This Thanksgiving, you can give a hospital patient the opportunity to spend another holiday with their family and friends, and get a special treat for yourself, by donating blood or platelets through the American Red Cross.

Throughout the year, dedicated donors take time out of their day to help strangers in need. During this season of giving thanks, the Red Cross is thanking all blood donors by offering a free pie to all presenting donors at the La Crosse Blood Donation Center during the week of Thanksgiving.

While the need for blood is constant, the supply isn't and blood donation levels dip around the holidays.

La Crosse Blood Donation Center is at1427 Hwy 16. For platelet donation hours, or to make an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS