



Naledi Farm

Hoba re Bana ba Thari!

Our Story

We have named our enterprise Naledi Farm precisely to pay homage to our shining star that continues to lead the way for us and continues to position us as a brand in the hearts of people who visit our space.

Naledi is also the name of our youngest child whom we are raising together with his two siblings to be the legacy holders of the Naledi Farm vision, to know it, feel it and find resonance in order to sustain it. And so their preparation for this future is integrated in all we do.

The farm is located on a three hectare Agricultural Small Holding in Laezonia, just five minutes outside Centurion. We have set it up as an Agritourism destination to receive guests who visit us to learn and find healing from interacting with the land, while also taking a break from the buzz of city life. Our location on the foot of the recently proclaimed Crocodile Nature Reserve places us in tune with the local communities to be active in protecting our environment and showcasing the beauty of nature.



Naledi Farm

How it started

Naledi Farm was born out of our first book *Tshimong Ya Meroho Le Naledi* (In the Vegetable Garden with Naledi). The book is written in Sesotho and is accompanied by colourful illustrations. Its storyline is set in a vegetable garden and teaches principles of self-sufficiency, oneness with all of creation and love for self, the environment and all of humanity.

Since the writing of the book we had to learn very fast the world of publishing and distributing books and we managed to self-publish the book. We were over the moon when the Department of Education gave the book excellent reviews and recommended it for additional learning material in the curriculum. Our friends have since come on board to translate the book into other African languages.

When it started

The dream has been with us for as long as we can remember. Over the years the Universe has been gradually shaping us to take our place and respond to this calling. We have had to face our fears head-on and to be firm in our resolve that our calling is way bigger than the sum total of our fears. We have had to learn the ropes and we are still learning, but at some point we had to put the wheel in motion. We opened up our home for guests in July 2017 and we have never looked back ever since. By taking this step we opened our world to a network of other like-minded creatives and urban farmers who share in our dream collaborate our efforts.



Naledi Farm

Why we started

When we bought our home in November 2014, we were driven by a hunger for purpose, a yearning to bring people together and a call to provide a space for teaching and healing. We wanted to provide visitors who live in the city the opportunity to connect and interact with nature as well as amazing educational experiences - give children the opportunity to link what they learn in school, concepts like photosynthesis, with practical hands-on examples on the farm. The property offers us an opportunity for us to create a physical space - Naledi Farm - to give effect practically so to the principles in Tshimong Ya Meroho Le Naledi.

The Farm

The farm has livestock, a couple of sheep, chickens, geese and ducks. The main attraction on the farm is the vegetable garden. Inspired by our children's book, Tshimong ya Meroho le Naledi, the vegetable garden is a quick stroll from the house and boasts mouth-watering spinach, cabbage, beets, rainbow carrots in winter; to melons, marrows, potatoes, pumpkins, okra, tomatoes, sunflowers and artichokes in summer!

The soil is enriched with manure from our sheep kraal and our homemade compost. No pesticides are used here! Each year the vegetables are planted in different beds to lessen disease problems and to allow the soil to replenish after hosting heavy feeders. Marigolds, osteospermums, nasturtiums and tulbaghias, and a variety of herbs are interspersed amid the vegetables not only for their aesthetics but because they repel insects and attract beneficial insects. Over the years we have seen all sorts of butterflies, birds and bugs come along to share in the beauty and have a bite while at it.



Naledi Farm

The Harvest Table

Our flagship project - The Harvest Table is a celebration and thanksgiving to the universe for a successful harvest after a season of tilling and working the land.

This is a series of monthly gatherings around the table where we share a seasonal harvest from the garden over lunch. We also invite a speaker to share the harvest of their works - a skill or knowledge. All this is matched with great conversation, laughter and the most breath taking view of our valley and the Schurweberg mountain range. The result is that each one leaves our shores a little fuller, in true harvest mode, because no empty person can ever fulfill or empower others. When our cups overflow we are able to pour on to others.

