To Welcome and Present Gift to District Deputy Grand Matron or Grand Lecturer.

Worthy Matron addresses Marshal and speaks:

A teacher has to eat her lunch each day she goes to school;  
She needs it when the days are warm, and when the days are cool;  
The lunch of course must be prepared with bread and butter too,  
And either cake or cookies, or a vegetable will do;  
Now I will need a little help in serving it today,  
So take this lunch box with you, and stop along the way;  
Perhaps you'll find there are some friends who have some food in store,  
And they will be so very glad to add a little more;  
And when you've gathered all you can, it may be great or least,  
Just put it in this lunch box, and bring it to the East.

Marshal accepts box from Worthy Matron, and passing to position between dais and Altar, bows and speaks:

I hope you'll have something to add to our lunch box today,  
And if you have, just drop it in, and I'll be on my way;  
Because the day goes very fast and lunch time comes so soon,  
And teachers do get hungry, both morning, night, and noon;  
So if you have prepared a lunch, I'll tell you what to do,  
Just raise your hand as I pass by, and I will call on you.

Adah raises her hand, and Marshal passes to her station.

Adah: I want to give the very best of all I have in store,  
So it will be the staff of life, and maybe something more;  
For teachers work so very hard they eat a lot you know,  
And they want food to give them strength, and not to make them grow;  
When I prepared it for the lunch, I wrapped it up in blue,  
For every teacher wants to feel her pupils are all true.

The packages given by the Star points need not contain food, but should be wrapped to represent the kind of food mentioned in the verses. If the guest is given another gift, one of the Star point packages may contain the gift to be presented.

As soon as package is received from Adah, Ruth raises her hand and Marshal passes to Ruth who presents her gift, each Star point in turn giving verse and presenting gift.

Verses for Star points:

Ruth: The food I give you for the lunch is of a golden hue,  
For if the lunch contains some bread, she'll need some butter too;  
You must not spread it on too thick, just so that it will show,  
For teachers always want to count the calories you know;  
And if the weather is too hot while she is in the school,  
Perhaps it would be better to keep this where it is cool.

Esther: The teachers always like a cake so fluffy and so light,  
And it makes little difference if it's dark or if it's white;  
Just so it fits within the box and keeps so nice and fresh,  
For teachers like it even though they know it puts on flesh;  
And when I wrapped this package up, I somehow had a hunch,  
That any teacher would be sure to like some cake for lunch.
Martha: When it is time to eat a lunch, whatever be the hour,  
It's very nice to have a bite of something that is sour;  
There's nothing that tastes quite so good as pickles sour or sweet,  
Whenever we're away from home and have a lunch to eat;  
I'm sure a little touch of green will make the lunch look nice,  
And pickles may be any kind, with sugar, dill, and spice.

Electa: I have a luscious apple, so very big and round;  
I did not cease my search until the biggest one was found;  
For teachers must have apples, this thing is very clear,  
For apples are the choicest gifts throughout the whole school year;  
So drop it down within the box so it will soon be found,  
For we think nothing is so good as apples big and round.

As soon as Star points have placed their gifts in the box, the one presenting the gift takes position east of Altar and speaks:

If there are others who would like to add a bite to eat,  
It may be something cooked or raw, it may be sour or sweet;  
Just come and place it in the box, you'll find it lots of fun,  
And if the lunch box is too small, we'll get a bigger one.

Associate Matron advances to position near Marshal. She carries a large market basket.

Asso. M. speaks: The lunch box you have is too small for all we have to give;  
For if a teacher has to work we know that she must live;  
She must have food she needs to eat; the cost we will not count,  
And this is one time we won't care if calories do mount.

Marshal takes the market basket and empties the lunch basket into it. Other officers pass by and place in the basket some kind of vegetables or food, as cabbage, celery, onions, etc. These should not be wrapped. When all have deposited their gifts, basket is presented to guest as follows:

We're very glad to give the food we have for you today;  
Your lunch was very small to start but gathered on the way;  
You must not be afraid to eat for we chose it with care,  
And I am very sure you'll find the choicest food is there;  
And when you've eaten all of it, and none is left around,  
If you will weigh yourself you'll find you have not gained a pound;  
So take it as a gift from us, and search it all with care,  
And you will find not only food, but all our love is there.

NOTE: This ceremony is protected by copyright and is for your presentation only. It cannot be copied or used by other Chapters without permission of publisher.