

CHRISTOPHER CANNON JONES

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023- **Co-editor, *Journal of Mormon History***
Mormon History Association and University of Illinois Press
- 2019- **Assistant Professor**
Department of History, Brigham Young University
Affiliate Faculty, Africana Studies
Affiliate Faculty, American Studies
- 2017-19 **Visiting Assistant Professor**
Department of History, Brigham Young University
- 2016-17 **Adjunct Instructor**
Department of History, Brigham Young University
Department of Church History, Brigham Young University

EDUCATION

- 2016 **Ph.D.**
History, College of William & Mary
- 2009 **M.A.**
History, Brigham Young University
- 2007 **B.A.**
History, Brigham Young University

CURRENT RESEARCH

Connexions: The Making of American Methodism in the Atlantic World
(proposal under review, Cornell University Press)

PUBLICATIONS

Books

2023 *Missionary Interests: Protestant and Mormon Missions in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, co-edited with David Golding (forthcoming, Cornell University Press, 2024)

Articles

2021 "'A verry poor place for our doctrine': Religion and Race in the 1853 Mormon Mission to Jamaica," *Religion & American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation* 31:2 (Summer 2021): 262-95. <https://doi:10.1017/rac.2021.9>

2019 "'The religion is assailed by most in the Country': A Letter from the First Latter-day Saint Converts in Jamaica, 1854," *Mormon Historical Studies* 20:1 (Spring 2019): 111-27. Co-authored with Rachel Felt.

2016 "Evangelical Religion in the Revolutionary South: An Atlantic Perspective," *Journal of Southern Religion* 18 (2016): jsreligion.org/vol18/jones.

2012 "Mormonism in the Methodist Marketplace: James Covell and the Historical Background of Doctrine and Covenants 39-40," *BYU Studies Quarterly* 51:1 (2012): 67-98. <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/byusq/vol51/iss1/5>

- Best Article Award, Mormon History Association, 2013

2011 "The Power and Form of Godliness: Methodist Conversion Narratives and Joseph Smith's First Vision," *Journal of Mormon History* 37:2 (Spring 2011): 88-114. <https://doi.org/10.2307/23291638>

2009 "The Holdings of the Nauvoo Library and Literary Institute," *Mormon Historical Studies* 10:1 (Spring 2009): 153-176.

Book Chapters

2023 "'A very uncommon train of providences': Methodist Expansion and Division in the Revolutionary Atlantic World," in Kate Carté, ed., *Religion and the American Revolution* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, forthcoming)

2022 "'A necessary book for dark-skinned people': Nineteenth-Century Missions, Race, and Scripture," in Samah Choudhury, Prea Persaud, and Michael J. Altman eds., *American Examples: New Conversations about Religion*, Volume Two (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2022): 123-50.

2021 "Freeborn Garrettson's Revolution: Religion and the American War for Independence," in Benjamin E. Park, ed., *A Companion to American Religious History* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2021): 71-86.

2015 "'An Encroachment on our religious rights': Methodist Missions, Slavery, and Religious Toleration in the British Atlantic World," in Chris Beneke and Christopher S. Grenda, eds., *The Lively Experiment: Religious Toleration in America from Roger Williams to the Present* (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015): 101-116.

- 2014 "Except among that Portion of Mankind": Early Mormon Conceptions of the Apostasy," in Miranda Wilcox and John Young, eds., *Standing Apart: Mormon Historical Consciousness and the Concept of Apostasy* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2014): 55-76. Co-authored with Stephen J. Fleming.

