

CHRISTOPHER CANNON JONES

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

☎ 801.422.1838 ✉ christopher.jones@byu.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2019-** **Assistant Professor**
Department of History, Brigham Young University
Affiliate Faculty, American Studies
Affiliate Faculty, Africana Studies
- 2017-19** **Visiting Assistant Professor**
Department of History, Brigham Young University
- 2016-17** **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: Methodism, Slavery, and Freedom in the Revolutionary Atlantic World (in preparation to submit to an academic press)

Missionary Interests: Protestant and Mormon Missions in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries (co-edited book currently under review)

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- 2019 “‘The religion is assailed by most in the Country’: A Letter from the First Mormon 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.
- Best Article Award, Mormon History Association, 2013
- 2011 “The Power and Form of Godliness: Methodist Conversion Narratives and

- 2009 Joseph Smith's First Vision," *Journal of Mormon History* 37:2 (Spring 2011): 88-114.
 "The Holdings of the Nauvoo Library and Literary Institute," *Mormon Historical Studies* 10:1 (Spring 2009): 153-176.

Book Chapters

- 2022 "'A necessary book for dark-skinned people': Nineteenth-Century Missions, Race, and Scripture," in *American Examples* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, forthcoming).
 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

- 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 Religion* 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 Religion* 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

- 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 OGSF/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 Covell 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

PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS, AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- 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 + 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

- 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), 5 January 2020.
- 2019 “[Why the History of Colonialism and Slavery in the Bahamas Matters to Hurricane Recovery](#),” *Top of Mind with Julie Rose*, BYURadio, 12 September 2019.

DIGITAL PROJECTS AND ONLINE WRITING

- 2016 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- Contributor, The American Converts Database (<http://americanconverts.org>)
- 2014- Founding Editor, Transcribing Early American Manuscript Sermons Project (<http://earlyamericansermons.org>)
- 2012- Contributor, The Junto: A Group Blog on Early American History (<http://earlyamericanists.com>)
- 2010-2015 Contributor, Religion in American History blog (<http://usreligion.blogspot.com>)
- 2007- Founding Editor, The Juvenile Instructor: A Mormon History Blog (<http://juvenileinstructor.org>)

ACADEMIC SERVICE AT BYU

- 2020-21 Honors Thesis Faculty Advisor, Grace Soelberg, “Peculiar Students at a Peculiar Institution: A Historical Analysis of Racial Minority Students at Brigham Young University as Presented in the *Banyan* from 1911-1985.”
- 2020- Organizer and Steering Committee Member, [BYU Slavery Project](#)
- 2020 Search Committee, History Department Secretary
- 2019- Faculty Advisor, Mission Inclusivity Club
- 2019- Collegiality Coordinator, Department of History

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- 2021- Co-director (with Eric Herschtal, University of Utah), Rocky Mountain Seminar in Early American History
- 2020 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.

Journal Referee: *History: The Journal of the Historical Association*, *Journal of Mormon History*, *BYU Studies Quarterly*, *Nova Religio*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, *Theological Librarianship*.

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