The Crossroads Lay Leadership Program at Moravian Theological Seminary is running a special session of Contextual Outreach this May and June. This course is designed for individuals or church teams to explore their impact in the community around them and to develop a local ministry plan. Congregations who have participated in this course in the past have reported that the process has helped them design activities which have helped them to impact their neighborhoods in a positive way for Jesus Christ. The goal of this program is not to teach churches how to increase their membership but rather how to increase their impact.

This course is co-taught by the Rev. Dr. Riddick Weber, Associate Professor of Pastoral Ministry, Moravian Theological Seminary and Dr. Jill Peters, Missional Leadership Developer, Moravian Theological Seminary who also runs the Crossroads Lay Leadership Program.

Course content includes working with demographic data, Caleb community interviews and other ways to learn the real, felt needs and service gaps within their community. Congregations define their target area of study which could be their neighborhood or an area close to their church’s location. Through classroom activities, teams embark on a process to analyze this data and start to structure possible activities to meet the needs of their neighbors. Teams are coached on how to look at community ministry differently.

The registration for this course is $220 per person. Additional participants from the same church can register for $100 each. Churches sending teams of at least three people will receive the MissionInsite demographic data for their location.

Classes are held at Moravian Theological Seminary, Bethlehem on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6-9 pm. (May 29, 30, June 5, 6, 12, 19, 27 and one additional time reserved for exploring your neighborhood.) All Crossroads courses are also offered in a real time, distance learning format for those who live outside of our area.

For more information or team member registration, please contact Jill Peters at petersj2@moravian.edu. Online registration for the first team member can be done at their website: www.moravianseminary.edu/crossroads.