Book Reviews

- 2023 *Watchman on the Tower: Ezra Taft Benson and the Making of the Mormon Right*, by Matthew L. Harris, in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* (forthcoming)
- 2022 *Dividing the Faith: The Rise of Segregated Churches in the Early American North*, by Richard J. Boles, in *Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion* (June 30, 2022): <https://readingreligion.org/9781479803187/dividing-the-faith/>
- 2021 *To Bring the Good News to All Nations: Evangelical Influence on Human Rights and U.S. Foreign Relations*, by Lauren F. Turek, in *Passport: The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Review* 51:3 (January 2021): 26-28.
- 2020 *Praying with One Eye Open: Mormons and Murder in Nineteenth-Century Appalachian Georgia*, by Mary Ella Engel, in *Journal of the American Academy of Religion* 88:3 (September 2020): 875-78.
- 2019 *New Directions in the Study of African American Recolonization*, edited by Beverly C. Tomek and Matthew J. Hetrick, in *Journal of the Early Republic* 39:4 (Winter 2019): 797-99.
- 2018 *Christian Slavery: Conversion and Race in the Protestant Atlantic World*, by Katharine Gerbner, in *Black Perspectives* (November 20, 2018): <https://www.aaihs.org/from-protestant-supremacy-to-christian-slavery/>
- 2018 *The Spirit of Early Evangelicalism: True Religion in a Modern World*, by D. Bruce Hindmarsh, in *Journal of British Studies* 58:4 (October 2018): 857-58.
- 2018 *Directions for Mormon Studies in the Twenty-First Century*, ed. by Patrick Q. Mason, in *Mormon Historical Studies* 19:1 (Spring 2018): 143-45.
- 2018 *Leonard Arrington and the Writing of Mormon History*, by Gregory A. Prince, in *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* 21:4 (May 2018): 139-41.
- 2017 *Jacob Green's Revolution: Radical Religion and Reform in a Revolutionary Age*, by R. Scott Rohrer, in *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* 141:1 (January 2017): 93-95.
- 2016 *Embracing Protestantism: Black Identities in the Atlantic World*, by John W. Catron, in *William and Mary Quarterly* 73:4 (October 2016), 741-44.
- 2014 *The Letters of Dr. Thomas Coke*, edited by John A. Vickers, in *Methodist History* 52:3 (April 2014): 187-88.
- 2012 *God's Almost Chosen Peoples: A Religious History of the American Civil War*, by George C. Rable, in *Methodist History* 50:2 (January 2012): 119-20.

- 2011 *Sacred Borders: Continuing Revelation and Canonical Restraint in Early America*, by David F. Holland, in *Mormon Historical Studies* 12:1 (Spring 2011): 195-98.
- 2011 *Joseph Noble Bates: Polygamy and the Temple Lot Case*, by David L. Clark, in *Nova Religio: The Journal of Alternative and Emergent Religions* 15:1 (August 2011): 99-100.

Other Publications

- 2016 "Rise of African-American Churches (18th and 19th Centuries)" and "Dedication of the first Mormon Temple in Kirtland, Ohio (1836)," in *Great Events in Religion: An Encyclopedia of Pivotal Events in Religious History*, eds. Florin Curta and Andrew Holt (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2016), 824-826; 841-843.
- 2010 "The Meanings of Mormon Devotion: Robert Orsi and the Possibilities of Studying Mormon Lived Religion," *Mormon Review* 2:2 (September 2010): 1-4.
- 2010 "Ungathered" and "Smith, Joseph F." in *Mormonism: A Historical Encyclopedia*, eds. W. Paul Reeve and Ardis E. Parshall (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2010), 117-119; 184-187.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

- 2022 Ted J. Warner Award for Excellence in Citizenship, Brigham Young University Department of History, 2021-22
- 2019-20 Fellow, American Examples Workshop, Department of Religious Studies, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- 2019 Jesse Lee Prize, General Commission on Archives and History, United Methodist Church (awarded quadrennially to the best book manuscript on American Methodist history)
- 2015-16 E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Fellowship in Early American Religious Studies and Friends of the MCEAS Dissertation Fellowship, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania
- 2015 Religious Education Dissertation Grant, Brigham Young University
- 2014-15 Bicknell Scholarship, National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims
- 2014-15 Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate Studies and Research, Arts & Sciences, College of William and Mary
- 2014 Conference Travel Grant, Arts & Sciences OGSR/Graduate Student Association, College of William and Mary
- 2014 Excellence in Scholarship Award, Graduate Research Symposium, College of William and Mary
- 2013 George Washington Fellowship, General Society of Colonial Wars

- 2013 Best Article Award, Mormon History Association, for "Mormonism in the Methodist Marketplace: James Covel and the Historical Background of Doctrine and Covenants 39-40," *BYU Studies Quarterly* 51:1 (2012): 67-98.
- 2013 Mellon Research Fellowship, Virginia Historical Society
- 2013 The World is My Parish United Methodist History Grant, General Commission on Archives and History, United Methodist Church
- 2013 Provost's Summer Research Grant, College of William and Mary
- 2013 Bridwell Library Fellowship, Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University
- 2012 Kenneth Callaway King, Jr. Memorial Fellowship, Order of First Families of Virginia
- 2012 Religious Education Dissertation Grant, Brigham Young University
- 2012 John E. Selby Graduate Teaching Award, Department of History, College of William and Mary
- 2012 Virginia Crouch Memorial Summer Research Grant, Roy R. Charles Center, College of William and Mary
- 2012 Provost's Summer Research Grant for Graduate Research, College of William and Mary
- 2009 William J. Snow Award – Best Graduate Paper in Western or Mormon History, Brigham Young University History Department
- 2008 Mark Earl Brotherson Memorial Scholarship, Brigham Young University History Department
- 2008 William J. Snow Award – Best Graduate Paper in Western or Mormon History, Brigham Young University History Department

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 2024 "Teaching History in the Family History Classroom," Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2024.
- 2023 Panelist, "Meet the Editors: Mormon History Journals," Mormon History Association, Rochester, New York, June 2023.
- 2023 "African and Indigenous Slavery in Territorial Utah," Utah Valley Historical Society, Provo, Utah, January 2022. With Matt Mason and Grace Soelberg. *Invited lecture.*
- 2022 "History, Monuments, and Memory: A Walking Tour of BYU Campus Statues," BYU American Studies Experience Series, November 2022.
- 2022 "From Philadelphia to Freetown: Slavery, Emancipation, and the Beginnings of Black Methodism," Front Range Early American Consortium, Bozeman, Montana, October 2022.
- 2022 "There I do hope to meet ... _my dear old black mammy": Religion, Memory, and Slavery in the Autobiography of Absalom Porter Dowdle," Mormon History Association, Logan, Utah, June 2022.

- 2022 Co-chair, "The BYU Slavery Project and the Work of Antiracism: Researching the Legacies of Slavery, Dispossession, and Racism at BYU to Create a New Landscape for the 21st Century Church," Mormon History Association, Logan, Utah, June 2022.
- 2022 "Students in the Archives: The BYU Slavery Project, 2020 to the Present," Keynote Lecture, Conference of Inter-Mountain Archivists, Salt Lake City, Utah, May 2022. With Matt Mason. *Invited lecture*.
- 2022 "'This agreeing with thare former practices': The Politics of Mormon Polygamy in the West Indies and Pacific Islands," American Society of Church History, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2022.
- 2021 Panelist, Roundtable discussion on Annette Gordon-Reed's *On Juneteenth*, BYU History Department's Book of the Year, November 2021.
- 2021 "The BYU Slavery Project," BYU Sociology Department Colloquium, October 2021. *Invited Lecture*.
- 2021 "'A very uncommon train of providences': Methodist Expansion and Division in the Revolutionary Atlantic World," Religion and the American Revolution Conference, sponsored by the Sons of the American Revolution, Rhode Island, June 2021. *Invited lecture*
- 2021 "Of Personal Experiences and Professional Interests: History, Family History, and Racism," BYU Law School Forum, J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University, January 2021. *Invited lecture*
- 2020 "Family and Freedom: Emancipation and African American Conceptions of Liberty," Guest Lecture, Intro to Africana Studies, Brigham Young University, October 2020.
- 2020 "'A necessary book for dark-skinned people': Reading the Book of Mormon with the First Missionaries to the Pacific," Book of Mormon Studies Association (virtual conference), October 2020.
- 2020 Commenter, "Violence and Rhetorics of Morality in Latter-day Saint Practice," and "The Movement of Mormon Missions and Missionaries Across Time and Place," Mormon History Association, Rochester, New York, June 2020 – *cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic*.
- 2020 "'Phanaticks and Poligamists': Plural Marriage, Race, and Religion in the First Mormon Mission to Jamaica," American Society of Church History, New York, New York, January 2020.
- 2019 "'A Terrible Reality': The Transatlantic Slave Trade and Its Legacies Today," BYU Honors Program Chocolate Chat, Provo, Utah, December 2019. *Invited lecture*
- 2019 "'A verry Poor Place for our doctrine': The 1853 Jamaica Mission and the Early Scope of Mormonism's Racial Restriction," Mormon History Association, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 2019.
- 2019 "'The different Frutes of the Country': Ecological Imperialism and the 19th Century Mormon Gathering," Mormon Scholars in the Humanities, Cedar City,