Some of the speakers we have hosted include:

- Mmatshilo Motsei, author, healer and founding director of Afrika Ikalafe
- Dr Tshidi Mbonani, podiatrist
- Phuti Thage, financial planner
- Rev Sidwell Mokgothu, District Bishop of the Methodist Church
- Pertunia Lehoka author, relationship coach and researcher
- Babalwa Fatyi, environmental scientist and founding director of Myezo Environmental Management Services
- Lebo Pule, Founder and Principal of the online Stretch with Lebo Pule school
- Mamolefe Sehume, Founder and Director of the Puno Community Development Awards
- Zulumathabo Zulu, Mocholoko, an African doctoral practitioner, Author and Metaphysicist
- Lebohang Ramafoko, Social justice activist and CEO of Soul City Institute
- Tshidi Morabi, business analyst and founding director of Ginini Consulting



Naledi Farm

Naledi Farm Kids

Our children's programmes are designed with the main aim of encouraging children to be creative, to work with their hands and to be self-reliant. We believe that if we instill in children kindness and respect for nature, healthy eating habits, a love for using their hands, they themselves will be nurturing, responsible, innovative and confident individuals. Kids can enjoy memorable times at Naledi Farm where they step out of their everyday lives and immerse themselves in nature - creating, building, exploring, learning and playing. In the process they discover more about life and themselves, all while having fun with friends in the great outdoors. Our kids' programmes include:

- Vegetable gardening classes (extracurricular classes on school days)
- School excursions
- Kids holiday camps
- Kids day workshops (held on weekends)

The Naledi Farm Experience - Retreats and Camps

At Naledi Farm we host African centred, family oriented camps and retreats that offer learning, restoration and healing. We aim to provide a space to interact with the land and rekindle the love for nature. Guests can take part in bread making and other creative work activities, a guided tour of the farm, harvesting vegetables from our organic vegetable garden, outdoor team building activities and around the fire dialogues.

The Market @Naledi Farm

We have partnered with other urban farmers, gardeners, artists and crafts people who come once a month to set up stalls and showcase the work of their hands. Guests can stock up on organically grown vegetables, our Naledi Farm home-baked bread as well as handmade crafts and accessories. The aim is to encourage people to support the local economy, to eat locally and to eat in season.



Naledi Farm

Naledi Farm Food Gardens Design, Set- Up and Maintenance

At Naledi Farm we design, set-up and maintain 100% organic edible gardens for homes. The home vegetable garden service begins with a consultation at your home to:

- Find the best placement for your garden
- Create the garden design of your choice
- Create a plant list that caters to your favorite produce
- Find out about your preferences to customize our service

After the consultation, we come out to install your new garden and turn your vision into a reality. Once your garden is installed, we will keep everything looking great and producing tons of organic goodness for you and your family to enjoy!

The Naledi Farm School

The farm school provides short classes to aspirant gardeners, land owners, farmers and lovers of nature. The classes are based on our lived experiences on the farm and are geared at encouraging others to learn from nature. The school is intended to grow towards providing accredited courses in partnership with other knowledge-keepers. We currently provide the following classes:

- Adult vegetable gardening workshops for urban living
- Online vegetable gardening class in partnership with the Stretch with Lebo Pule Online School



Naledi Farm

Garden To Table Cooking Demo

We at Naledi Farm have joined a community of farmers, gardeners, chefs and knowledge holders who are re-kindling an interest in the culinary and medicinal use of our indigenous plants. Together with other local farmers, we have begun to create our own seed bank, so that we always have an adequate and trusted supply of some of our favorites; Thepe (Amaranthus), Spekboom, (Portulacaria Afra) Leshoabe, (Sonchus Nanus), Phefo/Mpepho (Helichrysum) Seruoë (Chenepodium Album).

The aim of the Garden to Table Cooking Demos is to encourage people to grow and produce their own food and to eat what is in season. Guests get the opportunity to tour the beautifully manicured garden, taking in the textures, smells and colours of the different plants. They fill their baskets with the fresh vegetables and herbs and spend time in the kitchen with a guest chef creating magic. The day ends with a beautiful meal made out of the bounty of their harvests - bringing their farm experience full circle, from Garden to Table.

Sunday Lunches

Sunday lunches provide space for families to enjoy a heartwarming meal while enjoying the scenery of our valley. We are proud to serve directly from our gardens.



Naledi Farm

Outreach -The Naledi Farm Poitjie Day

Every year on the anniversary of the Harvest Table, we come together with friends and partners to raise funds in support of a social cause. This is done through the annual Poitjie Day where different cooks participate in a poitjie competition. Proceeds of the event go towards supporting our social course.

Contact Us

We are proud that as a couple we have been able to unite around a vision and purpose that is bigger than us and to have been able to build a brand we can call our own. We are inspired by a love for our people and encouraged the immense support of our friends and guests who have graced our shores, who we now call family. It is a success story to wake up and do that which makes your heart jump, that which connects to your soul, that which brings a smile to your face.

Manti Maifadi
Managing Director
Plot 41, 13 Bodley Rd, Laezonia, Centurion

bookings@naledifarm.co.za

082 800 2327

Naledi Farm  