Latin phrase that means, "If you want peace, prepare for war." The paradoxical nature of the phrase is inherent in football, as in Paul's exhortation to the Corinthians, "Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

Success in football requires physical exertion, with an understanding of potential outcomes. Teaching our guys to find the balance was a primary goal in our inaugural season. We elevated this responsibility because it translates naturally from the football field to the life of young men. On and off the field we need men to pursue peace while embracing the reality of conflict.

Through the summer and fall, the team studied through the life of David. King David is remembered simultaneously as a man after God's heart and a warrior who shed too much blood to be the builder of God's temple. In weekly small groups, we discussed how and why David withheld his hand against Saul yet unhesitatingly confronted Goliath.

Physicality does not necessarily lead to conflict. Those who took the field against us, as well as those watching, experienced the results of men unafraid. At the same time, we saw the impact of men pursuing peace with their opponents.

This season gave us many reasons to be proud of our guys. Some made splashy in-game plays. Others acted humbly in the face of disappointment. A number gave their all day-to-day with little outside appreciation. Together they competed for a goal exceeding personal glory.

Throughout the season we were warned that opponents had it out for us because of our success in other sports or because we are a Christian school. That may have been the case. However, after the game, coaches, players, and referees frequently commented on the way our guys played. This is the fruit of a team pursuing peace as they prepared for war.

Finishing with six wins and three losses made for a successful season. Competing in a way that others may know we play for God's glory, made it a good season.

## The Kitchen is Hiring!

The kitchen is hiring two individuals to start after Christmas Break (January 3).

### Salad Bar Set Up, Food Prep, and Cleaning Help

Monday-Friday  
8:30am-2pm  
(or until finished)

### Lunch Time Clerk

Monday-Friday  
10am-2pm

(These hours could vary)

This position will also consist of some food prep and clean up as needed.

These positions can be full or part time if you or anyone you know is interested in some or all days.

[manhattanchristian.org/employment/](http://manhattanchristian.org/employment/)

APPLY NOW



# Manhattan Christian School Foundation

***Our Mission is to Lower Tuition!***

## What Can YOU DO for the Manhattan Christian School Foundation?

- You can make an annual cash contribution (dues).
- You can make a bequest in your will.
- You can give a memorial gift.
- You can give stocks, bonds, & securities.
- You can give real estate or an interest in real estate.
- You can give life insurance proceeds.
- You can give cash, antiques, automobiles, or any item with determinable value.

## What can the Manhattan Christian Foundation Do FOR YOU?

- Give you the satisfaction of knowing you have assisted in strengthening the cause of Christian Education at Manhattan Christian School as a result of your contribution.
- Provide a reduction in your taxable income.
- Eliminate or reduce your estate tax at little or no loss to other beneficiaries.
- Receive confidential counsel on estate planning and general contributions.

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

The screenshot shows the Manhattan Christian School website. At the top, a navigation bar includes the school logo, a link to the calendar, lunch, support, and parent login, and icons for a calendar, fork and knife, gift, right arrow, information, and search. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with links for ABOUT US, ACADEMICS, ADMISSIONS, ARTS, ATHLETICS, and SUPPORT MCS. A large banner on the left reads "New Website Coming Soon!" with the URL manhattanchristian.org. To the right of the banner is a large photo of students in a gymnasium with their hands raised. Below the banner, a section titled "Why Manhattan Christian?" describes weekly chapel, discipleship groups, and worship. To the right of this section is a callout box that says "Same areas to find what you need!" with an arrow pointing to a grid of four cards: "Prospective Families", "Parents", "Students", and "Alumni". Each card has a photo and a "Read More" link. On the left side of the grid, a callout box says "Upcoming events linked to our all-school calendar!" with an arrow pointing to a section titled "Upcoming Events". This section lists four dates: Nov 20 (Thanksgiving Break), Nov 21 (Thanksgiving Break), Nov 22 (Thanksgiving Break), and Nov 23 (Atrium/ Eagle Gym Reserved).

Calendar, lunch, support MCS, and parent login quick links!

MANHATTAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

ABOUT US ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ARTS ATHLETICS SUPPORT MCS

**New Website Coming Soon!**  
manhattanchristian.org

**Why Manhattan Christian?**  
Weekly chapel, discipleship groups, and worship

**Upcoming events linked to our all-school calendar!**

**Upcoming Events**

Nov 20 Thanksgiving Break	Nov 21 Thanksgiving Break
Nov 22 Thanksgiving Break	Nov 23 Atrium/ Eagle Gym Reserved

