

recorded were Dorman, Daniel and Willard **Ingraham**, Jesse **Shaddler** (who served 4 years in the armed services); G. M. and F. M. **Lollar**; Gideon **Bryant**; Albert **Meacham** and Thomas **Wood**.

This community was very loyal to the Union cause during the Civil War. I will mention a few of the early Christian Churches in Clay Co. One organized in Blair twp. in 1855 another the same year in Flora; in Xenia and in Louisville 1857; Lucas Creek Church in Blair twp. in 1861; Clay City in 1871, and there were others.

In 1870 Reads Prairie Church was started a few miles southeast of the Ingraham Church in Pixley Twp. They met in the Union Prairie Church building, alternating with two other congregations, therefore called Union Church.

(Note the wording of the old record) "Aprile the 10th A.D. 1870. The brethren and sisters in the Union Prairie met together on the second Lord's Day in Aprile to set i n order The Church of Christ in Union Prairie, Clay County, Ill., by laying the past and recording the names together. this was necessary from the fact that the two congregations have drawn off from us leaving the names to scatter.

So we called them together and took the names down that wished to stay with the old organization. The officers of the congregation are, William **Hall** and D. S. **Read**, elders; S. **Brant** and J. **Eating**, deacons; Thomas J. **Wells**, clerk."

Another item in their record; "The church met on the 4th Lord's Day in July, 1870 and ordained William C. **Hall** for elder and Oliver P. **Miller** for Deacon services."

A protracted meeting was held in the Union Prairie in 1878 by William **Read**, assisted by H. **Brant** with 42 additions. Some of the names given were Benjamin **Johnson**, B. F. **Chrisman**, Thomas **Wells**, William **Groves**, Silas **Brant**, and John **Wells**. About 17 of the **Reads** as follows: William, Stephen, Derham S., Eli, Amos, Jane, Lydic, Nancy, Ruthan, Sarah, Carnelius, Daniel, Enoch, and D. S. **Read**, and two Margaret **Reads**. Some pages are missing and the record is rather lengthy.

Later some were excluded for various reasons, such as "Gone back to the world", and "expelled for using profane language". However, these cases were few. Many other names are given but this is getting lengthy. I had some help from Harley **Bonham** which was appreciated.