

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod,
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Chapter 5

NATURE OF THE CHURCH

- *S5.01. All power in the Church belongs to our Lord Jesus Christ, its head. All actions of this Synod are to be carried out under his rule and authority.**

- *S5.02. The Church exists both as an inclusive fellowship and as local congregations gathered for worship and Christian service. Congregations find their fulfillment in the universal community of the Church, and the universal Church exists in and through congregations. This church, therefore, derives its character and powers both from the sanction and representation of its congregations and from its inherent nature as an expression of the broader fellowship of the faithful. In length, it acknowledges itself to be in the historic continuity of the communion of saints; in breadth, it expresses the fellowship of believers and congregations in our day.**