**Prospective Families**  
Learn more about Manhattan Christian. [Read More](#)

**Parents**  
Everything you need from FSO to PowerSchool. [Read More](#)

**Students**  
Library catalog, Google Classroom, Scholarships, and More! [Read More](#)

**Alumni**  
Let's stay in touch! [Read More](#)





1245 North 15th Ave.  
Bozeman, MT 59715

www.bozemanclinic.com

Gabor Benda, M.D.  
Matthew Harrison, M.D.  
Christy Mitchell, M.D.  
Steven Roberts, D.O.  
Larry Sonnenberg, M.D.  
Sarah Watt, PA-C  
Heather Wheeler, M.D.  
Judy Douglas, Administrator

**Kenetrek Boots**  
FOR THE TRAIL LESS TRAVELED®

[WWW.KENETREK.COM](http://WWW.KENETREK.COM)  
**800-232-6064**

Check out our Visitor Center  
96 Northstar Lane Bozeman, MT

**BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY**  
HomeServices



**Kelley Halle, CRS® GRI® ABR®**  
Sales Associate  
REALTOR®

**Montana Properties**  
2001 Stadium Drive, Suite A  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
(406) 581-3144

kelley.halle@bhhsmt.com  
www.bhhsmt.com/kelley-halle

A member of the franchise system of BHH Affiliates, LLC

Charitable  
Remainder  
Trusts

1031  
Tax Deferred  
Exchanges



Home: 406-586-6700  
Bozeman, MT 59718  
don@donvaniman.com



Office: 406-587-4250  
5020 Westlake Road  
[www.donvaniman.com](http://www.donvaniman.com)



randy visser  
(p) 282.9922

randy@visserarchitects.net

163 quiet water way  
manhattan, mt 59741

VOLUME 24



BOZEMAN • CHURCHILL • MANHATTAN • THREE FORKS  
406-582-0044 406-282-7175 406-284-3255 406-285-0500

Experience the Manhattan Bank Difference!

[WWW.MANHATTANBANK.BANK](http://WWW.MANHATTANBANK.BANK)

**Advertise  
With  
Us!**

Email Erika Kimm at  
boosters@  
manhattanchristian.org

**Churchill Equipment**  
"WE TRY HARDER"



**Kendal S. Walhof**

GM/ Co-owner  
Cell (406)580-2282  
Store (406) 282-7252  
[kendal@churchillequipment.net](mailto:kendal@churchillequipment.net)  
[www.churchillequipment.com](http://www.churchillequipment.com)

**AGCO**  
Your Agriculture Company

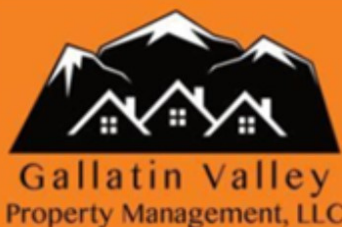
**MASSEY FERGUSON**  
Vermeer

**MacDon**  
 **Great Plains**

**GEHL**



**GRANITE**  
TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS



QUALITY, PROFESSIONAL RENTAL MANAGEMENT

WEBSITE: [WWW.GALLATINVALLEYPROPERTYMANAGEMENT.COM](http://WWW.GALLATINVALLEYPROPERTYMANAGEMENT.COM)

**KEN VAN DYKEN**  
LICENSED PROPERTY MANAGER  
406.580.8383

**VANDYKEN TRUCKING & EXCAVATION, LLC**  
"Thanks a Lot"

- Sand/Gravel
- Topsoil
- Foundations
- Roadwork
- Demolition

Reg. North Area, Owner  
Phone 406-282-7516, Cell 580-7605  
email: [gravel@vandyken.net](mailto:gravel@vandyken.net)  
Bret Vandyken  
Cell 580-3522  
email: [bret@vandykenplanning.com](mailto:bret@vandykenplanning.com)  
5805 Loney Rd. Manhattan, MT 59741

**Dave Cole**  
Branch Manager,  
Financial Advisor, CFP®



1610 Ellis Street, Suite 3A | Bozeman, Montana 59715  
office: 406.582.1082 | mobile: 406.209.0649 | toll-free: 888.681.4188  
fax: 406.582.1147 | e-mail: [Dave.Cole@RaymondJames.com](mailto:Dave.Cole@RaymondJames.com)  
[www.PalisadeFinancialMT.com](http://www.PalisadeFinancialMT.com)

Securities offered through Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.  
Member FINRA/SIPC. Palisade Financial is not a registered broker/dealer.

**bozeman  
smiles**

Dr. Fred Schwendeman  
Orthodontist

**Home for Rent  
in Three Forks**  
Completely  
Remodeled  
3 bed / 2 bath  
Fenced in yard  
Call  
**(406) 570-6452**



**Manhattan Christian School**

*Partnering with you for life!*

8000 Churchill Road  
Manhattan, MT 59741  
(406) 282-7261

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Bozeman, MT  
PERMIT NO 164

**Return service requested**



**SCAN HERE**

to view the MCS Google Calendar  
with all sporting events, locations,  
and times!

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

From everyone at Manhattan Christian School