- Utah, May 2019.
- 2019 "Lands of Liberty: Methodist Migrations and the Politics of Slavery, Church, and State," American Society of Church History, Chicago, Illinois, January 2019.
- 2018 "'A very poor place for our doctrine': Polygamy, Race, and Empire in the 1853 Mormon Mission to Jamaica," Neal A. Maxwell Institute for Religious Scholarship Brown Bag Series, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, June 2018.
- 2018 "Methodist Missions and Divisions in Britain's Maritime and Canadian Colonies, 1785-1815," Religion and Politics in Early America Conference, John C. Danforth Center, Washington University in Saint Louis, Saint Louis, Missouri, March 2018.
- 2017 "From Philadelphia to Freetown: The Beginnings of Independent Black Methodism in Transatlantic Perspective," Friday Seminar, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 2017.
- 2017 "In Search of the Land of Liberty: Southern Methodism, Migration, and the Politics of Slavery" Southern Historical Association, Dallas, Texas, November 2017.
- 2016 Panelist, Roundtable: "The Revolution Will Be Blogged: Founding Digital Worlds of Intellectual History," Society for U.S. Intellectual History, Palo Alto, California, October 2016.
- 2016 Response, Undergraduate Research Workshop and Symposium, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2016.
- 2016 "The Atlantic World is my Parish: Early American Methodism in Transatlantic Perspective," Organization of American Historians, Providence, Rhode Island, April 2016.
- 2016 "Ecclesiastical Borderlands in the Revolutionary Atlantic World," Constitutional Thought and History Seminar, Rothermere American Institute, Oxford University, Oxford, UK, February 2016.
- 2015 "Religion and Revolution in the Atlantic World: Methodism in North America and the Caribbean," Alt-Wednesday, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, October 2015.
- 2015 "Edward Dromgoole and the Shifting Spectrum of Evangelical Attitudes Toward Slavery in Virginia, 1780-1815," Graduate Research Symposium, College of William and Mary, March 2015.
- 2014 "Finding and Using U.S. Church Records," Family History Center Brown Bag Lunch Series, Williamsburg, Virginia, September 2014.
- 2014 "Itinerant Preachers and Ecclesiastical Borderlands: Methodist Missionaries in British North America and the Caribbean, 1784-1815," Ecclesiastical History Society/American Society of Church History, Oxford, UK, April 2014.
- 2014 "In Search of the Land of Liberty: Methodist Migrations and Antislavery in

- Virginia, 1780-1810," Graduate Research Symposium, College of William and Mary, March 2014.
- 2014 "Evangelical Religion and Revolution in the Atlantic World: The Methodist Experience in Canada and the Caribbean," American Society of Church History, Washington, D.C., January 2014.
- 2013 "Imperial Spaces and Ecclesiastical Borderlands: Methodism in British North America, 1776-1815," North American Conference on British Studies, Portland, Oregon, November 2013.
- 2013 "An Encroachment on our religious rights': Race and Religious Toleration in the Methodist Atlantic World," No Person Shall Bee Any Wise Molested: Religious Freedom, Cultural Conflict, and the Moral Role of the State, Newport, Rhode Island, October 2013.
- 2013 Panel organizer and chair, "Racializing Religion: Mormons and Race in America, 1830-2012," Mormon History Association, Layton, Utah, June 2013.
- 2013 "In Search of the Land of Liberty: Methodist Migration and the Politics of Slavery, 1780-1805," Religion on the Move: Movement, Migration, Missions and New Media across Religious Traditions, Columbia University, New York, April 2013.
- 2012 "Mormonism in the Methodist Marketplace: A Comparative Study of Three Early Mormon Converts," Mormon History Association, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, June 2012.
- 2012 "'A prodigy with many hundred heads': Early Latter-day Saint Conceptions of the Great Apostasy," with Stephen J. Fleming, Exploring Mormon Conceptions of Apostasy Conference, Provo, Utah, March 2012.
- 2012 Panelist, "The Worst Fights are Behind Relatives: Mormons and Methodists in the Nineteenth Century," At the Crossroads, Again: Mormon and Methodist Encounters in the Nineteenth and Twenty-First Centuries, Washington, D.C., February 2012.
- 2011 Panel Organizer and Commenter, "Living Mormonism: Lived Religion in Latter-day Saint History," Mormon History Association, St. George, Utah, May 2011.
- 2010 Chair and Panel Discussant, "New Ways In: Writing Interdisciplinary Mormon History," Mormon History Association, Independence, Missouri, May 2010.
- 2010 "Lorenzo Dow and the Boundaries of Denominational Space in Early American Methodism," Chesapeake American Studies Association, Washington, D.C., March 2010.
- 2009 "The Un-gathered: The Religious Lives of Mormons in the American South, 1875-1910," Mormon History Association, Springfield, Illinois, May 2009.
- 2009 "Conferences, Camp Meetings, and Charismatic Religion: Methodist Converts to Mormonism and the Transmission of Sacred Space," American Society of Church History, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, April 2009.
- 2008 "'We Latter-day Saints are Methodists': The Influence of Methodism on Early

Mormon Religious Experience and Discourse," Mormon History Association, Sacramento, CA, May 2008.

MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 2022 "Becoming a Transitional Character," *Love Your Lineage* Podcast (LDS Living/Deseret Book), November 1, 2022.
- 2022 "Why Do Family History?," *Top of Mind with Julie Rose*, BYURadio, August 29, 2022.
- 2021 "BYU Slavery Project," *The Cultural Hall* Podcast, January 29, 2021.
- 2021 The Priesthood Restored: A Joseph Smith Papers Podcast (episodes 1 and 4), January 2021.
- 2020 Dialogue Book Report #2. February 2020.
- 2020 "Alice Louise Reynolds and the History of Harold B. Lee Library," *Hey Harold* Podcast, January 2020.
- 2020 The First Vision: A Joseph Smith Papers Podcast (episodes, 1, 2, and 5), January 5, 2020.
- 2019 "Why the History of Colonialism and Slavery in the Bahamas Matters to Hurricane Recovery," *Top of Mind with Julie Rose*, BYURadio, September 12, 2019.

DIGITAL PROJECTS AND ONLINE WRITING

- 2016-17 Research Assistant and Producer, *Ben Franklin's World* podcast (<http://www.benfranklinworld.com/>)
- 2016 Research Assistant, *The Pox Hunter* (<http://loki.stockton.edu/~games/PoxHunter.html>)
- 2015 Contributor, *The American Yawp: A Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American Textbook* (<http://www.americanyawp.com>)
- 2014-17 Contributor, *The American Converts Database* (<http://americanconverts.org>)
- 2014-15 Founding Editor, *Transcribing Early American Manuscript Sermons Project* (<http://earlyamericansermons.org>)
- 2012-20 Contributor, *The Junto: A Group Blog on Early American History* (<http://earlyamericanists.com>)
- 2010-15 Contributor, *Religion in American History* blog (<http://usreligion.blogspot.com>)
- 2007- Founding Editor, *The Juvenile Instructor: A Mormon History Blog* (<http://juvenileinstructor.org>)

STUDENT ADVISEMENT

Honors thesis

- 2022-23 Honors Thesis Faculty Advisor, Leah Brown, "Captain George Cannon and the Intersection of Economic Systems in the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade."
- 2022-23 Honors Thesis Committee Member/Reader, Emily Peterson, "Fighting Jim Crow in the 'Georgia of the North': The Early Civil Rights Movement in New Jersey."
- 2020-21 Honors Thesis Faculty Advisor, Grace Soelberg, "Peculiar Students of a Peculiar Institution: A Historical Analysis of Racial Minority Students and Race Relations at Brigham Young University as Presented in *The Banyan* from 1911-1985."

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2023 Co-chair (with Chris Hodson), Program Committee, Front Range Early American Consortium, Provo, Utah, October 2023
- 2022-23 Co-chair (with Elizabeth Kuehn), Program Committee, Mormon History Association, Rochester, New York, June 2023
- 2021- Co-director (with Eric Herschthal, University of Utah), Rocky Mountain Seminar in Early American History
- 2020-21 Advisory Board, *Pandemic Religion: A Digital Archive*, a project of the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, in partnership with the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture at IUPUI
- 2019 Co-organizer (with David Golding), "Missionary Interests: Protestant and Mormon Missions in the 19th and 20th Centuries," Salt Lake City, Utah, November 2019
- 2017 Program Committee, Mormon History Association, St. Louis, Missouri, June 2017
- 2016-17 Organizing Committee, Sixth Biennial Faith and Knowledge Conference, Cambridge, Massachusetts, February 2017
- 2014-15 Organizing Committee, Fifth Biennial Faith and Knowledge Conference, Charlottesville, Virginia, February 2015
- 2011-13 Board, Mormon History Association
- 2009 Graduate Student Assistant, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture Annual Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 2009

Manuscript Referee: Johns Hopkins University Press, George Mason University Press, University of Utah Press, Brigham Young University Press, Brigham Young University Religious Studies Center.

Journal Referee: *History: The Journal of the Historical Association*; *Journal of Mormon History*; *Journal of Social History*; *BYU Studies Quarterly*; *Nova Religio*;

American Nineteenth Century History; Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought; Theological Librarianship; Teaching and Teacher Education; American Political Thought; Religions; Hungarian Studies Review

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

2020- Organizer and Steering Committee Member, *BYU Slavery Project*
2019- Faculty Advisor, Mission Inclusivity Club

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2022-23 Search Committee, CFS-track position in Family History
2021- Internship Faculty Advisor, Family History Program
2020 Search Committee, History Department Office Manager
2019-21 Collegiality Coordinator, Department of History

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

2019- National Genealogical Society
2019- New England Historic Genealogical Society
2016- Society for U.S. Intellectual History
2014- Organization of American Historians
2012- Society for Historians of the Early American Republic
2011- American Historical Association
2009- Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture
2008- American Society of Church History
2007- Mormon History Association