

INSPIRED.

# Waldorf Magazine Spring 2009

**Peace Corps calls alumnus  
to service rooted in love**

- Page 12

**Chase Chisholm**  
**'05 from Forest City, Iowa**



**Chase Chisholm**

'05 Communications

Forest City, Iowa

Georgetown, Guyana

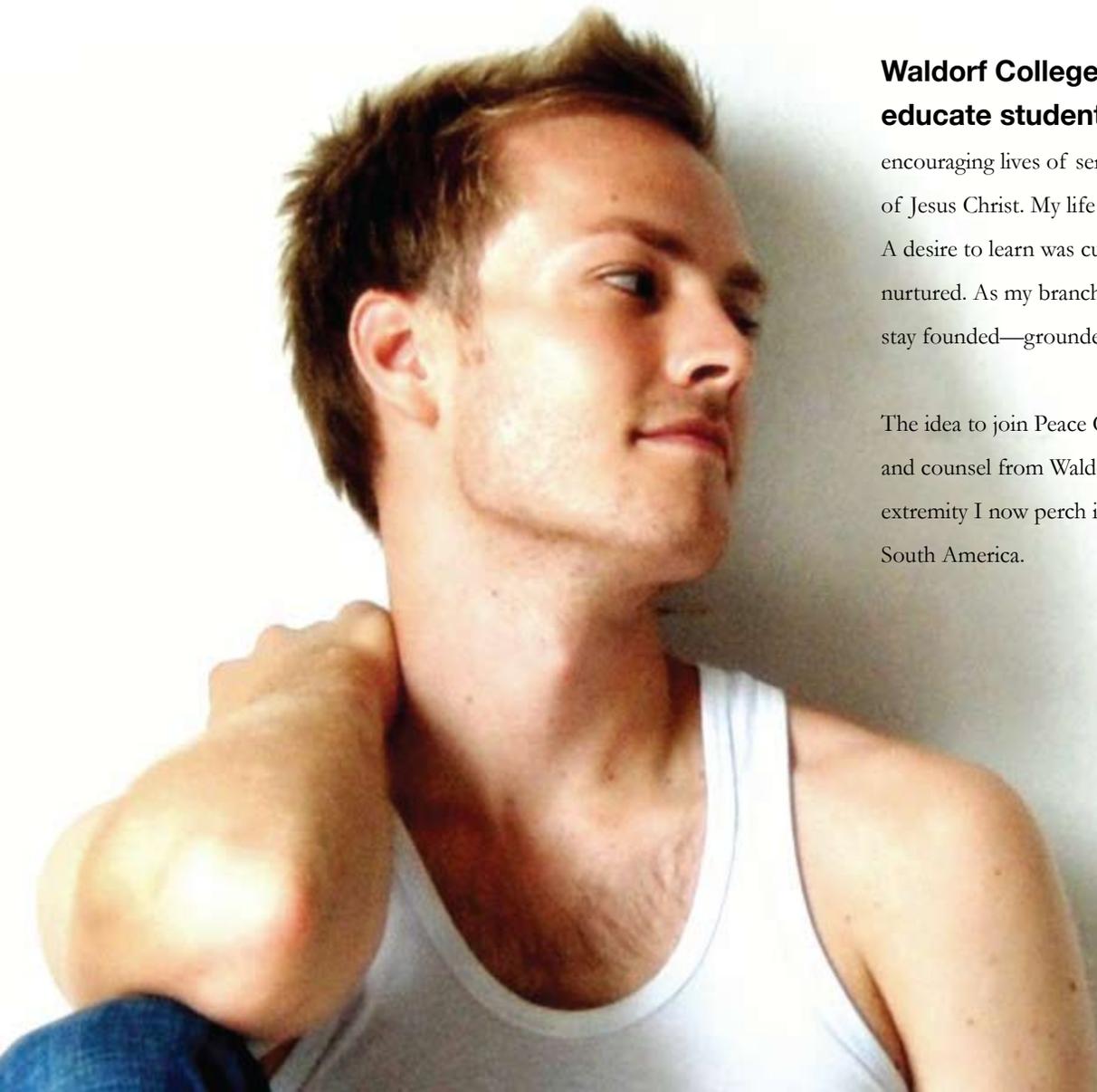


**Waldorf College truly seeks to educate students fully and wholly,**

encouraging lives of service through the example of Jesus Christ. My life tree is deeply rooted here. A desire to learn was cultivated; a need to explore nurtured. As my branches continue to spread, I stay founded—grounded—where I was raised.

The idea to join Peace Corps branched off advice and counsel from Waldorf staff and friends. The extremity I now perch is as a volunteer in Guyana, South America.

I have grown tremendously through my service, teaching basic computer skills at a vocational training center for persons with disabilities.





Instructing trainees who are deaf or hard of hearing does not come without knots and kinks—growing pains—when I barely sign the language and have limited access to computers. Hand tracing to identify finger placement on the keyboard was a good start. Waldorf’s communication department fostered creativity within, and so I saw how handprints on extra-long, yellow and lined sheets of paper become tools for learning (and great visuals for print and broadcast stories).

I would not be where I am today without the encouraged creativity, demonstrated leadership, and service opportunities that uphold the mission of Waldorf College. Faculty and staff demonstrate quiet leadership—knowing when to lead and when step out of the way, and Waldorf’s service opportunities show how to help others help themselves. Because of Waldorf, I learned that “to serve” means “to assist” or “be of use,” not “take over.”

“ I would not be where I am today without the encouraged creativity, demonstrated leadership, and service opportunities that uphold the mission of Waldorf College. ”

Waldorf’s mission taught there is no way to fully develop without the example of Christ as guide. I cannot do this alone. I must stay rooted in the rich soil of love, support and encouragement from home. Life is a collaborative effort—not meant to be done alone. Nurturing growth within seems best done when roots entwine.

More than any sustainable change, love empowers, unites, inspires and spreads. It took me leaving North Iowa to realize what I had all along. Love is what feeds rooted growth. Love is what continues to nourish mine. I hope to come away from this experience having left my students and colleagues empowered with that love.

Connect with those around you. Produce seeds of change. Become a forest expanding with the limbs of Christ’s love. ■

