The following excerpts from the local press of an early period will be of interest:

"NEW CHURCHES The people of Champaign will soon be well provided for with good houses of worship. Besides the new and elegant structures now being build for the Congregationalists, there are two other churches going up - one for the Christian denomination, on Main Street, east of the Park, and one for the use of the German Lutheran, east of the Doane House. The Colored population are negotiating for a house to be used by them as a place of worship. The people of Champaign now have seven churches and saloons 'without number'. Though we believe God's people are gaining prestige and Champaign will soon have as many churches as there are saloons."[3]

[3] Central Illinois Gazette, Dec. 1, 1865.

"COLORED BAPTIST AND METHODIST CHURCHES - The Colored people of Champaign and Urbana are at present evincing a great interest in the cause of religion. Quite a number have been admitted in the Baptist and Methodist Churches during the past month. On Sunday last, and the Sabbath previous, several were baptized in the creek at Urbana. We learn that both denominations intend to building churches this season."[4]

[4] Gazette and Union, May 4, 1866.